

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Sonoran Energy Project (formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II) - Compliance
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Document Title:	Sonoran Second Tribal Letters
Description:	Letters
Filer:	Susan Fleming
Organization:	Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Energy Commission
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Docketed Date:	2/24/2016

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Honorable Amanda Barrera, Councilwoman
Colorado River Indian Tribe
26600 Mohave Road
Parker, AZ 85344

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Amanda Barrera:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

The Sonoran project site is located in the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the city center, in eastern Riverside County. The approximately 76-acre site is located immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEPI). The site is bounded to the north by Riverside Avenue, to the east by the existing BEPI, and to the south by Hobsonway. The site is fenced, sparsely vegetated, and relatively flat, sloping from an elevation of 350 feet in the northern portion of the parcel to 340 feet in the southern portion.

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Since September, Energy Commission staff has prepared and published a preliminary assessment of the proposed amendment. The cultural resources section summarizes staff's preliminary conclusion:

Staff concludes that the proposed amendment would have no new cultural resource impacts and the mitigation for the original project would likely still be applicable and would not require any substantive changes. However, some changes to Condition of Certification **CUL-9** ... may be warranted, after further consultation with tribes, Western Area Power Administration (Western), and the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP).¹

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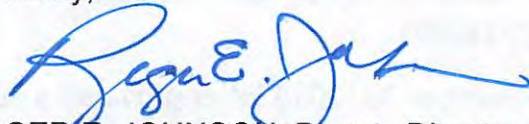
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Existing Condition of Certification **CUL-9** may be subject to revision based upon ongoing consultations with affiliated tribal governments. There are discrepancies among: 1) the list of tribes contacted in 2005 when there was a past federal (Western) nexus to the project, 2) the list of tribes named in **CUL-9**, and 3) the list of tribes that staff routinely consults with on projects in the same area and over the last 5 years. (Ibid 4.3-8)

Enclosed please find a project related ethnographic report authored by David Halmo, Ph.D. entitled, *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, that may be useful for understanding the origins of CUL-9.

Staff would like to know if your tribe wants to be among the tribes listed in CUL-9 to be invited to bless the project area and conduct other appropriate ceremonies. Please reply to Thomas Gates by March 21, 2016 if you want your tribe listed in CUL-9. If you would like to more generally discuss the Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Petition to Amend the Sonoran Energy Project and more specifically to provide your thoughts concerning CUL-9, Dr. Gates can be reached at (916) 654-5008, or by e-mail at thomas.gates@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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February 18, 2016

Lorey Cachora
P.O Box 894
Winterhaven, CA 92283

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Lorey Cachora:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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Sincerely,



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Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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February 18, 2016

Andrea Candelaria, Vice-Chairperson
Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians
52701 Highway 371
c/o Tribal Hall
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Andrea Candelaria:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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February 18, 2016

Honorable Sherry Cordova, Chairwoman
Cocopah Indian Tribe
14515 S. Veterans Drive
Somerton, AZ 85350

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Sherry Cordova:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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February 18, 2016

Jay Cravath
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 1976
Havasu Lake, CA 92363

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Jay Cravath:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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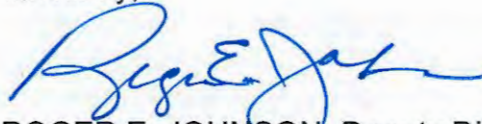
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February 18, 2016

Patricia Garcia, THPO
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92264

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Patricia Garcia:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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February 18, 2016

John Gomez, Jr.
Ramona Band of Cahuilla
P.O Box 391372
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear John Gomez, Jr.:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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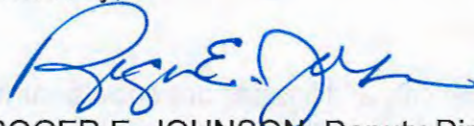
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February 18, 2016

Honorable Maryann Green, Chairperson
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
P.O. Box 846
Coachella, CA 92236

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Maryann Green:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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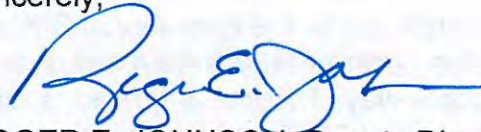
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February 18, 2016

Honorable Jeff Grubbe, Chairman
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
5401 Dinah Shore Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92264

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

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Staff concludes that the proposed amendment would have no new cultural resource impacts and the mitigation for the original project would likely still be applicable and would not require any substantive changes. However, some changes to Condition of Certification **CUL-9** ... may be warranted, after further consultation with tribes, Western Area Power Administration (Western), and the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP).¹

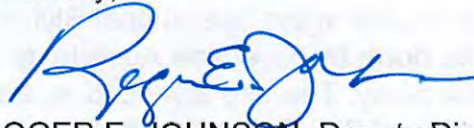
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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Honorable Joseph Hamilton
Ramona Band of Cahuilla
P.O. Box 391372
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Joseph Hamilton:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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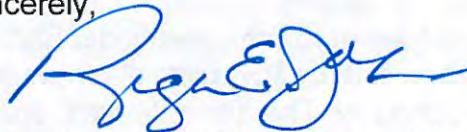
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roger E. Johnson".

ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
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February 18, 2016

Honorable Mike Jackson, Sr., President (AB52)
Quechan Indian Tribe,
Fort Yuma Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ 86440

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Mike Jackson, Sr.:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

The Sonoran project site is located in the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the city center, in eastern Riverside County. The approximately 76-acre site is located immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEPI). The site is bounded to the north by Riverside Avenue, to the east by the existing BEPI, and to the south by Hobsonway. The site is fenced, sparsely vegetated, and relatively flat, sloping from an elevation of 350 feet in the northern portion of the parcel to 340 feet in the southern portion.

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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February 18, 2016

Anthony Madrigal, Jr, THPO
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
46-200 Harrison Place
Coachella, CA 92236

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Anthony Madrigal:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Honorable John Marcus, Chairperson
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
P.O. Box 391820
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable John Marcus:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

The Sonoran project site is located in the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the city center, in eastern Riverside County. The approximately 76-acre site is located immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEPI). The site is bounded to the north by Riverside Avenue, to the east by the existing BEPI, and to the south by Hobsonway. The site is fenced, sparsely vegetated, and relatively flat, sloping from an elevation of 350 feet in the northern portion of the parcel to 340 feet in the southern portion.

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



February 18, 2016

Honorable Robert Martin, Chairperson
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA 92220

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Robert Martin:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Daniel McCarthy, Cultural Resources
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Daniel McCarthy:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Jill McCormick
Cocopah Indian Tribe
14515 S. Veterans Drive
Somerton, AZ 85350

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Jill McCormick:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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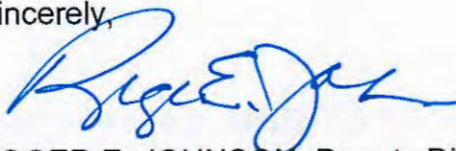
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ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
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Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



February 18, 2016

Honorable Darrell Mike, Chairperson
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians
46-200 Harrison Place
Coachella, CA 92236

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Darrell Mike:

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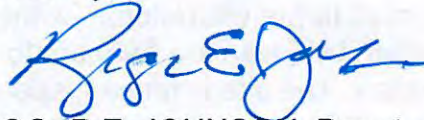
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ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Honorable Rosemary Morillo, Chairperson
ATTN: Carrie Garcia
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA 92581

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Rosemary Morillo:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

The Sonoran project site is located in the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the city center, in eastern Riverside County. The approximately 76-acre site is located immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEPI). The site is bounded to the north by Riverside Avenue, to the east by the existing BEPI, and to the south by Hobsonway. The site is fenced, sparsely vegetated, and relatively flat, sloping from an elevation of 350 feet in the northern portion of the parcel to 340 feet in the southern portion.

The September 30, 2015 letter provided a summary of the current proposed project modification, described the amendment process, provided a link to Energy Commission on-line project information, and encouraged tribal staff to contact Energy Commission staff should the tribe have further questions or comments.

For access to all project information, including the current amendment and past project certification, go to: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/sonoran/>.

Since September, Energy Commission staff has prepared and published a preliminary assessment of the proposed amendment. The cultural resources section summarizes staff's preliminary conclusion:

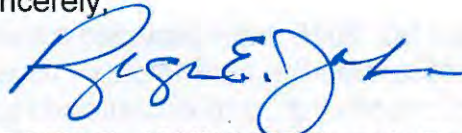
Staff concludes that the proposed amendment would have no new cultural resource impacts and the mitigation for the original project would likely still be applicable and would not require any substantive changes. However, some changes to Condition of Certification **CUL-9** ... may be warranted, after further consultation with tribes, Western Area Power Administration (Western), and the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP).¹

Staff further summarizes why Condition of Certification CUL-9 may require changes:

Existing Condition of Certification **CUL-9** may be subject to revision based upon ongoing consultations with affiliated tribal governments. There are discrepancies among: 1) the list of tribes contacted in 2005 when there was a past federal (Western) nexus to the project, 2) the list of tribes named in **CUL-9**, and 3) the list of tribes that staff routinely consults with on projects in the same area and over the last 5 years. (Ibid 4.3-8)

Staff would like to know if your tribe wants to be among the tribes listed in CUL-9 to be invited to bless the project area and conduct other appropriate ceremonies. Please reply to Thomas Gates by March 21, 2016 if you want your tribe listed in CUL-9. If you would like to more generally discuss the Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Petition to Amend the Sonoran Energy Project and more specifically to provide your thoughts concerning CUL-9, Dr. Gates can be reached at (916) 654-5008, or by e-mail at thomas.gates@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

¹ Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Petition to Amend the Sonoran Energy Project (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II) Decision, page 4.3-1

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February 18, 2016

Joseph Ontiveros, Cultural Resource Director
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
P.O. Box 487
San Jacinto, CA 92581

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Joseph Ontiveros:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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Enclosed please find a project related ethnographic report authored by David Halmo, Ph.D. entitled, *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, that may be useful for understanding the origins of CUL-9.

Staff would like to know if your tribe wants to be among the tribes listed in CUL-9 to be invited to bless the project area and conduct other appropriate ceremonies. Please reply to Thomas Gates by March 21, 2016 if you want your tribe listed in CUL-9. If you would like to more generally discuss the Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Petition to Amend the Sonoran Energy Project and more specifically to provide your thoughts concerning CUL-9, Dr. Gates can be reached at (916) 654-5008, or by e-mail at thomas.gates@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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February 18, 2016

Linda Otero, AhaMaKav Cultural Society
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 5990
Mohave Valley, AZ 86440

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Linda Otero:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

The Sonoran project site is located in the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the city center, in eastern Riverside County. The approximately 76-acre site is located immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEP I). The site is bounded to the north by Riverside Avenue, to the east by the existing BEP I, and to the south by Hobsonway. The site is fenced, sparsely vegetated, and relatively flat, sloping from an elevation of 350 feet in the northern portion of the parcel to 340 feet in the southern portion.

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

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February 18, 2016

Honorable Dennis Patch, Chairman
Colorado River Indian Tribe
26600 Mohave Road
Parker, AZ 85344

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Dennis Patch:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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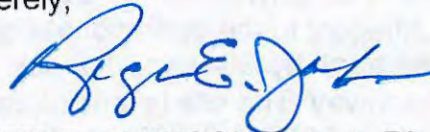
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Roger E. Johnson".

ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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February 18, 2016

Honorable Mary Resvaloso, Chairperson
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
P.O. Box 1160
Thermal, CA 92274

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Mary Resvaloso:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



February 18, 2016

Gabriella Rubalcava, EP Director
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
P.O. Box 391820
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Gabriella Rubalcava:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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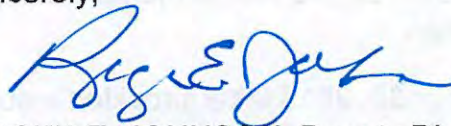
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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



February 18, 2016

David Saldivar
THPO Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians
52701 Highway 371
c/o Tribal Hall
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear David Saldivar:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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Siting, Transmission and
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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February 18, 2016

Honorable Luther Salgado, Jr., Chairperson
Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians
52701 Highway 371
c/o Tribal Hall
Anza, CA 92539

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Luther Salgado, Jr.:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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February 18, 2016

Honorable Manfred Scott, Chair Culture Committee
Quechan Indian Tribe, Fort Yuma Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 1899
Yuma, AZ 85366

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Manfred Scott:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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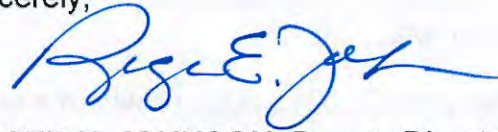
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Enclosed please find a project related ethnographic report authored by David Halmo, Ph.D. entitled, *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, that may be useful for understanding the origins of CUL-9.

Staff would like to know if your tribe wants to be among the tribes listed in CUL-9 to be invited to bless the project area and conduct other appropriate ceremonies. Please reply to Thomas Gates by March 21, 2016 if you want your tribe listed in CUL-9. If you would like to more generally discuss the Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Petition to Amend the Sonoran Energy Project and more specifically to provide your thoughts concerning CUL-9, Dr. Gates can be reached at (916) 654-5008, or by e-mail at thomas.gates@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

Enclosure: *Blythe Energy Projects; American Indian Ethnographic Assessment Study – Final Report*, David Halmo Ph.D., August 2003.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Judy Stapp
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
84-245 India Springs Pkwy
Indio, CA 92203

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Judy Stapp:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

The Sonoran project site is located in the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the city center, in eastern Riverside County. The approximately 76-acre site is located immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEP I). The site is bounded to the north by Riverside Avenue, to the east by the existing BEP I, and to the south by Hobsonway. The site is fenced, sparsely vegetated, and relatively flat, sloping from an elevation of 350 feet in the northern portion of the parcel to 340 feet in the southern portion.

The September 30, 2015 letter provided a summary of the current proposed project modification, described the amendment process, provided a link to Energy Commission on-line project information, and encouraged tribal staff to contact Energy Commission staff should the tribe have further questions or comments.

For access to all project information, including the current amendment and past project certification, go to: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/sonoran/>.

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Staff concludes that the proposed amendment would have no new cultural resource impacts and the mitigation for the original project would likely still be applicable and would not require any substantive changes. However, some changes to Condition of Certification **CUL-9** ... may be warranted, after further consultation with tribes, Western Area Power Administration (Western), and the California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP).¹

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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



February 18, 2016

Honorable Lynn Valbuena, Chairperson
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Lynn Valbuena:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

The Sonoran project site is located in the city of Blythe, approximately five miles west of the city center, in eastern Riverside County. The approximately 76-acre site is located immediately adjacent to the operational Blythe Energy Project (BEPI). The site is bounded to the north by Riverside Avenue, to the east by the existing BEPI, and to the south by Hobsonway. The site is fenced, sparsely vegetated, and relatively flat, sloping from an elevation of 350 feet in the northern portion of the parcel to 340 feet in the southern portion.

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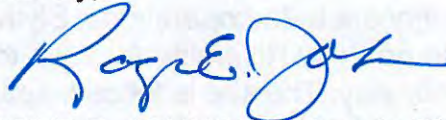
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Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
Environmental Protection Division

Energy Commission Tribal Liaison

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



February 18, 2016

Honorable Douglas Welmas
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
84-245 Indio Springs Pkwy
Indio, CA 92203

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Douglas Welmas:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEPII)).

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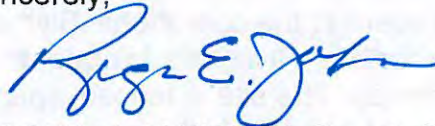
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ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and
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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



February 18, 2016

Honorable Timothy Williams, Chairperson
Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
500 Merriman Ave.
Needles, CA 92363

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Timothy Williams:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
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February 18, 2016

Honorable Charles Wood, Chairman
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 1976
Havasu Lake, CA 92363

RE: Sonoran Energy Project – (02-AFC-01C)

Dear Honorable Charles Wood:

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff opened consultation with your tribe in a letter dated September 30, 2015. The September 30th letter and staff's follow-up phone calls and emails were intended to gauge tribal interests in a proposed change in the design of the Sonoran Energy Project (Sonoran) (Formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II (BEP II)).

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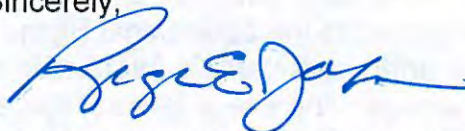
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ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director
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