



Energy Facilities Siting Division

FILE: Carrizo Solar

PROJECT TITLE: Carrizo ESF (07-AFC-8)

<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location: Simmler Comm. Ctr.	
NAME:	Various	DATE:	Dec. 15, 2008
WITH:	Various		
SUBJECT:	PSA Workshop Noise Discussion		

COMMENTS:

Before the Noise portion of the workshop began, I met with Mark Storm, the URS noise specialist. I explained that URS' written comments on our Noise PSA, which we received Friday 12/12/08, were not helpful. I asked that URS retract those comments, and produce the proposed mitigation plan called for in staff's PSA. After conferring with Perry Fontana, URS' Project Manager, it was agreed that URS would do so.

During the Noise portion of the workshop, I briefly explained staff's PSA. I mentioned that the AFC was missing some of the information necessary for us to reach a conclusion, including the lack of 25-hour ambient noise monitoring at any sensitive receptors. I explained how our PSA asks for further proposed mitigation of construction noise, and of both daytime operational noise and nighttime maintenance noise. Mark Storm noted that the applicant is investigating further mitigation.

Then several members of the public spoke. Mike Strobridge complained of: the health effects of excessive noise; the fact that the PSA discusses impacts and mitigation at only three of the 16 residences near the project; and expected noise from the Topaz PV Project inverters, mentioning that Jim Buntin had told him that the inverters would sound like many washing machines operating on the land. He wants cumulative impacts with Topaz dealt with. Mr. Strobridge said that the suggestion to move the Carrizo power block 1,000 feet to the south would put it near the residence at SR10, impacting them.

Mr. Strobridge claimed that concentrating the project's noise impacts on him is unfair; he would see +7 dBA, while his neighbors would see only +5. He decried the project's location in the middle of a cluster of homes and the elementary school. He then addressed temperature inversion, saying he didn't want to wait 30 days for the noise survey to be taken. He then explained that he typically sleeps outside in the summer, since he won't spend the money to air condition his home at night. He said that he works in a very noisy environment, and wants to enjoy quiet when he returns home.

I addressed several of his complaints. I explained that neither AUSRA nor the CEC could influence noise impacts from the Topaz PV facility. We could only attempt to ensure that noise from the Carrizo project would not compound Topaz noise with cumulative impacts. I then explained that we are not ignoring impacts on his neighbors; by protecting the nearest, most heavily impacted residences, we would also be protecting those farther away. I then explained why the first noise survey is required within 30 days; how a newly-started power plant must be



operating reliably enough to stay online for 25 hours in order to take the noise measurements, how the survey must be coordinated with the noise specialist's availability, and how the survey must be taken when the weather is amenable. I further explained that, in requiring a second survey when a temperature inversion exists, we are going much further than on any previous project to protect him and his neighbors.

John Ruskovich spoke of the way sound travels on the plain, and how people keep their windows open much of the year.

Robin Bell pointed to p. 12 of the PSA, 3rd paragraph under **Compliance with LORS**, where construction is limited to the hours from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. She said that this conflicts with the requirements of Condition of Certification **NOISE-6**, which allows work until 9 p.m. She objected to assuming that people will not be bothered by nighttime noise during operation of the plant, and asked that it be required not only that the owner use electric trucks to wash mirrors, but also asked that plumbing be provided throughout the plant so that water for mirror washing need not be transported around the project site. She then asked about pile driving noise; AUSRA will address that in their proposed mitigation plan.

Bob Bolin spoke of how noise travels, and is concerned about its impacts on dogs, wildlife and children at the school.

The workshop was recorded; a transcript will be available soon.

cc: John Kessler Shahab Khoshmashrab	Signed:
	Name: Steve Baker