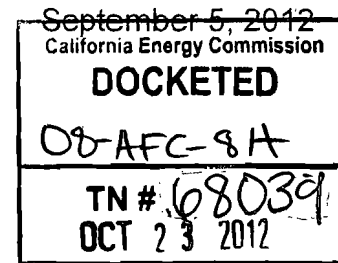


CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



Sheriff Donny Youngblood
Kern County Sheriff's Office
1350 Norris Road
Bakersfield, CA 93308-2231



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

Dear Sheriff Youngblood,

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.

To assess impacts of the proposed project on law enforcement, Energy Commission staff requests information on existing law enforcement resources and services in the project area and the estimated need for additional services if the project is approved. A form is provided as an attachment to this letter with data needs and questions highlighted. Key characteristics of the applicant's proposed project that are considered applicable to law enforcement response needs assessment are briefly summarized on the form.

From our review of the project's Application for Certification (AFC), we understand the Kern County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement services to the

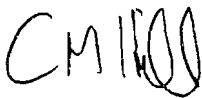
Sheriff Youngblood
September 5, 2012
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unincorporated portion of Kern County, which includes the Project site. The Taft substation of the Kern County Sheriff's Department would provide law enforcement services to the Project site. The Taft substation is located at 311 North Lincoln Street in Taft, approximately 16 miles southwest of the Project site. Staff at this substation includes nine deputies, two detectives, a school resource deputy and an assigned bailiff.

The Applicant's AFC is available on the Energy Commission's website at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hydrogen_energy/ Section 5.08 Socioeconomics would be the most pertinent section to review, as well as Section 5.07 Worker Health and Safety and Section 5.10 Traffic and Transportation.

Please provide your responses to the needs assessment form and include any comments you may have regarding law enforcement services for the proposed project by October 12, 2012. Send your responses to my attention. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,



Candace M. Hill
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Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division
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Tele: (916) 653-1643
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Enclosures:
Local Law Enforcement Needs Assessment Form
Map showing the location of the project site (from the AFC)

cc.

Amanda Stennick, Planner III/Supervisor