

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	08-AFC-09C
Project Title:	Palmdale Energy Project (Formerly Palmdale Hybrid Power Plant) - Compliance
TN #:	213697
Document Title:	Notice of Availability: Of Final Staff Assessment for Palmdale Energy Project Amendment to Members of the Public
Description:	Final Staff Assessment for the Palmdale Energy Project Amendment
Filer:	Raquel Rodriguez
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	9/16/2016 11:21:21 AM
Docketed Date:	9/16/2016

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



September 16, 2016

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
OF THE
FINAL STAFF ASSESSMENT FOR THE
PALMDALE ENERGY PROJECT AMENDMENT (08-AFC-9C)**

TO: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

This notice is to inform you that the California Energy Commission Energy Commission staff has prepared the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) of the Petition to Amend the Palmdale Energy Project (PEP) (formerly known as Palmdale Hybrid Power Project). The FSA contains the staff's independent evaluation for all technical sections. The FSA is now available for public review and comment at http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/08-AFC-09C/TN213623_20160912T162711_Final_Staff_Assessment.pdf.

Energy Commission staff's conclusions are summarized in this notice.

This FSA is not a decision document for power plant proceedings, nor does it contain findings of the Energy Commission related to environmental impacts or the project's compliance with local, state, and federal laws, ordinances, regulations and standards (LORS). An Energy Commission Committee assigned to the petition will hold evidentiary hearings on the FSA and will consider the recommendations presented by the staff, petitioner, intervenors, government agencies, tribes and the public prior to proposing its decision. The Energy Commission will make the final decision, including findings, after the Committee's publication of its proposed decision.

The Energy Commission encourages public participation in the review of the FSA. If you wish to provide comments on the document, please submit comments by going to the Energy Commission's PEP webpage at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/palmdale/index.html> and click on the "Submit e-Comment" link. Please provide your full name, any organization name, an e-mail address, reference Docket No. 08-AFC-9C, in the subject line, and preferably put your comment in an attached document (.doc, .docx, or .pdf format). After entering characters to ensure that responses are generated by a human user and not a computer, click on the "Agree & Submit Your Comment" button, to submit the comment to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit. If you wish to mail written comments on the project amendment, please submit them to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit.

Please include the Docket No. (08-AFC-9C) for the PEP in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments and mail or hand-deliver them to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Unit, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All written comments and materials filed with the Dockets Unit will become a part of the public record of the proceeding. Additionally, comments will be posted on the PEP webpage of the Energy Commission's website.

List Serve

If you would like to be notified of upcoming workshops or other documents being docketed for this project you can subscribe to the List Serve for this project by going to <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html> and entering your first and last name, e-mail address and selecting “**(Palmdale Energy Project)**” located under the heading “**Construction On Hold.**”

Summary of the Palmdale Energy Project Petition to Amend

The PEP site is located in the northernmost portion of the city of Palmdale, approximately 60 miles north of downtown Los Angeles. The site address is 950 East Avenue M.

The PEP project owner proposes to modify the approved Palmdale Hybrid Power Project (PHPP) primarily to remove the solar component of the project, utilize air cooling, and to change the name to the Palmdale Energy Project. Modifications proposed for the project include the following:

- Replacement of the General Electric gas turbines with new Siemens SGT6-5000Fs to meet pending need for “Flexible Resources” to support integration of renewable energy;
- A new steam turbine;
- A new auxiliary boiler;
- Elimination of the solar components of the approved project;
- Elimination of brine concentrator/crystallizer systems;
- Replacement of the wet cooling towers with an Air Cooled Condenser;
- Reduction of the site from 333 acres to 50 acres;
- Reduction of the construction laydown and parking area from 50 acres to 20 acres;
- Reorientation of the power block with the Heat Recovery Steam Generator stacks now on the east and the combustion turbine inlets to the west;
- Relocation of the site access road approximately 900 feet further east on East Avenue M to the western edge of the site property line;

- Relocation of the point where the 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line turns south to the generating facility from East Avenue M to a point approximately 1,800 feet further west on East Avenue M;
- Addition of three 230 kV transmission line towers along the south side of East Avenue M north of the project site and extension of the generation tie-line westerly approximately 1,800 feet along the south side of East Avenue M;
- Addition of waste stream consisting of combustion turbine inlet evaporative cooler blow down, water treatment system reject, and plant drains;
- Reduction in the length of the approved project's sewer pipeline which will now interconnect with an existing city of Palmdale sewer pipeline along the south side of East Avenue M;
- Change in the water steam cycle chemistry control system from a phosphate based system to an all volatile system; and
- Possible change from a CO₂ based fire suppression system for gas turbine components to an FM200 based system.

Summary of the California Energy Commission Staff's Conclusions

Based upon the information provided and analyses completed, **Summary Table 1** below illustrates Energy Commission staff's assessment of the petition to amend. Please review the FSA for a detailed discussion of the significance of staff's conclusions.

**Summary Table 1
Environmental and Engineering Assessment**

Technical Area	Complies with LORS	Impacts Mitigated
Air Quality/Greenhouse gases	Yes	Yes
Biological Resources	Yes	Yes
Cultural Resources	Yes	Yes
Efficiency	Yes	Yes
Facility Design	Yes	Yes
Geological and Paleontological Resources	Yes	Yes
Hazardous Materials	Yes	Yes
Land Use	Yes	Yes
Noise and Vibration	Yes	Yes
Public Health	Yes	Yes
Reliability	Yes	Yes
Socioeconomics	Yes	Yes
Soil and Water Resources	Yes	Yes
Traffic & Transportation	Yes	Yes
Transmission Line Safety/Nuisance	Yes	Yes
Transmission System Engineering	Yes	Yes
Visual Resources	Yes	Yes
Waste Management	Yes	Yes
Worker Safety and Fire Protection	Yes	Yes
Alternatives	NA	NA

Availability Of The Final Staff Assessment

A copy of the FSA is available on the project web site at:
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/palmdale/index.html>.

Copies of the FSA have also been sent to those public agencies that would normally have jurisdiction except for the Energy Commission’s exclusive authority to certify sites and related facilities.

Copies of the FSA are also available at the Energy Commission's Library in Sacramento, the California State Library in Sacramento, and at public libraries in Eureka, Fresno, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Additionally, copies of the FSA were mailed to the following public libraries:

Beale Memorial Library 701 Truxtun Ave, Bakersfield, CA 93301	Barstow Branch Library 04 E Buena Vista St, Barstow, CA 92311
California City Branch Library 9507 California City Blvd. California City, CA 93505	Palmdale City Library 700 E Palmdale Blvd, Palmdale, CA 93550
Sylmar Branch Library 14561 Polk St Sylmar, CA 91342	UCLA University Research Library 280 Charles E Young Dr. N, Los Angeles, CA 90095
Wanda Kirk Rosamond Library 3611 Rosamond Blvd Rosamond, CA 93560	

Public Resources, Contact Information and Additional Sources for Information

If you desire information on how to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the proposed project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, Alana Mathews, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.ca.gov. The Public Adviser's Office webpage is: http://www.energy.ca.gov/public_adviser/

To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities, contact Poneh Jones at poneh.jones@energy.ca.gov or by telephone (916) 654-4425.

News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail to mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

For additional information about this project, contact Eric Veerkamp, Energy Commission Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 654-4295 or e-mail at eric.veerkamp@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Date: September 16, 2016

CHRISTINE ROOT
Compliance Office Manager
Siting, Transmission, & Environmental Protection
Division

Mail list 7318c
ListServ PHPP