



BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
1-800-822-6228 – WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV

**DOCKET**

**07-AFC-6**

DATE MAY 21 2012  
RECD. MAY 21 2012

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION  
FOR THE CARLSBAD ENERGY  
CENTER PROJECT**

**Docket No. 07-AFC-06**

**Order No. 12-0531-06**

### **PROPOSED COMMISSION ADOPTION ORDER**

This Commission Order adopts the Commission Decision on the Carlsbad Energy Center Project (CECP) Application for Certification. It incorporates the Revised Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (RPMPD) and the Committee Revisions to the RPMPD. The Commission Decision is based upon the evidentiary record of these proceedings and considers the comments received at the May 31, 2012, business meeting. The text of the attached Commission Decision contains a summary of the proceedings, the evidence presented, and the rationale for the findings reached and conditions imposed.

This **ORDER** adopts by reference the text, Conditions of Certification, Compliance Verifications, and Appendices contained in the Commission Decision. It also adopts specific requirements contained in the Commission Decision which ensure that the proposed facility will be designed, sited, and operated in a manner to protect environmental quality, to assure public health and safety, and to operate in a safe and reliable manner.

### **FINDINGS**

The Commission hereby adopts the following findings in addition to those contained in the accompanying text:

1. The Carlsbad Energy Center Project will provide a degree of economic benefits and electricity reliability to the local area.
2. The Conditions of Certification contained in the accompanying text, if implemented by the project owner, ensure that the project will be designed, sited, and operated in conformity with applicable local, regional, state, and federal laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards, including applicable public health and safety standards, and air and water quality standards except for the City of Carlsbad's land use regulations and standards, the California Coastal Act, and

the State Fire Code as described in the Override Findings section of the Decision.

3. Implementation of the Conditions of Certification contained in the accompanying text will ensure protection of environmental quality and assure reasonably safe and reliable operation of the facility. The Conditions of Certification also assure that the project will neither result in, nor contribute substantially to, any significant direct, indirect, or cumulative environmental impacts except for the inconsistencies with the City of Carlsbad's land use regulations and standards, and the California Coastal Act, as described in the Override Findings section of the Decision.
4. The project's inconsistencies with City of Carlsbad LORS described above, with the exception of the failure to provide "extraordinary purpose" under the Redevelopment Area Plan, result from recent amendments to the City's plans and ordinances, enacted at least in part to prevent approval of the CECP. Until those amendments were enacted, the CECP was consistent with the City's plans and ordinances.
5. The CECP facility is required for public convenience and necessity. There are not more prudent and feasible means of achieving the public convenience and necessity.
6. The CECP's benefits outweigh the significant impacts identified above.
7. Existing governmental land use restrictions are sufficient to adequately control population density in the area surrounding the facility and may be reasonably expected to ensure public health and safety.
8. The project is subject to Fish and Game Code section 711.4 and the project owner must therefore pay a nine hundred forty-nine dollar (\$949) fee to the California Department of Fish and Game.
9. No feasible alternatives to the project would reduce or eliminate any significant environmental impacts of the project.
10. The evidence does not establish the existence of any environmentally superior alternative site.
11. An environmental justice screening analysis was conducted and the project, as mitigated, will not have a disproportionate impact on low-income or minority populations.

12. The Decision contains a discussion of the public benefits of the project as required by Public Resources Code section 25523(h).
13. The Decision contains measures to ensure that the planned, temporary, or unexpected closure of the project will occur in conformance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards.
14. The proceedings leading to this Decision have been conducted in conformity with the applicable provisions of Commission regulations governing the consideration of an Application for Certification and thereby meet the requirements of Public Resources Code sections 21000 et seq. and 25500 et seq.

## **ORDER**

Therefore, the Commission **ORDERS** the following:

1. The Application for Certification of the Carlsbad Energy Center Project as described in this Decision is hereby approved and a certificate to construct and operate the project is hereby granted.
2. The approval of the Application for Certification is subject to the timely performance of the Conditions of Certification and Compliance Verifications enumerated in the accompanying text and Appendices. The Conditions and Compliance Verifications are integrated with this Decision and are not severable therefrom. While the project owner may delegate the performance of a Condition or Verification, the duty to ensure adequate performance of a Condition or Verification may not be delegated.
3. This Decision is adopted, issued, effective, and final on the date it is docketed.
4. Reconsideration of this Decision is governed by Public Resources Code, section 25530.
5. Judicial review of this Decision is governed by Public Resources Code, section 25531.
6. The Commission hereby adopts the Conditions of Certification, Compliance Verifications, and associated dispute resolution procedures as part of this Decision in order to implement the compliance monitoring program required by Public Resources Code section 25532. All Conditions in this Decision take effect immediately upon adoption and apply to all construction and site preparation activities including, but not limited to, ground disturbance, site preparation, and permanent structure construction.

7. This Decision licenses the project owner to commence construction on the project within five years of this Decision date. Subject to the provisions of California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1720.3, this license expires by operation of law when the project's start-of-construction deadline passes with no construction.
8. The project owner shall provide the Executive Director a check in the amount of nine hundred and forty-nine dollars (\$949) payable to the California Department of Fish and Game.
9. The Executive Director of the Commission shall transmit a copy of this Decision and appropriate accompanying documents, including the Department of Fish and Game fee, as provided by Public Resources Code section 25537, California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1768, and Fish and Game Code section 711.4.
10. We order that the Application for Certification docket file for this proceeding be closed effective the date of this Decision, with the exception that the docket file shall remain open for 30 additional days solely to receive material related to a petition for reconsideration of the Decision.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Secretariat to the Commission does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the California Energy Commission held on May 31, 2012.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Dated: May 31, 2012, at Sacramento, California.

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Harriet Kallemeyn  
Secretariat  
California Energy Commission



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FOR THE CARLSBAD ENERGY  
CENTER PROJECT**

**Docket No. 07-AFC-06  
PROOF OF SERVICE  
(Revised 3/27/2012)**

**APPLICANT**

Jennifer Hein  
George Piantka, PE.  
NRG Energy, Inc., West Region  
5790 Fleet Street, Ste. 200  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
[jennifer.hein@nrgenergy.com](mailto:jennifer.hein@nrgenergy.com)  
[george.piantka@nrgenergy.com](mailto:george.piantka@nrgenergy.com)

**APPLICANT'S CONSULTANTS**

Robert Mason, Project Manager  
CH2M Hill, Inc.  
6 Hutton Centre Drive, Ste. 700  
Santa Ana, CA 92707  
[Robert.Mason@ch2m.com](mailto:Robert.Mason@ch2m.com)

Megan Sebra  
CH2M Hill, Inc.  
2485 Natomas Park Drive, Ste. 600  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
[Megan.Sebra@ch2m.com](mailto:Megan.Sebra@ch2m.com)

**COUNSEL FOR APPLICANT**

John A. McKinsey  
Stoel Rives, LLP  
500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1600  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[jamckinsey@stoel.com](mailto:jamckinsey@stoel.com)

**INTERESTED AGENCIES**

California ISO  
[e-recipient@caiso.com](mailto:e-recipient@caiso.com)

**INTERVENORS**

Terramar Association  
Kerry Siekmann & Catherine Miller  
5239 El Arbol  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
[siekmann1@att.net](mailto:siekmann1@att.net)

City of Carlsbad  
South Carlsbad Coastal  
Redevelopment Agency  
Allan J. Thompson  
21 "C" Orinda Way #314  
Orinda, CA 94563  
[allanori@comcast.net](mailto:allanori@comcast.net)

City of Carlsbad  
South Carlsbad Coastal  
Redevelopment Agency  
Joseph Garuba,  
Municipals Project Manager  
Ronald R. Ball, Esq., City Attorney  
1200 Carlsbad Village Drive  
Carlsbad, CA 92008  
[Joe.Garuba@carlsbadca.gov](mailto:Joe.Garuba@carlsbadca.gov)  
[ron.ball@carlsbadca.gov](mailto:ron.ball@carlsbadca.gov)

California Unions for Reliable Energy  
(CURE)  
Marc D. Joseph  
Adams Broadwell Joseph & Cardozo  
601 Gateway Boulevard, Suite 1000  
South San Francisco, CA 94080  
[mdjoseph@adamsbroadwell.com](mailto:mdjoseph@adamsbroadwell.com)

Center for Biological Diversity  
c/o William B. Rostov  
EARTH JUSTICE  
426 17th Street, 5th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612  
[wrostov@earthjustice.org](mailto:wrostov@earthjustice.org)

Power of Vision  
Julie Baker & Arnold Roe, Ph.D.  
4213 Sunnyhill Drive  
Carlsbad, California 92013  
[julbaker@pacbell.net](mailto:julbaker@pacbell.net)  
[roe@ucla.edu](mailto:roe@ucla.edu)

Rob Simpson  
Environmental Consultant  
27126 Grandview Avenue  
Hayward, CA 94542  
[rob@redwoodrob.com](mailto:rob@redwoodrob.com)

April Rose Sommer  
Attorney for Rob Simpson  
P.O. Box 6937  
Moraga, CA 94570  
[aprilsommerlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:aprilsommerlaw@yahoo.com)

**ENERGY COMMISSION –  
DECISIONMAKERS**

KAREN DOUGLAS  
Commissioner and Associate Member  
[kldougla@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:kldougla@energy.state.ca.us)

Galen Lemei  
Adviser to Commissioner Douglas  
[glemei@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:glemei@energy.state.ca.us)

Tim Olson  
Adviser to Commissioner Douglas  
[tolson@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:tolson@energy.state.ca.us)

Paul Kramer  
Hearing Officer  
[pkramer@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:pkramer@energy.state.ca.us)

**ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF**

Mike Monasmith  
Siting Project Manager  
[mmonasmi@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:mmonasmi@energy.state.ca.us)

Dick Ratliff  
Staff Counsel  
[dratliff@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:dratliff@energy.state.ca.us)

**ENERGY COMMISSION – PUBLIC  
ADVISER**

Jennifer Jennings  
Public Adviser's Office  
[publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us)

**DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

I, Maggie Read, declare that on May 21, 2012, I served and filed a copy of the attached PROPOSED ADOPTION ORDER, dated May 21, 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/carlsbad/ index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/carlsbad/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 marked "hard copy required."

**AND**

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

- by sending one electronic copy, to the 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. 07-AFC-6  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512  
[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:

California Energy Commission  
Michael J. Levy, Chief Counsel  
1516 Ninth Street MS-14  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[michael.levy@energy.ca.gov](mailto:michael.levy@energy.ca.gov)

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the proceeding.

***Original Signed By:***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Maggie Read  
Hearing Adviser's Office