

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Sonoran Energy Project (formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II) - Compliance
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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**NOTICE OF RECEIPT
PETITION TO AMEND
THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION DECISION FOR THE
BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT PHASE II (02-AFC-1C)**

On August 7, 2015, AltaGas Sonoran Energy Inc. (AltaGas or project owner) filed a petition with the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) requesting to modify the Final Decision for the Blythe Energy Project Phase II. The 569-megawatt combined-cycle project was certified by the Energy Commission in December 2005, but has not been built yet. The facility will be located within the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the center of the city. The Blythe II site boundary is located on an approximately 76-acre site immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEP I) which is owned and operated Blythe Energy Inc.

In 2012, Caithness Blythe II, LLC, received a five-year extension of the Deadline for the Start of Construction, from December 14, 2011 to December 14, 2016. Ownership of the project changed in 2014, from Caithness Blythe II, LLC to AltaGas Sonoran Energy Inc.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION

The modifications proposed in the petition would:

- Rename the project from Blythe Energy Project Phase II to Sonoran Energy Project;
- Define a new point of interconnection;
- Replace the two Siemens SGT6-5000F combustion turbines with a single, more efficient GE Frame 7HA.02 combustion turbine;
- Replace the Siemens steam turbine generator with a more efficient single-shaft General Electric D652 steam turbine generator;
- Increase the size of the auxiliary boiler to support General Electric's rapid response fast start capability;
- Decrease the size of cooling tower from an 11-cell to a 10-cell tower in response to the reduced heat rejection requirements;
- Decrease the size of the emergency diesel fire pump engine; and
- Optimize the general arrangement.

The changes proposed by this petition would modify conditions of certification in several technical areas. The Air Quality conditions of certification will be updated to make them consistent with the proposed changes to the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District permits. Staff Air Quality Conditions of Certification **AQ-SC1**, **AQ-SC5** and **AQ-SC9** will be updated to reflect current standard staff conditions. The table in **HAZ-1** will

be updated to reflect the information contained in Table 3.5-1 provided in the petition to amend. A change to Condition of Certification **NOISE-6** contains a clarification for the numeric noise limit and the post-construction noise monitoring procedures. Administrative changes are being proposed for Condition of Certification **LAND-5**. The project owner is requesting that Condition of Certification **PUBLICHEALTH-1** be deleted as they believe the conditions are duplicative of the cooling tower-related conditions imposed by the Air District and Conditions of Certification **AQ-38** and **AQ-43** in the Blythe II Final Commission Decision. Proposed changes to Condition of Certification **TRANS-9** are due to the previous implementation of the Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS) advisory, along with other mitigation measures designed to make pilots aware of the presence of the power plants. Administrative changes are also being proposed for Condition of Certification **WATER RES-4**.

ENERGY COMMISSION AMENDMENT REVIEW PROCEDURES

The Energy Commission's webpage for this facility, <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/blythe2/>, has a link to the amendment petition on the right side of the webpage in the box labeled "Compliance Proceeding." Click on the "Documents for this Proceeding (Docket Log)" option.

Energy Commission staff is currently reviewing the petition. The purpose of the Energy Commission's review process is to assess the impacts of this proposal on environmental quality and on public health and safety. The review process includes an evaluation of the consistency of the proposed changes with the Energy Commission's Decision and a determination on whether the facility, as modified, would remain in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards (20 Cal. Code of Regs., § 1769). After the staff has completed its independent review and analysis of this petition to amend, it will publish its assessment for public review and comment. The Energy Commission has appointed a Committee of Commissioner Scott, Presiding Member, and Commissioner Douglas, Associate Member, to oversee this amendment proceeding. The Committee will determine the schedule for the review process.

This Notice of Receipt has been mailed to the Commission's facility mail list of interested parties and property owners adjacent to the facility site. It has also been e-mailed to the facility listserv. The listserv is an automated Energy Commission e-mail system by which information about this facility is e-mailed to parties who have subscribed. To subscribe, go to the Commission's webpage for this facility, cited above, scroll down the right side of the project's webpage to the box labeled "Subscribe," and provide the requested contact information.

Any person may comment on the petition. To use the Energy Commission's electronic commenting feature, go to the Energy Commission's webpage for this facility, cited above, click on the "Submit e-Comment" link, and follow the instructions in the on-line form. Be sure to include the facility name in your comments. Once submitted, the Energy Commission Dockets Unit reviews and approves your comments, and you will receive an e-mail with a link to them.

Written comments may also be mailed or hand-delivered to:

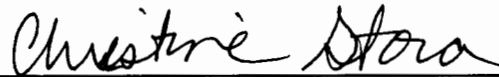
California Energy Commission
Dockets Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 02-AFC-1C
1516 Ninth Street
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All comments and materials filed with and approved by the Dockets Unit will be added to the facility Docket Log and become publicly accessible on the Energy Commission's webpage for the facility.

If you have questions about this Notice, please contact Mary Dyas, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 651-8891, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at mary.dyas@energy.ca.gov.

For information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the petition, call the Public Adviser at (800) 822-6228 (toll-free in California) or send your e-mail to publicadviser@energy.ca.gov. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail to mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

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