

RIDGECREST SOLAR POWER PROJECT (09-AFC-9) DATA ADEQUACY SUPPLEMENT	
Technical Area: Socioeconomics	Response Date: October 26, 2009

Following are additional information and/or clarifications in response to the specific issues raised in the CEC staff Data Adequacy review. For each specific area where the questions were raised by CEC staff, the applicable section of the CEC Siting Regulations is identified, followed by the "Information Required to Make AFC Conform with Regulations," followed by the supplemental/clarifying information.

DA-SOC-1. Appendix B (g) (7) (B) (ii)

Information Required:

An estimate of the percentage of non-local workers who will relocate to the project area to work on the project. Please provide an estimate (either percent of total workforce, or gross maximum number of workforce) for: (a) construction personnel that would be expected to temporarily relocate to the project area; and, (b) operational personnel that would be expected to permanently relocate to the project area.

Response:

Employee sourcing is expected to be 75% local and 25% non-local for both construction and operation. The local area includes those cities and communities within a 30-minute drive time of the site as well as all cities and communities in Kern County with populations over 20,000 individuals and all cities with populations over 40,000 individuals in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties that are within a two-hour drive time of the Project site. For construction, the 25% non-local workers are expected to relocate temporarily to the local area; however, they would be expected to commute home on the weekends. Therefore, of the 405 average construction workers, 304 are expected to be sourced from within the local area and 101 are expected to be non-local, but stay in the area during the work week. Of the projected 84 operational workers, 63 are expected to be local and 21 are expected to be from outside the area (non-local) but they would all be expected to relocate.

DA-SOC-2. Appendix B (g) (7) (B) (iii)

Information Required:

An estimate of the potential population increase caused directly and indirectly by the Project. Please provide an estimate (either percent of total workforce, or gross maximum number of workforce for: (a) construction personnel that would be expected to temporarily relocate to the project area; and, (b) operational personnel that would be expected to permanently relocate to the project area.

Response:

As stated above, 101 construction workers are expected to temporarily relocate to the project area. These workers are expected to utilize temporary housing solutions (hotels/motels) or short- to mid-term housing options (such as short term rental leases). Also, because the construction period is short-term (28 months), it is unlikely that families will relocate with the workers. Twenty-one operational workers are expected to be non-local. It is expected that these workers and their families will relocate to the local area.

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DA-SOC-3. Appendix B (g) (7) (B) (iv)

Information Required:

The potential impact of population increase on housing during the construction and operations phases. Please provide an estimate (either percent of total workforce, or gross maximum number of workforce) for: (a) construction personnel that would be expected to temporarily relocate to the project area; and, (b) operational personnel that would be expected to permanently relocate to the project area.

Response:

As stated above, 101 construction workers are expected to temporarily relocate to the project area and 21 operational workers and their families are expected to permanently relocate to the project area. During construction, if all 101 construction workers and their families were to relocate to the local area, there is sufficient temporary housing to accommodate those workers. There are about 649 guest rooms among seven hotels and motels in the area surrounding Ridgecrest alone, with extensive additional temporary housing available in the communities within two hours of the proposed Project site. Although there is a relatively high demand for hotels/motels in the area, due to the close proximity to China Lake Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS); an additional five to six hotels are either under construction or have been approved for construction in the City of Ridgecrest. These hotels are projected to add at least 200 rooms to the available rooms in the area. Additional temporary housing opportunities are available in the form of recreational vehicle facilities, mobile home sites, and weekly rental units as well as over 1,000 units of vacant housing some of which may be available for rental.

During operation, if all 21 workers and their families relocated to the area, they would only occupy approximately two percent of the estimated vacant housing in the project area. Therefore, the impact of project operation on housing is expected to be minimal.

DA-SOC-4. Appendix B (g) (7) (B) (ix)

Information Required:

It is assumed that some materials required for construction and operation of the facility would be imported from outside of the project area (e.g., the solar panel arrays and additional operational equipment needs). Please provide an estimate for the project's total capital cost, including a break-down of: (a) expenditures/costs that would not be purchased/procured locally; and (b) expenditures/costs that would be purchased/procured locally.

Response:

The capital costs of the project are expected to be on the order of one billion dollars. Local construction expenditures are expected to be \$15,000,000 or 1.5 percent. Therefore, non-local construction expenditures are expected to be \$985,000,000 or 98.5 percent.