

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	08-AFC-08A
Project Title:	Hydrogen Energy Center Application for Certification Amendment
TN #:	201742
Document Title:	Record of Conversation with CEC Staff and Kern County Regarding Retention Basins
Description:	11-21-2013 Record of conversation with CEC Marylou Taylor and Aaron Leicht of Kern County regarding lined retention basins located at HECA project site.
Filer:	Marylou Taylor
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	2/13/2014 4:17:21 PM
Docketed Date:	2/13/2014



**Siting, Transmission
 and Environmental
 Protection Division**

FILE:

PROJECT TITLE: Hydrogen Energy Ca (HECA) Docket: 08-AFC-8A

TECHNICAL AREA(S): SOIL AND SURFACE WATER

Telephone 661-862-5093 **Meeting Location:**

NAME: Marylou Taylor **DATE:** Nov 21, 2013 **TIME:** 10:00 am

WITH: Aaron Leicht, Supervising Engineer
 Kern County - Engineering, Surveying and Permit Services

SUBJECT: Kern County 7-day infiltration requirement for retention basins

BACKGROUND:

Staff noted in the Preliminary Staff Assessment that some of the lined onsite retention basins are calculated to have drawdown times that exceeds Kern County maximum of seven days. Staff then recommended that the applicant adjust the basin design and/or operations to comply with Kern County basin standards. The applicant's response (August 9, 2013, TN#200144, Response to SSW-2) stated that because the project's proposed lined basins serve as process water ponds, they are not subject to the 7-day drawdown requirement for retention basins. These basins have a protective liner to prevent infiltration, because they collect contact runoff water from the process units and a minor possibility for contamination exists. Collected storm water from these basins would be analyzed for potential reuse in the facility. Depending on the water quality, it may be used as makeup water for the cooling system or process water. If water quality is determined unsuitable, then water would be disposed of in the facility's onsite Zero Liquid Discharge system.

DISCUSSION:

I spoke with Aaron Leicht to verify the applicant's statement that the 7-day drawdown requirement does not apply to lined ponds containing process water. He informed me that the 7-day drawdown requirement applies only to basins containing clean, uncontaminated storm water. He clarified that runoff containing incidental pollutants (i.e. from roofs, parking lots, streets, etc.) is not considered "contaminated". If the lined drainage disposal facility is being constructed to separate "contaminated" runoff from "uncontaminated" runoff, then Kern County would not regulate it in strict accordance with the Development Standard's drainage criteria (draining the 10-yr 5-day runoff volume in 7 days or less). However, they would ensure that the intent of the standard is met. That intent is to have the required storage volume once again available after 7 days from the end of a 10-yr 5-day event. If the sump is lined, there must be a workable plan to get rid of the volume from the design event in 7 days or less or provide additional volume to make up for the absence of infiltration and/or provide pumps.

I told Mr. Leicht that based on our conversation, my Final Staff Assessment would require the applicant to meet the 7-day drawdown standard for the proposed lined basins that collect contact runoff water.

cc: John Heiser, Project Manger	Date: 11/21/2013	Signed:
		Name: Marylou Taylor