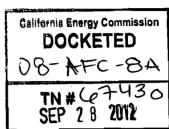
CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512



August 10, 2012

John Spaulding
Executive Secretary
Kern, Inyo, Mono Counties Building Trades Council
200 West Jeffery Street
Bakersfield, CA 93305



RE: Construction and Operation Workforce for the Proposed Hydrogen Energy California Power Plant Project (08-AFC-8)

Dear Mr. Spaulding,

Hydrogen Energy California LLC (HECA LLC) is proposing an Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) polygeneration project (HECA or Project). The Project would gasify a fuel blend of 75 percent coal and 25 percent petroleum coke (petcoke) to produce synthesis gas (syngas). Syngas produced via gasification would be purified to hydrogen-rich fuel, and used to generate a nominal 300 megawatts (MW) of low-carbon baseload electricity in a Combined Cycle Power Block, low-carbon nitrogen-based products in an integrated Manufacturing Complex and carbon dioxide (CO₂) for use in enhanced oil recovery (EOR). CO₂ from HECA would be transported by pipeline for use in EOR in the adjacent Elk Hills Oil Field (EHOF), which is owned and operated by Occidental of Elk Hills, Inc. (OEHI). The EOR process results in sequestration (storage) of the CO₂.

The Project site consists of approximately 453 acres in Kern County, California. The Project site is located two miles northwest of the unincorporated community of Tupman, and approximately four miles southeast of the unincorporated community of Buttonwillow. Primary access to the site is from Dairy Road. Stockdale Highway and I-5 are located approximately one mile to the north and three miles to the east, respectively. The street address of the Project Site is 7361 Adohr Road, Buttonwillow, CA 93206.

As part of the environmental review and licensing process for the proposed project, Energy Commission staff evaluates the potential for the construction and operation workforce to impact population, housing, and public services (e.g., police protection and schools) in the area where the project is proposed. Information on the construction and operation workforce in the region is extremely useful in the analysis of potential impacts to these resources.

The proposed Project schedule would require a 42-month construction period with: preconstruction and construction activities beginning June 2013; truck deliveries and ground disturbance August 2013; completion of construction February 2017 and commencement of commercial operation of the Project in September 2017.

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Please provide your responses to the above questions and any other additional information and any comments you may have regarding the construction and operation labor for the proposed project by September 12, 2012. Please send your responses to my attention. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Candace M. Hill

Planner II

California Energy Commission Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division 1516 Ninth Street, MS 40 Sacramento, CA 95814 chill@energy.ca.gov

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Enclosure:

Project location map (from the AFC) Table 5.10-6, Workforce and Material Distribution

cc. Amanda Stennick, Planner III/Supervisor