

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission**

In the Matter of:

Application for Certification for the  
Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating  
System

Docket No. 11-AFC-02

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**  
**11-AFC-2**

TN # 65897

JUN 21 2012

**MOTION TO EXTEND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD  
FOR PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT**

The CEC's Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) released on May 25, 2012, totals 1,166 pages. This assessment was also published incomplete as the Cultural Resource section of the PSA was not included and published on June 15, 2012.

At the time of the June 4, 2012, Status Conference, applicant and Intervenor Ileene Anderson for Center of Biological Diversity stated they had not finished reviewing the PSA at that time, approximately 10 days after the PSA's release.

During the time I attended the June 14, 2012, CEC Workshop in Pahrump, two people in attendance expressed extreme frustration at the size of the PSA and the limited amount of time granted for review and comments.

One Native American commentor stated they had spent the last two full days reviewing the PSA in the library prior to the workshop and had not even come close to finishing the text, much less being able to prepare comments.

During recent online discussions about the length of the PSA, additional frustration has been expressed regarding the size of the PSA and the insufficient amount of time granted for public review and preparation of meaningful comments.

With respect to myself, since the first day of the PSA's publication, I have devoted the majority of my time reviewing it for a total of 27 days; only now am I ready to begin preparing my comments based on that review.

However, with only 15 days remaining, there are also two additional workshops I wish to attend scheduled for June 27 and July 2, the last of which occurs merely 4 days before the close of the public comment period.

Given the magnitude of information contained in the PSA, the number of controversies surrounding some of the elements of the proposed project that have yet to be resolved, and the general public's inability to devote 40 plus hours a week to reviewing Staff's assessments and recommended mitigation measures, such as applicant's team of reviewers can, the current public comment period is insufficient for meaningful public involvement.

Also, to reiterate the point made at the June 4, 2012 Status Conference, the reason the PSA was published at such a late date is, applicant had repeatedly delayed providing requested information or performing mandated tests (such as the well pump test) during the discovery period. This was also significantly compounded by applicant's filing of the Boiler Optimization Plan toward the end of the discovery period that reconfigured many components of the proposed project, which in turn placed additional burdens on Staff to complete the PSA within the timeframe that they did.

While applicant continues to demand expediency for investment purposes, applicant has also prevented expediency by their own actions and the public should not be made to bear the burden of applicant's actions.

Based on the reasons set forth above, it would serve the public interest by granting an extension for the public comment period deadline at minimum to July 16, 2012. However, a longer period would be preferred.

While this minimal extension is merely 10 additional days, it would align it with the closure of the public comment period for the Cultural Resource section of the PSA as well as allowing an additional two weeks after the last scheduled workshop on July 2, 2012.

Therefore, I file this Motion To Extend the Public Comment Period for the Preliminary Staff Assessment and respectfully request the Commission grant this Motion based on the arguments presented herein by extending the public comment period at minimum by 10 additional days but noting a longer extension would be preferred.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Cindy MacDonald



BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
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**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION  
FOR THE *HIDDEN HILLS SOLAR ELECTRIC  
GENERATING SYSTEM***

**DOCKET NO. 11-AFC-02  
PROOF OF SERVICE  
(Revised 6/5/2012)**

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**DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

I, Cindy R. MacDonald, declare that on June 21, 2012, I served and filed copies of the attached Motion To Extend Public Comment Period For Preliminary Staff Assessment, dated June 21st, 2012. This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/index.html).

The document has been sent to the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit or Chief Counsel, as appropriate, in the following manner:

**(Check all that Apply)**

**For service to all other parties:**

- Served electronically to all e-mail addresses on the Proof of Service list;
- Served by delivering on this date, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses **NOT** marked "e-mail preferred."

**AND**

**For filing with the Docket Unit at the Energy Commission:**

- by sending an electronic copy to the e-mail address below (preferred method); **OR**
- by depositing an original and 12 paper copies in the mail with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid, as follows:

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION – DOCKET UNIT**  
Attn: Docket No. 11-AFC-02  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4  
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[docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov)

**OR, if filing a Petition for Reconsideration of Decision or Order pursuant to Title 20, § 1720:**

- Served by delivering on this date one electronic copy by e-mail, and an original paper copy to the Chief Counsel at the following address, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid:

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



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Cindy R. MacDonald