Bill Pfanner - Eastshore Energy Center cultural resources

From:

Beverly Bastian

To:

oceankayak@aol.com

Date:

9/10/2007 11:20 AM

Subject: Eastshore Energy Center cultural resources

CC:

Bill Pfanner; Dorothy Torres; Rick York

DOCKE

Hello, Stephania,

I work for the California Energy Commission, and I am the cultural resources analyst for the Eastshore Energy Center power plant project, proposed to be built in west Hayward. My supervisor, Rick York, asked me to respond to the questions you asked him last Thursday, September 6, at the Energy Commission's public hearing on the Eastshore project.

First, you asked if any Miwoks had been contacted about this project. The answer is yes. The project developer sent letters to a list of Native American individuals and groups that the Native American Heritage Commission identified as desiring to be notified about development projects in Alameda County. Representing the Energy Commission, I, too, sent letters to the persons on a similar list provided by the Native American Heritage Commission. On the list of persons to whom I sent letters were five persons affiliated with the Ohlone/Costanoan group and three persons affiliated with additional groups, including Bay Miwok, Plains Miwok, Patwin, and Northern Valley Yokuts. I have received no responses to these letters. The developer received responses from four persons, including one whose affiliation was Miwok, all expressing no concern about cultural resources in the project area.

You also stated that Ohlone burials are known to exist in the area where the Eastshore project would be built. My collaborator, John Dougherty, and I checked the existing archaeological records and did not find any known archaeological sites in or near the two locations proposed for Eastshore construction. While several large and important shell mound sites, which include burials, are known to exist on the shoreline of the East Bay Area, according to the existing records, none of these is near the proposed Eastshore site. If you are aware of any archaeological sites on or adjacent to the proposed power plant site, and you would like to contribute this information, please call me at the number provided below.

Although I do not think there is a great likelihood of encountering prehistoric archaeological deposits during the construction of the Eastshore project, the Energy Commission will require that the project have an archaeological monitor present during all excavations on the site, in case something is found. By law, if Native American human remains should be found, the Native American Heritage Commission would be notified and would designate a Most Likely Descendant to recommend the proper treatment of the remains.

If you are interested in being notified about proposed development in Alameda (or any other) County, you can contact the Native American Heritage Commission at 615 Capitol Mall, Room 364, Sacramento, CA 95814, or at (916) 653-4082, or through their website, www.nahc.ca.gov, and ask to be added to their database.

Thank you for your interest in the Energy Commission's cultural resources review process for the Eastshore Energy Center. Please note my contact information below, and write, call, or

email if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Beverly E. Bastian

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