

## NOTICE OF PRELIMINARY DECISION & DETERMINATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT: The Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District (MDAQMD) received an Application for the proposed Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating Station Power Project (Ivanpah SEGS) on September 20, 2007, and additional application package materials on September 24, 2007. Subsequently, the MDAQMD submitted a Notification of Intent to Participate (NOI) letter, October 1, 2007, indicating the MDAQMD has Intent to Participate (ITP) in the permitting process, and the Application for Certification (AFC), pursuant to District Rule 1306. Additionally, the MDAQMD submitted its Preliminary Determination Document (PDD) to the USEPA Region 9, the California Energy Commission (CEC), and the California Air Resources Board (CARB), on February 14, 2008.

The proposed project location is in southern California's Mojave Desert, near the Nevada border, and to the west of Ivanpah Dry Lake, in San Bernardino County, on federal land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The project will be constructed in three phases: two 100-megawatt (MW) phases (Ivanpah 1 and 2), and a 200-MW phase (Ivanpah 3). The project will primarily consist of three large solar arrays focusing sun energy onto solar powered boilers to power steam turbines for commercially available electrical production. The project will operate on Rankine Cycle principal with primary heat input from the sun; the combined rating of the SEGS will be 400 MW, enough power for approximately 400,000 homes. Natural gas fired boilers will be used to heat water to operating temperatures in the morning, and during transient cloud cover scenarios. Boilers' heat rating and permit conditions will preclude operation for sustained periods of reduced sunlight. Heat input from natural gas will not exceed 5 percent of heat input from the sun on an annual basis, and not exceed four hours on any given day.

The following summarizes equipment permissible by the MDAQMD as stationary sources of air contaminants: Three Diesel Fueled Fire Pumps, rated at 240 bhp each; Four Diesel fueled Emergency Generators, rated at 3750 bhp each; Two Natural gas fired Boilers, rated at 231.1 Million BTU/hr each; and One Natural gas fired Boiler, rated at 462.2 Million BTU/hr.

This facility is primarily a Solar Energy powered power plant, and as proposed, emissions associated with emergency and auxiliary equipment will be minimal. Nonetheless, District Rule 1306 requires the District to make a Best Available Control Technology (BACT) assessment to all Electrical Energy Generating Facility's (EEGF's) proposed in the District. Pursuant to this requirement, the District has analyzed the proposed equipment emissions and found that BACT thresholds not be triggered. Although not required by District Rules, the applicant has stated that they would purchase and permit the least emitting, highest Tier level Diesel engine powered equipment available. Their proposed Natural Gas fired Boilers do not trigger BACT thresholds and therefore are not required meet to meet BACT requirements.

Additionally, and pursuant to MDAQMD Rule 1306, the MDAQMD has prepared a Preliminary Decision & Determination document for the project, and finds that, subject to specified permit conditions, the proposed project will comply with all applicable Federal, State, and local Rules and Regulations.

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**AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS:** The Preliminary Decision, including the application and other supporting documentation are available for review at the MDAQMD offices located at 14306 Park Avenue, Victorville, CA 92392. Please contact Samuel Oktay PE, Air Quality Engineer, at the above address or (760) 245-1661, x 1610 to obtain copies of these documents.

**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS:** Interested persons are invited to submit written comments and/or other documents regarding the Preliminary Decision. To be considered, comments, documents, and requests for public hearing must be received no later than 5:00 P.M. on March 21, 2008, approximately thirty days after the publication date of this notice. District permits will be issued after the CEC has granted project approval.