CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov

DOCKET
06-AFC-10
DATE FEB 16 2007
RECD. FEB 16 2007

The Honorable Phil Larson, Supervisor
Fresno County Board of Supervisors
Administration Building
2281 Tulare Street, #301
Frenso, CA 93721

Dear Supervisor Larson:

Starwood Power-Midway, LLC, submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to the California Energy Commission on November 17, 2006, seeking approval to construct and operate a simple-cycle power plant. The proposed Starwood Power Project would have a nominal electrical output of 120 megawatts (MW) and operate as a peaking facility designed to meet electric generation load during periods of high demand. The proposed Starwood Power Project would be located in an unincorporated area of western Fresno County on West Panoche Road approximately 2 miles to the southwest of Interstate 5. The surrounding area is predominantly used for agriculture with two existing power generation facilities and a substation nearby.

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 and water pipelines. The Energy Commission is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act. The Energy Commission's analysis produces several environmental and decision documents rather than an Environmental Impact Report.

On January 3, 2007, the AFC for the Starwood Power Project was deemed data adequate by the Energy Commission, and our staff will now begin the discovery and analysis phases of our permitting process. Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings on the proposal to determine whether the Starwood Power 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 about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

As part of our review process, the staff of the Energy Commission works closely with local, state and federal agencies to ensure that all laws, ordinances, regulations and standards are met and incorporated into the final decision of the Energy Commission. To achieve this objective, the Energy Commission has sent copies of the AFC to the Fresno County planning and public works departments and may make specific requests of Fresno County staff to review and comment at various points in the certification process. Under Energy Commission guidelines, local agencies may seek reimbursement for costs incurred in responding to these requests.

If your constituents would like to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the project, they should contact Margret Kim, the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228. If you or your staff have technical or project schedule

questions, or if you would like additional information on reimbursement or on how the County may participate in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact Che McFarlin, Project Manager, at (916) 651-0965, or by email at cmcfarli@energy.state.ca.us. The status of the project, copies of notices, an electronic version of the AFC, and other relevant documents are available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/starwood. You can also subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices at http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html.

Sincerely,

B. B. BLEVINS
Executive Director