

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



DOCKET	
07-AFC-5	
DATE	03/17/10
RECD.	03/17/10

March 17, 2010

Dear Librarian:

DOCUMENT HANDLING FOR THE IVANPAH SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING SYSTEM PROJECT (07-AFC-5) and POSTING OF PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY – FINAL STAFF ASSESSMENT ADDENDUM

The enclosed Final Staff Assessment Addendum (FSA Addendum) contains the California Energy Commission staff's updated final engineering and environmental evaluation of the proposed Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System (ISEGS) project. Please make this FSA Addendum available for those who may wish to be informed about the project. We request that you not allow the FSA Addendum or any of its contents to be removed from the library. To increase accessibility of the document, we ask, if possible, that you cross reference it as a general reference work under the title and author categories, as well as under such subjects as "Energy Commission," "electricity energy/generation," "power plant siting," or any other relevant subject. Please retain the enclosed letter to the public behind the front cover of the FSA Addendum.

The Energy Commission's siting process is open to the public and incorporates the input of the public as well as local, state and federal agencies. To facilitate public participation in our review process, the Commission distributes copies of staff documents such as the FSA Addendum to public libraries in communities near the proposed project, and in major cities throughout the state. As such, please retain a copy of the enclosed Notice of Availability behind the front cover of the FSA Addendum and also post a copy of the Public Notice in a place conspicuous and accessible to those members of the general public who visit the library.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact John Kessler, Project Manager, at (916) 654-4679, or by e-mail at: jkessler@energy.state.ca.us.

Sincerely,

EILEEN ALLEN, Office Manager
Energy Facilities Siting Program

Enclosure

Mailed to list: 7258 - Library

PROOF OF SERVICE (REVISED 3/11/10) FILED WITH
ORIGINAL MAILED FROM SACRAMENTO ON 3/17/10

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



March 17, 2010

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
FINAL STAFF ASSESSMENT ADDENDUM FOR THE PROPOSED IVANPAH SOLAR
ELECTRIC GENERATING SYSTEM PROJECT (07-AFC-5)**

TO: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the Final Staff Assessment Addendum (FSA Addendum) for the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System (ISEGS) project Application for Certification (07-AFC-5). The FSA Addendum contains the California Energy Commission staff's updated final engineering and environmental evaluation of the proposed ISEGS project.

On February 11, 2010, the applicant filed a biological mitigation proposal referred to as Mitigated Ivanpah 3. Mitigated Ivanpah 3 is primarily designed to mitigate impacts to special-status plants to a level that is less than significant as staff recommended in its Condition of Certification BIO-18 of the Final Staff Assessment/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (FSA/DEIS) published on November 4, 2009.

The purpose of this Final Staff Assessment Addendum (FSA Addendum) is to update Energy Commission staff's analysis of the ISEGS project inclusive of the Mitigated Ivanpah 3 proposal from that presented in the FSA/DEIS. The FSA Addendum conforms with the Energy Commission's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process, while Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will be separately preparing a DEIS Supplement to conform with its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. The Energy Commission's ISEGS Committee will hear the various parties' views on this FSA Addendum, and the overall Mitigated Ivanpah 3 proposal in an Evidentiary Hearing scheduled for March 22, 2010 beginning at 9:30 AM in Hearing Room A of the California Energy Commission in Sacramento. The hearing has been noticed separately and the public and agencies are welcome to offer comments either in-person or by phone.

As background, the applicant filed an Application for Certification (AFC) with the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) on August 31, 2007, seeking permission to develop the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System (ISEGS) project. The applicant filed four right-of-way (ROW) applications with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the ISEGS project on August 29, 2007. BrightSource Energy, Inc. (BrightSource), is a technology and development company and the parent company of the four limited liability companies. The applicant will use BrightSource's solar thermal technology to develop ISEGS. The four ROW applications filed by BrightSource are for projects that are designed and intended to operate while sharing certain common areas and facilities.

Summary of the California Energy Commission Staff's Preliminary Findings

The updated analysis of project-related direct and indirect impacts within this FSA Addendum shows that, with the exception of Visual Resources, the ISEGS project's potential direct and indirect impacts would be mitigated to a less than significant level. With respect to Visual Resources, staff believes the direct impacts to Visual Resources remain significant and unmitigable to existing scenic resource values as seen from three Key Observation Points in the Ivanpah Valley and Clark Mountains. With respect to Biological Resources, staff believes that the direct and indirect impacts of the project on special-status plant species would be mitigated to a less than significant level with the Mitigated Ivanpah 3 proposal combined with staff's recommended mitigation in Condition of Certification BIO-18. Prior to receiving the applicant's Mitigated Ivanpah 3 proposal, staff concluded in the FSA/DEIS that the direct and indirect impacts to special-status plants from the project as previously proposed were significant and unmitigable.

Staff's analysis has also identified cumulative impacts which are significant and unmitigable in the areas of Land Use, Traffic and Transportation, and Visual Resources. With respect to Land Use, impacts of the ISEGS project would combine with impacts of present and reasonably foreseeable projects to result in a contribution to cumulative impacts in the Ivanpah Valley area related to land use which would be significant with respect to CEQA. Impacts of the ISEGS project would also combine with the potential impacts of reasonably foreseeable renewable energy projects in the Southern California Mojave desert to result in significant and unmitigable regional cumulative impacts related to Land Use. With respect to Traffic and Transportation, staff has determined that with the implementation of the Traffic Control Plan required by proposed Condition of Certification **TRANS-1**, construction and operation of the ISEGS would not cause a direct significant impact on northbound I-15 on Friday afternoons, but would contribute to a cumulatively considerable significant impact on northbound I-15 on Friday afternoons.

Public Resources, Contact Information and Additional Sources for Information

Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to John Kessler, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 654-4679 or jkessler@energy.state.ca.us. Also, for those persons with limited English knowledge, please request interpreter services by contacting John Kessler.

If you want information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by email at PublicAdviser@energy.state.ca.us.

To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities, please contact Lourdes Quiroz, the Energy Commission's Equal Employment Opportunity Officer at lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us or by telephone (916) 654-5146.

The status of the project, copies of notices and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/ivanpah/index.html>. News media inquiries should

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be directed to Assistant Director, Susanne Garfield, at (916) 654-4989, or by email at: mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

Note: Please retain a copy of this Public Notice behind the front cover of the Final Staff Assessment Addendum and post a copy of the Public Notice in a place conspicuous and accessible to those members of the general public who visit the library. Thank You.



**BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
1-800-822-6228 – WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV**

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
FOR THE *IVANPAH SOLAR ELECTRIC
GENERATING SYSTEM*

DOCKET No. 07-AFC-5
PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 3/11/10)

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Maria Santourdjian, declare that on March 17, 2010, I served and filed copies of the attached, Library Letter for the Ivanpah Final Staff Assessment Addendum, dated March 17, 2010. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/ivanpah].

The documents have been sent to both the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

(Check all that Apply)

FOR SERVICE TO ALL OTHER PARTIES:

- sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;
- by personal delivery;
- by delivering on this date, for mailing with the United States Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses **NOT** marked "email preferred."

AND

FOR FILING WITH THE ENERGY COMMISSION:

- sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed respectively, to the address below (*preferred method*);

OR

- depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Attn: Docket No. 07-AFC-5
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.state.ca.us

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the proceeding.

Original Signed by _____
Maria Santourdjian