

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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November 17, 2011

Minane Jameson, President
Board of Directors
Hayward Area Recreation and Park District
1099 E Street
Hayward, CA 94541-5299

DOCKET**01-AFC-7C**DATE NOV 17 2011RECD. NOV 17 2011

Subject: RUSSELL CITY ENERGY CENTER (01-AFC-7C)
RE: CONCERNS REGARDING PROJECT IMPACTS ON HAYWARD SHORELINE AND THE HAYWARD SHORELINE INTERPRETIVE CENTER

Dear Ms. Jameson:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District's concerns about the Russell City Energy Center project and its impacts on the Hayward Shoreline and the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center.

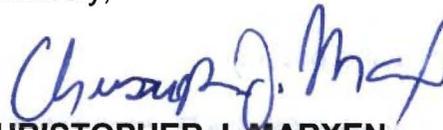
The Energy Commission's certification process provides a thorough review and analysis of all aspects of a proposed power plant project. During this process, the Energy Commission conducts a comprehensive examination of a project's potential economic, public health and safety, reliability, engineering, and environmental ramifications. The Energy Commission's process allows for and encourages public participation at every stage of the licensing process.

The original application for the Russell City Energy Center project was filed in May 2001 and approved by the Energy Commission in September 2002. An amended project was filed in November 2006 and approved in October 2007. The initial portion of the certification process is weighted heavily toward assuring public awareness of the proposed project and obtaining necessary technical information. During the original decision process and again in the amendment review process, Energy Commission staff and the Applicant carried out extensive coordination with numerous local, state, and federal agencies with an interest in this project. Through these efforts, the various parties and agencies reached mutual agreement on almost all aspects of the proposed project and upon the necessary conditions of certification. There were several opportunities for the public to participate in these proceedings, including staff workshops, a prehearing conference, and evidentiary hearings, as well as the final business meeting at which the case was heard before the full commission for a decision. The time for public participation in the original licensing proceeding is closed. Staff's technical evaluation of the project, in which impacts are discussed and mitigation is outlined, can be found in the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) or the Final Decision.

With regards to your concerns about the project's impacts on the Hayward Shoreline and the Hayward Shoreline Interpretive Center, visual resource conditions of certification outlined in the Final Decision were devised to ensure that the project is designed and constructed in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, ordinances and standards and in a manner that protects environmental quality and public health and safety. Several conditions of certification, including VIS-9, require the project owner work with the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District in developing final designs for new trailside amenities for the Hayward Regional Shoreline as mitigation to any impacts. We understand that you recently met with Calpine Corporation representatives to discuss the design and installation of the trailside amenities as required by Condition of Certification VIS -9. Calpine provided the District a full copy of the 2007 California Energy Commission Decision for the Russell City Energy Center, Amendment No. 1 and the subsequent Amendment that was approved in August 2010 and is continuing to work with you to satisfy requirements contained in VIS-9.

The Energy Commission is working with Calpine Corporation to address the concerns of the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 651-0587 or e-mail me at cmarxen@energy.state.ca.us.

Sincerely,



CHRISTOPHER J. MARXEN
Compliance Office Manager
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental
Protection Division

cc: Docket Unit, Energy Commission
Allison Bryan, Compliance Manager, Calpine