

## DOCKETED

<b>Docket Number:</b>	02-AFC-01C
<b>Project Title:</b>	Sonoran Energy Project (formerly Blythe Energy Project Phase II) - Compliance
<b>TN #:</b>	210708
<b>Document Title:</b>	Notice of Status Conference
<b>Description:</b>	Notice
<b>Filer:</b>	Darlene Burgess
<b>Organization:</b>	Energy Commission Hearing Office
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Committee
<b>Submission Date:</b>	3/14/2016 3:01:27 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	3/14/2016



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

*PETITION TO AMEND THE*  
**SONORAN ENERGY PROJECT**  
**(FORMERLY BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT**  
**PHASE II)**

**Docket No. 02-AFC-01C**

## **NOTICE OF STATUS CONFERENCE**

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) Committee<sup>1</sup> (Committee) assigned to conduct proceedings on the Petition to Amend (PTA) for the Sonoran Energy Project<sup>2</sup> has scheduled a public status conference to review and discuss progress made in the proceeding, discuss the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and consider any then-pending motions or petitions on:

**Wednesday, March 30, 2016**  
**2:00 p.m.**

**California Energy Commission**  
**Art Rosenfeld Hearing Room (Hearing Room A)**  
**1516 Ninth Street**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**  
**(Map Attached)**  
**(Wheelchair Accessible)**



**TELECONFERENCE OPTION:** Parties and the Public may attend the meeting in person at the above location or by telephone and/or by computer via our "WebEx" web conferencing system. For details on how to participate by WebEx, please see the "Participation through WebEx" directions attached to this Notice.

### **Background**

On December 14, 2005, the California Energy Commission granted a certificate to Caithness Blythe II, LLC, to construct and operate the Blythe Energy Project Phase II

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<sup>1</sup> The Committee consists of Commissioner Janea A. Scott, Presiding Member, and Commissioner Karen Douglas, Associate Member.

<sup>2</sup> The Petition to Amend includes a request to change the name of the project from the Blythe Energy Project Phase II to the Sonoran Energy Project. To avoid confusion, the proposed project will be referred to as the Sonoran Energy Project.

(BEP II), Docket Number 02-AFC-01. The approved BEP II has not been built yet. The project owner received license extensions from the Commission in 2010 and 2012. An amendment approved in 2012 increased project output from 520 MW to 569 MW. Under the 2012 amendment, the project would be a combined-cycle power plant consisting of two combustion turbines with fired-heat, recovery-steam generators (HRSGs), a single steam turbine generator (STG), an 11-cell wet-cooling tower, and ancillary equipment. The project site is located in eastern Riverside County, approximately five miles west of Blythe, California.

The project owner has proposed changes to the project, which would involve the following amendments to the license:

- Define a new point of electrical interconnection via an approximately 1,320-foot, 161-kV transmission line to the Western Area Power Administration's Blythe substation located southeast of the project site via an existing transmission line located in the Southern California Edison (SCE) Buck Boulevard substation.
- Replace the two Siemens SGT6-5000F combustion turbines with a single, more-efficient General Electric (GE) Frame 7HA.02 combustion turbine.
- Replace the Siemens STG with a more-efficient, single-shaft GE D652 STG.
- Increase the size of the auxiliary boiler to support GE's rapid response fast-start capability.
- Decrease the size of the 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.

The proposed Sonoran Energy Project is a natural-gas-fired, water-cooled, combined-cycle, 553-MW net electrical generating facility. Operation of the Sonoran Energy Project will remain within the parameters of existing Condition of Certification WATER RES-4 and will not exceed a maximum of 2,800 acre-feet per year of water, based on the facility operating 7,000 hours per year.

All documents filed in this proceeding are posted on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/sonoran>.

### **Purpose of the Status Conference**

The Committee will conduct the Status Conference to discuss the progress made in the proceeding, to provide feedback on the PSA, and to discuss any other matters relevant to the schedule. It may also address any then-pending motions, petitions, and other requests that are ready for consideration.

As allowed by California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1207, the Status Conference may be conducted by the Hearing Officer without either Commissioner being present.

### **Closed Session**

At any time during the conference, the Committee may adjourn to a closed session in accordance with California Government Code section 11126, subdivision (c)(3), which allows a state body, including a delegated committee, to hold a closed session to deliberate on a decision to be reached in a proceeding the state body was required by law to conduct.

### **Public Adviser and Public Participation**

Members of the public are welcome to participate in the Status Conference. It is not necessary to be an intervenor to participate in the public process. Written comments may also be submitted electronically by visiting the website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/sonoran> and clicking on the “Submit e-Comment” link in the “Compliance Proceeding” box. Otherwise, written comments may be submitted by e-mailing them to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov), or by U.S. Mail to:

California Energy Commission  
Docket Unit  
Docket Number: 02-AFC-01C  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4  
Sacramento, CA 95814

For all comments, please include the document number and proceeding name, “**Docket No. 02-AFC-01C, Sonoran Energy Project**” in the subject line and on the cover page.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, e-mail, etc.) become part of the viewable public record. Additionally, this information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and other search engines.

The Energy Commission’s Public Adviser’s Office is available to provide the public with an understanding of the proceedings and facilitate meaningful participation. For assistance, contact Alana Mathews, Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at [publicadviser@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadviser@energy.ca.gov).

If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in this event, contact Lourdes Quiroz no less than five days prior to the hearing at (916) 654-5146, or by e-mail at [lou.quiroz@energy.ca.gov](mailto:lou.quiroz@energy.ca.gov).

### **Information**

Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Raoul Renaud, Hearing Officer, at (916) 651-2020, or by e-mail at [raoul.renaud@energy.ca.gov](mailto:raoul.renaud@energy.ca.gov).

Technical questions concerning the project should be addressed to Mary Dyas, Staff Project Manager, at (916) 651-8891, or by e-mail at [mary.dyas@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mary.dyas@energy.ca.gov).

Media inquiries should be directed to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov).

Information about the status of the project, as well as notices and other relevant documents, may be viewed on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/sonoran>.

Dated: March 14, 2016, at Sacramento, California

***ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:***

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JANEA A. SCOTT  
Commissioner and Presiding Member  
Sonoran Energy Project Amendment Committee

***ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:***

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KAREN DOUGLAS  
Commissioner and Associate Member  
Sonoran Energy Project Amendment Committee

**PARTICIPATION IN THE SONORAN ENERGY PROJECT  
STATUS CONFERENCE THROUGH WEBEX**



**INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING WEBEX TELECONFERENCING  
USING YOUR COMPUTER AND/OR TELEPHONE**



EVENT	DATE	MEETING NUMBER	PASSWORD
Sonoran Energy Project Status Conference	Wednesday, March 30, 2016 2:00 p.m.	923 031 735	pwd#1516

**Using Your Computer:**

1. Go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the above meeting number.
2. When prompted, enter your name, e-mail address, and the meeting password above.
3. After a moment, an Audio Conference Box will offer you a choice of audio connections:
4. To have WebEx call you back: Type your area code and phone number into the drop down box and click “Call Me” (Click on “Use Phone” if you do not see the drop down box.)
5. To call into the teleconference from your phone (if, for example, your phone is an extension or you are an international caller): Use the drop-down box to select “I will Call in” and follow the on-screen directions. Click “All global call-in numbers” if you need to look up an international call-in number.
6. To listen and talk over your computer: If you have the needed equipment and your computer is configured, click the “Call Using Computer” button. (You may need to click “Use Computer for Audio” to make the button visible.)

**Telephone Only:**

1. Call 1 (866) 469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). International callers can select a global call-in number at <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>.
2. When prompted enter the meeting number above.

Please be aware that WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded. WebEx Technical Support is available at 1 (866) 229-3239.

## **AGENDA**

### **California Energy Commission Sonoran Energy Project Status Conference**

**March 30, 2016**

**2:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order
2. Hearing on any Pending Motions
3. Status Conference
  - a. Feedback on the PSA
  - b. Case progress and schedule

4. Public Comment

Members of the public and other interested persons and entities may speak up to three minutes on a matter appearing on this agenda.

5. Possible Committee closed session on the Sonoran Energy Project (02-AFC-01C). The Energy Commission commissioners may adjourn to closed session to deliberate on matters for decision by the Committee such as the schedule for the review of the project, pending motions and other matters that may arise during the course of the Status Conference. Government Code section 11126(c)(3) allows a state body, including a delegated committee, to hold a closed session to deliberate on a decision to be reached in a proceeding the state body was required by law to conduct. The Committee may adjourn to closed session at any point during the meeting and may conduct multiple closed sessions as necessary.
6. Adjourn

Agency Contact: Raoul Renaud, Hearing Officer, (916) 651-2020, or by email at [raoul.renaud@energy.ca.gov](mailto:raoul.renaud@energy.ca.gov).