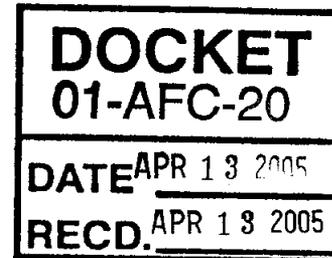


JANE E. LUCKHARDT
(916) 441-0131, X6348

April 13, 2005

BY HAND DELIVERY

James D. Boyd
Presiding Member
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



Re: Avenal Energy Project (Docket No. 01-AFC-20): Request for Extension of Existing Suspension to May 1, 2006

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of Federal Power Avenal, LLC ("Avenal") I am writing to request that the California Energy Commission (the "Commission") extend the existing suspension of review of the Avenal Energy Project (the "Project") to May 1, 2006. This request is in accordance with your *Order Suspending AFC Review to May 1, 2005*, dated April 30, 2004. As the Commission is aware Pacific Gas and Electric Company's 2004 Long Term Power Purchase Request for Offers is proceeding with bids due later this month. In addition, Southern California Edison Company recently issued its Draft Request for Offers for New Generation Resources. Due to the Project's location, which allows delivery to either utility, both solicitations offer opportunities for the development of the Project. Avenal requests an additional one-year suspension to allow these solicitations to proceed.

Avenal is not aware of any changed environmental conditions that would render the environmental analysis of the proposed power plant site contained in the Application for Certification or data responses "stale" and inapplicable for completion of review of the Project. Avenal does not anticipate a need to repeat previously conducted surveys and analyses prior to completion of review of this Project by the Commission. In regards to biological resources, due to the fact that the proposed power plant site and linear corridors are actively farmed or within existing road rights-of-way, Avenal intends to confirm that the conditions of the previously surveyed site and corridors have not changed, but Avenal does not believe there would be a need to conduct new comprehensive biological surveys of these locations. Nonetheless, upon reinitiating the Project, Avenal will conduct a comprehensive review of the existing analyses, site and surrounding environment; survey applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards

for changes; and meet with Commission Staff regarding any needed updates to the environmental analysis of the Project contained in the Application for Certification. In addition, Avenal will provide information on a transmission line route between the proposed power plant site and the first point of interconnection along with any necessary upgrades elsewhere in the system. This analysis of the generator tie would cover all subject areas that could be impacted by the transmission line alignment.

Avenal believes that the information included in the original Application for Certification and the Preliminary Staff Assessment for this Project will prove useful when this proceeding is reconvened. Avenal has been respectful of both the Commission and its Staff's resources by not proceeding to license this Project when the timetable for construction of the project was indefinite. Although some information will need to be updated and supplemented, any Commission Staff review or document preparation time that can be avoided through the use of existing documents should be maintained by continuing to suspend this Project.

As the utility procurement processes proceed new generation resources will be added within California to serve the demand identified by the utilities. This Project will be vying for the opportunity to provide electricity to fill this demand. As such, Avenal has maintained site control and plans to proceed with licensing of this Project when electricity sales to one of the utilities is confirmed. Avenal has also maintained its position in the Pacific Gas and Electric Company queue for interconnection purposes. Avenal will notify the Commission and meet with Commission Staff when the Project is ready to continue the review process.

If you have any questions about this request please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Jane E. Luckhardt

670451.1

cc: Gary Fay, Hearing Officer
Lance Shaw, Project Manager
Lisa DeCarlo, Staff Counsel
Steven Gilliland, Federal Power Avenal, LLC
Docket (12 copies)
Service List (01-AFC-20)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Energy Resources Conservation
and Development Commission

In the Matter of:) Docket No. 01-AFC-20
)
Application for Certification for the) PROOF OF SERVICE
AVENAL ENERGY PROJECT)
_____)

I, Lois Navarrot, declare that on April 15, 2005, I deposited copies of the attached **Letter to James D. Boyd, Presiding Member at the California Energy Commission dated April 13, 2005** in the United States Mail at Sacramento, California, with first class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the following:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION (Original plus 12) (hand delivered via Messenger)
DOCKET UNIT, MS-4
Attn: Docket No. 01-AFC-20
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
E-mail: docket@energy-state.ca.us

Audra Hartman
Government Affairs Manager
Duke Energy North America
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1540
Sacramento, CA 94814
athartmann@duke-energy.com

M. Whitten
City Manager
City of Avenal
919 Skyline Blvd.
Avenal, CA 93204

Steven Sopp, Director
Planning and Development
City of Avenal
919 Skyline Blvd.
Avenal, CA 93204

California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE)
c/o Marc D. Joseph
Adams, Broadwell, Joseph & Cardozo
651 Gateway Blvd., Suite 900
South San Francisco, CA 94080

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



Lois Navarrot