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REVIEW OF PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT – PANOCHÉ ENERGY CENTER PROJECT, FRESNO COUNTY

On 5 July 2007, Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) staff received the California Energy Commission's third Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) of the Panoche Energy Center (PEC) Project. The PEC, proposed by Energy Investors Fund, LLC, consists of a 400 megawatt simple-cycle power plant in an unincorporated area of western Fresno County.

The PSA states that: (1) process wastewater will be collected in tank(s) and conveyed by a six-inch diameter pipeline to be injected into new (injection) disposal wells located on-site; (2) the PEC has applied for U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) permits for six Class I Non-hazardous Deep Wells; and, (3) Underground Injection Control Class 1 Permits and Waste Discharge Requirements would be required.

Regional Water Board staff has the following comment: *Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) are not adopted by the Regional Water Board for the disposal of wastewater in injection disposal wells; permitting injection wells is under the authority of the U.S. EPA.*

If you have any questions, please contact me at (559) 445-5114 or dwachtell@waterboards.ca.gov.



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