

DOCKETED

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Memorandum

To: All Parties and Persons Interested in the High Desert Power Plant Amendments Proceeding (97-AFC-01C) **Date:** February 16, 2016

From: Paul Kramer, Hearing Officer
High Desert Amendments Committee
(916) 654-5103

Subject: Committee Questions for Parties

Following its initial consideration of the parties' filings, the High Desert Amendments Committee has formulated the following questions and information requests. The parties and any other interested persons are requested to file written responses to these questions and requests no later than **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 18, 2016**.

1. In the 2000 Final Decision, emphasis was placed on not allowing the project to use groundwater from the adjudicated basin because of impacts to sensitive habitat and threatened/endangered species reliant on that habitat. With the passage of time, and particularly the last four years of drought conditions:

- a. What is the status of the identified habitat?
- b. Are the threatened/endangered species (i) still in the region and (ii) still listed as threatened or endangered?

2. Please provide the following information regarding water usage. For each, also provide actual usage and the source of water used:

- a. Peak flow demand
- b. Monthly flow demand
- c. Update "Table 1. Historical Water Usage for the Facility," found at .pdf page 59 of the Petition for Modification (TN 206468), to include data for 2015.

3. Regarding plant operations:

- a. Provide the number of starts and operation duration per month for each year of plant operation.
- b. Describe any critical needs that the plant satisfies (e.g., grid support).

4. Regarding the use of reclaimed/recycled water from the City of Victorville (CVV):

- a. Initial concerns regarding the amount of water available to the High Desert Power Plant (HDPP) were based on the Victorville 2 power plant having priority rights. What is the status of Victorville2? Does the CVV have sufficient reclaimed water to satisfy the needs of both HDPP and Victorville 2?

b. What is the volume of reclaimed water available from the treatment plant on both a peak demand and average demand day for flows to operate HDPP? How do the availability volume and demand volumes compare on a peak and on an average day?

c. What is the constituent load of the reclaimed water from the treatment plant?

d. What upgrades might be necessary (pre-treatment, storage, post-use disposal) at HDPP to accommodate usage of additional reclaimed water from CVV?

5. The recent records of conversation among Energy Commission Staff, Mojave Water Agency (MWA), and CVV indicate that MWA may not have water available for HDPP, particularly over the long term.

a. What mechanism could be used to ensure the availability of water from MWA?

b. For the last two years, HDPP has had the ability to use water from the adjudicated basin overseen by MWA. How much such water has been actually used? From what source was that water acquired?

c. Does HDPP's banking agreement with MWA allow HDPP to bank water from sources other than the State Water Project?