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Memorandum

Date: February 28, 2014 Telephone: (916) 651-8853

File: 08-AFC-8A

To: Commissioner Karen Douglas, Presiding Member Commissioner Andrew McAllister, Associate Member Hearing Officer Raoul Renaud

From: California Energy Commission - John Heiser, AICP,

1516 Ninth Street Project Manager

Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: HYDROGEN ENERGY CALIFORNIA AMENDED AFC (08-AFC-8A) STAFF STATUS REPORT NUMBER 12

On January 27, 2014, the Committee overseeing the Hydrogen Energy California (HECA) Amended AFC issued a Revised Committee Scheduling Order requesting all parties to file status reports by March 10, 2014. Staff presents this status report identifying project progress since staff's previous status report in compliance with the Revised Committee Scheduling Order.

Staff continues to evaluate public, agency, and intervenor comments as well as information submitted by the applicant, including the following:

- Phase I California Independent System Operator Transmission System Engineering Study for Cluster 6 for the Amended AFC (TN 201759)
- Hydrogen Energy California Jurisdictional Wetlands and Waters of the U.S. Delineation Update with maps (TN 201689)
- Hydrogen Energy California's responses to Energy Commission Staff's Wasco Coal Terminal Supplemental Environmental Analysis Data Requests A225 and A253 (TN 201506). CD-ROMs with AERMOD and HARP model Files.
- Hydrogen Energy California's responses to Wasco Coal Terminal Supplemental Environmental Analysis Data Requests A218-A253 (TN 201455)
- Hydrogen Energy California's comments on November 2013 Greenhouse Gas Workshop (TN 201456)

All other informational needs identified in staff's previous status report remain outstanding, including responses to staff's data requests concerning potential impacts in the Elk Hills Oil

Field and specific, detailed information related to the carbon sequestration proposal, including a revised Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification Plan.

Energy Commission staff is working on the dry cooling alternative analysis and is working on a response to the applicant's white paper on SB 1368 (TN 201026).

Other Agency Activity

On January 13, 2014, the city of Wasco Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the proposed amendment to Conditional Use Permit 489-87 to accommodate HECA's proposed use of the Wasco Coal Terminal. The Planning Commission continued the requested item until the next Planning Commission meeting to provide time to address issues raised by commenter's.

Staff is awaiting responses from Kern County regarding the County's input on the proposed truck routes and formal mitigation measures. Kern County Planning Department provided a response to staff's request for comments regarding Socioeconomics proposed condition of certification Socio-1 (TN 201005).

Kern County Board of Supervisors approved the Williamson Act Cancellation request on October 22, 2013, contingent upon the Energy Commission completing an environmental review and approving the amended AFC.

Coordination with Federal, State, and Local Agencies:

Staff continues to conduct monthly multi-agency coordination calls regarding HECA. These calls provide information regarding schedule and an opportunity to seek input from participating agencies regarding progress on key elements. In addition, staff conducts weekly calls with the Department of Energy.

Conclusion

Staff continues to work on the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) but will not be able to provide a complete document until 60 days after the last of the outstanding information is submitted. It is unclear at this time when the applicant intends to provide this information. Staff anticipates hosting public workshops prior to the FSA publication to clarify data responses from the applicant. A final agreement between HECA/SCS and Occidental of Elk Hills, Inc, to sequester CO₂ from the project is also required for staff to proceed.