

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	79-AFC-03C
Project Title:	Compliance - Application for Certification of PG&E Geysers Unit 18
TN #:	206740
Document Title:	Socrates (Unit 18) Executive Director's Approval of Expedited Processing for Cooling Tower Replacement
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Camile Remy-Obad
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	11/23/2015 3:19:21 PM
Docketed Date:	11/23/2015

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

November 20, 2015

Mr. James Kluesener
VP Geothermal Regional Operations
Geysers Power Company, LLC
10350 Socrates Mine Road
Middletown, CA 95461

RE: Geysers Power Company Socrates (Unit 18) Geothermal Project (79-AFC-3C)
Expedited Processing Pursuant to Executive Order B-36-15

Dear Mr. Kluesener:

I am in receipt of your request dated November 17, 2015 for expedited processing and approval for emergency reconstruction activities at the Geysers Power Company Socrates (Unit 18) Geothermal Project (79-AFC-3C) that will include the repair, reconstruction, and/or replacement-in-kind of the cooling tower damaged in the recent Valley Fire.

In response to the wildfires in California, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-36-15, which addresses the damage caused to critical infrastructure, including power plants. The Executive Order states in part that “[t]he Energy Commission shall expedite the processing of all applications or petitions for amendments to power plant certifications issued by the Energy Commission for the purpose of remediating any wildfire damage and to restore power plant operation by authorizing emergency construction activities including demolition, alteration, replacement, repair or reconstruction necessary for power plant operation. Title 20, section 1769 of the California Code of Regulations is hereby waived for any such petition, and the Executive Director of the Energy Commission shall approve such petitions as he deems necessary.”

The Executive Order further states “[f]or purposes of carrying out directives in this Executive Order, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended.”

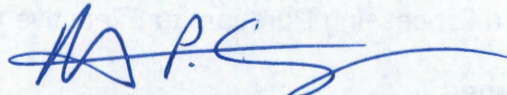
I have read and considered your request for approval of emergency reconstruction of the Geysers Power Company Socrates (Unit 18) cooling tower. Pursuant to Executive Order B-36-15, based on the information you have provided in your letter and attachments, I deem the requested reconstruction to be necessary to remediate the wildfire damage to your facility and to restore power plant operations.

I hereby authorize the emergency construction activities including demolition, alteration, replacement, repair and/or reconstruction of the cooling tower and related structures as required.

Mr. James Kluesener
November 20, 2015
Page 2

Please be advised that upon the completion of the Authority to Construct by the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District, I will take appropriate action on your request to approve the addition of an administrative air quality condition of certification.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Oglesby
Executive Director

cc: **Robert B. Weisenmiller**, Chair, California Energy Commission
Karen Douglas, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
David Hochschild, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
Andrew McAllister, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
Janea A. Scott, Commissioner, California Energy Commission
Tennis Wick, Director, Sonoma County Permit and Resource Management
Department
Alexander Saschin, Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District
Richard Burns, Field Manager, U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Elizabeth Johnson, Geothermal Officer, California Department of Conservation
Joseph Austin, District Deputy, CA Department of Conservation, Division of Oil,
Gas, and Geothermal Resources
Honorable Jose Simon III, Chairperson, Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians
Honorable Chris Wright, Chairperson, Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians
Honorable Scott Gabaldon, Chairperson, Mishewal Wappos of Alexander Valley
Honorable Marjorie Mejia, Chairperson, Lytton Rancheria of California
Shin-Roei Lee, Assistant Executive Director, North Coast Regional Water Quality
Control Board
Guy Childs, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Dennis Peters, External Affairs Manager, California ISO
Ed Randolph, Energy Division Director, California Public Utilities Commission
Tina Bartlett, Regional Manager, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, North
Central Region 2
Scott Wilson, Regional Manager, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Bay
Delta Region 3
Kellie Berry, Sacramento Valley Division Chief, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
Region 8
Ryan Olah, Coast Bay Division Chief, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 8
Dale Wierman, California Department of Forestry, Environmental Protection
Greg Allen, California Air Resources Control Board, Stationary Source Branch