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

May 2, 2005

DOCKET
05-AFC-1
DATE MAY 0 2 2005
RECD. MAY 0 3 2005

Honorable Roy Ashburn
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5094
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Dear Senator Ashburn:

On April 29, 2005, Pastoria Energy LLC filed an Application for Certification (AFC) for the Pastoria Energy Facility 160 MW (megawatt) Expansion (PEFE) Project, seeking approval from the Energy Commission to construct and operate an additional 160 MW unit at its existing power plant site. The previously approved 750 MW Pastoria Energy Facility (PEF) was analyzed and licensed as part of the Energy Commission's facility licensing proceeding, 99-AFC-7, and is approximately 90% complete.

The project is proposed to be located in your district on an existing 30-acre Pastoria Energy Facility site on the Tejon Ranch in Kern County. The site is about 30 miles south of Bakersfield and about 6.5 miles east of Interstate 5 near the base of the Tehachapi Mountains, in Township 10 North, Range 18 West, and is approximately 0.85 mile north of the California Aqueduct and about 1.3 miles north of the Edmonston Pumping Plant (California Department of Water Resources). The facility address is 39789 Edmonston Pumping Plant Road, Lebec, CA.

The proposed PEFE project incorporates one additional natural gas-fired, F-Class combustion turbine generator (CTG) operating in simple cycle mode into the original three-unit PEF, for a total of four units. The plant will continue to use Best Available Control Technology (BACT) to minimize gas turbine emissions. The PEFE applicant plans to use Selective Catalytic Reduction for pollution control with aqueous ammonia as the proposed reagent in the catalytic reduction process. The PEFE expansion project will not require any changes to the existing facility's fuel or water supplies, nor will it require upgrading the transmission system.

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, proposed for construction in California. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts and engineering aspects of proposed power plants, and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas pipelines. The Energy Commission is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The purpose of the AFC process is to enable the Energy Commission to assess the project's impact on environmental quality, electrical system reliability, and public health and safety. Over the next six months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings to determine whether the project should be approved for

construction and operation and under what set of conditions. These workshops will provide the public and local, State and federal agencies the opportunity to ask questions and provide input about the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings, normally 14 days, but in no case later than 10 days prior to the meeting.

We will keep you informed about this project, and if you would like a briefing on the Energy Commission's facility certification process or the specifics of the Pastoria Energy Facility Expansion project, please contact Ms. Cecile Martin, Assistant Director, Office of Governmental Affairs, at (916) 654-4942. If you would like a copy of the AFC, please contact Dr. James W. Reede, Jr., the Energy Commission's Project Manager, at (916) 653-1245, or by e-mail at jreede@energy.state.ca.us. The status of the project, copies of notices, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/pastoriaexpansion.

Sincerely,

Roger E. Johnson, Manager

Siting and Compliance Office