

## DOCKETED

<b>Docket Number:</b>	80-AFC-01C
<b>Project Title:</b>	Sacramento Municipal Utility District SMUDGE #1
<b>TN #:</b>	207294
<b>Document Title:</b>	Sonoma (Unit 3) Executive Director's Approval of Expedited Processing for Cooling Tower Replacement
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	Camile Remy-Obad
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	1/13/2016 3:34:52 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	1/13/2016

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

January 13, 2016

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

RE: Geysers Power Company Sonoma (Unit 3) Geothermal Project (80-AFC-1C)  
Expedited Processing Pursuant to Executive Order B-36-15

Dear Mr. Kluesener:

I am in receipt of your request dated January 5, 2016, for expedited processing and approval for emergency reconstruction activities at the Geysers Power Company Sonoma (Unit 3) Geothermal Project (80-AFC-1C) 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 Sonoma (Unit 3) 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.

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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 potential changes to the air quality conditions 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