CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

DOCKET
02-AFC-1
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May 4, 2005

TO: AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST

REQUEST FOR AGENCY COMMENTS ON THE FINAL STAFF ASSESSMENT FOR THE BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT PHASE II (02-AFC-1)

The enclosed CD contains the California Energy Commission staff's final environmental, engineering, and public health and safety evaluation of the Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II or Project). If you wish to receive a paper copy of the FSA, please contact Bill Pfanner, Energy Commission Project Manager at the address below.

The BEP II AFC was filed with the California Energy Commission on February 19, 2002. The project AFC was amended in May to relocate the BEP II structures to the adjacent parcel and amended again in July of 2002 to reconfigure the evaporation ponds. The project is located adjacent to the operating Blythe Energy Project I (BEP I) that was approved by the Energy Commission on March 21, 2001.

BEP II is a nominally rated 520 MW combined-cycle power plant consisting of two Siemens Westinghouse V84.3a 170 MW combustion turbine generators (CTGs), one (1) 180 MW steam turbine generator, and supporting equipment. BEP II may utilize some existing facilities at the BEP I site including the Control/Administration and Maintenance Buildings. Other BEP I facilities that are proposed to be expanded to serve BEP II include the groundwater supply, water treatment systems, fire protection facilities and site access roads. Natural gas will be supplied to the BEP II plant by the natural gas pipeline constructed as part of the operating BEP I project.

Water to operate the BEP II facility is proposed to be supplied by two redundant groundwater wells each having the capability to pump up to 3,000 gallons per minute (gpm). A Water Conservation Offset Program (WCOP) is proposed by the applicant to compensate for the consumption of groundwater. Evaporation ponds are proposed to dispose of wastewater.

AGENCY PARTICIPATION

The Energy Commission will conduct hearings on the FSA in the near future. The evidentiary hearings will be separately noticed. The FSA was published on April 29, 2005. Agencies and members of the public are encouraged to participate in the

FSA's review process. Written comments are appreciated by June 6, 2005. You may also present your views at the evidentiary hearings.

If you desire information on technical or project schedule issues, your questions should be directed to Bill Pfanner, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 654-4206 or at bpfanner@energy.state.ca.us. The status of the project, an electronic copy of the application for certification, copies of notices, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's web site at www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/blythe2/index.html. News media inquiries should be directed to Assistant Director, Claudia Chandler, at (916) 654-4989.

Sincerely,

ROGER E. JOHNSON
Siting and Compliance Office Manager

Enclosure: CD