

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	15-AFC-01
Project Title:	Puente Power Project
TN #:	211754
Document Title:	Report of Conversation with CEC Staff and Steve DeGeorge, Director of Planning, Ventura County Transportation Commission
Description:	Report of Conversation with CEC Staff Regarding Comments on the Puente Power Project
Filer:	Cathy Hickman
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	6/8/2016 2:14:10 PM
Docketed Date:	6/8/2016

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
REPORT OF CONVERSATION



***Siting, Transmission, and
 Environmental Protection Division***

FILE: 15-AFC-01

PROJECT TITLE: Puente Power Project

<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> E-Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location: NA	
NAME:	Andrea Koch (916-654-3850)	DATE:	2/1/2016 – 4/29/2016
TIME:	Various		
WITH:	Steve DeGeorge, Director of Planning, Ventura County Transportation Commission, Contact for Ventura County Airport Land Use Commission		
SUBJECT:	Comments on the Puente Power Project		

See the attached e-mail for a conversation between Andrea Koch, Traffic and Transportation analyst for the Puente Power Project, and Steve DeGeorge, the Ventura County Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) contact.

CC:	Signed:
	Name: Andrea Koch

From: [Steve DeGeorge](mailto:Steve_DeGeorge)
To: [Koch, Andrea@Energy](mailto:Koch_Andrea@Energy)
Subject: RE: Puente Power Plant- Potential Impacts to Aviation
Date: Friday, April 29, 2016 4:56:28 PM

Andrea,

The facility is within the ALUC's Study Area for Oxnard Airport but well outside of any of the safety zones where there may be some sort of land use restriction. You can find the Airport Land Use Plan on VCTC website at, <http://www.goventura.org/sites/default/files/2000-airport-land-use-for-ventura-county.pdf> If the County Department of Airports had an operational objection, we would take their objection seriously and provide support but I've not heard from them on this issue.

Steve

Steve DeGeorge
Director of Planning
Ventura County Transportation Commission
950 County Square Drive Suite 207
Ventura, CA 93003
(805) 642-1591 (ext. 103)

From: Koch, Andrea@Energy [mailto:Andrea.Koch@energy.ca.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 29, 2016 4:25 PM
To: Steve DeGeorge
Subject: RE: Puente Power Plant- Potential Impacts to Aviation

Thanks, Steve. Does that mean that the project is not within the Oxnard Airport Sphere of Influence? Where do the ALUC's planning boundaries end?

Thanks again!

Andrea

From: Steve DeGeorge [mailto:sdegeorge@goventura.org]
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 2:27 PM
To: Koch, Andrea@Energy
Subject: RE: Puente Power Plant- Potential Impacts to Aviation

Andrea,

The Ventura County Airport land Use Commission will not have any comments, the planned facility is outside of the ALUC's planning boundaries.

Steve

Steve DeGeorge
Director of Planning
Ventura County Transportation Commission
950 County Square Drive Suite 207
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From: Koch, Andrea@Energy [<mailto:Andrea.Koch@energy.ca.gov>]
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2016 2:17 PM
To: Steve DeGeorge
Subject: FW: Puente Power Plant- Potential Impacts to Aviation

Hi Steve.

Do you know if the ALUC will have any comments?

I did contact Todd McNamee. Thank you.

Andrea

From: Koch, Andrea@Energy
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:43 PM
To: 'Steve DeGeorge'
Subject: RE: Puente Power Plant- Potential Impacts to Aviation

Thanks, Steve.

Please see this link for a site plan. Figures showing the project site start on page 70 of the pdf.

http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/15-AFC-01/TN204219-5_20150416T104348_20_Project_Description.pdf

Please let me know if the ALUC has any comments or needs additional information. I'll also contact Todd. Thanks for the information!

Andrea

From: Steve DeGeorge [<mailto:sdegeorge@goventura.org>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 1:34 PM
To: Koch, Andrea@Energy
Subject: RE: Puente Power Plant- Potential Impacts to Aviation

Andrea,

I would need to review the specific site plan in order to make comments for the Airport Land Use

Commission (ALUC). I would highly recommend that you send this to the Director of the Ventura County Department of Airports, Todd McNamee, at Todd.McNamee@ventura.org. The Department of Airports is much more knowledgeable and focused on operational issues than the ALUC.

Respectfully,

Steve

Steve DeGeorge
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Ventura County Transportation Commission
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From: Koch, Andrea@Energy [<mailto:Andrea.Koch@energy.ca.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 12:39 PM
To: Steve DeGeorge
Subject: Puente Power Plant- Potential Impacts to Aviation

Hi Steve.

I am reviewing an application for the Puente Power Plant, located at 393 North Harbor Blvd. in the city of Oxnard, within the boundaries of the existing Mandalay Generating Station (MGS). The MGS would be decommissioned after construction of Puente, with the exception of Unit 3.

The Puente plant's 188-foot-tall exhaust stack would emit a thermal plume that could potentially impact aircraft. The Energy Commission uses a plume vertical velocity of 4.3 meters/second as the critical velocity of concern to light aircraft. Staff calculated that in a worst-case, calm wind scenario, the Puente's thermal plume would reach velocities of 4.3 m/s or above up to an altitude of 4,260 feet above ground level. Would the ALUC have any concerns about this? Do you know the likelihood of aircraft flying over the Puente plant at altitudes below 4,260 feet? The Oxnard Airport is located approximately 1.9 miles southeast of the project site.

I should note that the Puente plant is proposed to operate no more than 2,453 hours per year. Average operation, depending on electrical system needs, is estimated to be no more than 500 to 1,000 hours per year. Also, the existing MGS Unit 3, which would remain in operation, generates a plume that would reach velocities of 4.3 m/s or above up to an altitude of 3,700 feet above ground level, so aircraft should already avoid low overflight of this unit. The nearby McGrath plant generates a plume reaching velocities of 4.3 m/s or above up to an altitude of 838 feet above ground level.

Please let me know your thoughts, and feel free to give me a call. Also, if you'd like a more thorough report about the plume, I can probably send you the draft plume analysis prepared by my coworkers.

Here is a link to the project application information if you wish to review it:

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/puente/>

Thank you for your time!

Andrea

Andrea Koch
Environmental Planner II
(916) 654-3850
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California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division