

## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



May 9, 2008

Mr. Bernard Jimenez, Division Manager  
County of Fresno  
Department of Public Works and Planning  
Development Services Division  
2220 Tulare Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Fresno, CA 93721

<b>DOCKET</b>	
07-AFC-7	
DATE	MAY 09 2008
RECD.	MAY 09 2008

RE: Request for Comments - Application for Certification (07-AFC-7)  
Kings River Conservation District Community Power Project

Dear Mr. Jimenez:

First, I would like to thank you and your colleagues for meeting with us on April 11, 2008 to discuss the Fresno County zoning and building codes as they may apply to the Kings River Conservation District's Community Power Project. It is always extremely useful to understand a municipal jurisdiction's laws, ordinances, regulations, and statutes from its perspective.

For this reason, we would appreciate receiving any written comments from your Department regarding the proposed Community Power Project (CPP). The proposed project would be a nominal 565-megawatt, combined-cycle, base load generating facility. Kings River Conservation District (KRCD) proposes to site the facility on a 32.25-acre parcel near the City of Parlier, south of the existing Parlier Wastewater Treatment Plant. The site is currently being used for agricultural purposes and is under Williamson Act Contract #1156.

### ***Land Use***

Per our April 11, 2008 teleconference, Energy Commission staff would appreciate an overview of the normal review and approval process for a similar project, not subject to Energy Commission jurisdiction. Please identify any permits normally required or conditions and mitigations that would generally be imposed prior to approval of a similar project. Also, please indicate what phases of the project the County would want to review and comment prior to and/or during the CPP construction process. Finally, please discuss the County's Williamson Act cancellation process and requirements for this project, including the normal timeline for review and approval.

### ***Traffic and Transportation***

The Traffic and Transportation section of the AFC (Section 8.6) presents the applicant's assessment of the proposed project's consistency with Fresno County's traffic and transportation plan(s), policies, and regulations. Energy Commission staff would like to know your agency's perception of the completeness and accuracy of the applicant's traffic/transportation information, including discussion of any proposed or anticipated projects that may potentially conflict or occur concurrent with the project's construction process, and what traffic/transportation conditions or mitigation measures, if any, would normally be required. Because both water and natural gas delivery pipelines would be

placed along county rights-of-way and will need to cross multiple roadways, please include a discussion of Public Works protocol and mitigation requirements for potential roadway disturbance and any associated traffic delays or detours.

### **Visual Resources**

The Visual Resources section of the AFC (Section 8.3) outlines the applicant's assessment of the proposed project's consistency with Fresno County's aesthetic/visual regulations, architectural design review, and landscape requirements for the site, including the visual impacts relating to conversion of the site from agricultural to industrial use. Energy Commission staff would like to know your agency's perception of the completeness and accuracy of the applicant's visual information and what aesthetic/visual conditions or mitigation measures, if any, would normally be required.

Energy Commission staff has begun its assessment of the project. As a part of our assessment we are interested in the County's position related to land use, traffic and transportation, visual resources, and any other aspect of the project that may be of concern to the County. We would like to incorporate the County's input and address any concerns it may have in our Preliminary Staff Assessment that is expected to be published in September/October 2008. Please provide your comments by June 15, 2008. Comments regarding the proposed supplemental filing should be received no later than 30 days after notice of the filing is received by your office. If you need additional time, please contact Energy Commission staff at the phone number or email address provided below.

I have enclosed a copy of the original request for comments sent to your Department on October 12, 2007. It summarizes the project description and Energy Commission's Facility Certification process, and requests your Department's comments and participation in the process. I have also enclosed a CD and hard copy of the CPP Application for Certification (AFC). It is our understanding that the applicant also plans to submit a supplement to the original AFC in early July 2008. This is expected to include minor transmission line reroutes, a new 60-acre construction staging area, reconductoring analysis, and Phase I Environmental Site Assessment. This supplement will also be made available to you for review and comment. The status of the proposed project, copies of notices, electronic version of the AFC, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's Internet website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/communitypower>. You can also subscribe to the Energy Commission's list server at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers> to receive email notification of all notices and supplemental filings.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me at (916) 651-0966 or by email at [mstratta@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:mstratta@energy.state.ca.us).

Sincerely,



Shaelyn Strattan, Project Manager  
Energy Facilities Siting Division

cc: DOCKETS

Enclosure