CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
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DOCKET
11-AFC-1
DATE FEB 15 2011
RECD. FEB 15 2011

February 15, 2011

To: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW OF THE PIO PICO ENERGY CENTER, APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION (11-AFC-1)

On February 10, 2011, Pio Pico Energy Center LLC submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to the California Energy Commission seeking permission to construct and operate a nominal 300-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired simple-cycle generating facility, the Pio Pico Energy Center (PPEC). The current AFC replaces the previously proposed project that was withdrawn on December 10, 2010. The new project site is proposed to be located in an unincorporated area of southwestern San Diego County, known as Otay Mesa.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Location
The PPEC project would be located on approximately 10 acres of disturbed land on the southeast quadrant of the Alta Road and Calzada de la Fuente intersection. The construction lay down (equipment and materials) area is proposed to be 6-acres of an adjacent parcel to the south.

Power Plant Technology
The generating facility would include three General Electric (GE) LMS100 natural gas-fired combustion turbine generators (CTGs), each equipped with water injection to the combustors for reducing production of oxides of nitrogen (NOx), a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) system with 19 percent aqueous ammonia injection to further reduce NOx emissions, and an oxidation catalyst to reduce carbon monoxide (CO). Thermal energy is produced in the CTGs through the combustion of natural gas, which is converted into mechanical energy to drive the combustion turbine compressors and electric generators. The total net generating capacity would be approximately 300 MW.

Prominent Visual Features
Following are some of the more important and/or larger project features related to the visual impact assessment:

- Three (3) combustion turbines 40-feet tall and approximately 130-feet long.
- Three (3) 100-foot tall combustion turbine generator (CTG) stacks.
- Three (3) variable bleed vents with silencers proposed at 53 feet tall.
- Three (3) 35-foot tall hot selective catalytic reduction systems (SCR).
- One (1) hybrid-cooling system at 23-feet tall, 14 feet wide and approximately 400 feet long.
- A proposed 30-foot tall raw water storage tank and a 30-foot tall demineralized water storage tank.

Electrical Transmission System
Two possible routes are provided for a 230kV transmission line that would connect the project into the existing 230kV Otay Mesa switchyard. Route A would begin as an overhead power line along Calzada de la Fuente, extend approximately 1,700 feet east where it would then be routed underground for approximately 400 feet into the Otay Mesa switchyard (total length of Route A would be approximately 2,100 feet). Route B would be an overhead power line from the eastern edge of the project site, run south approximately 550 feet, then turn east along the northern border of the parcels with APN 648-040-48 and APN 648-040-43 for 1,400 feet, and finally turn north for approximately 700 feet into the Otay Mesa switchyard (total length of Route B would be approximately 2,650 feet).

Natural Gas Pipeline
There are two possible routes for the natural gas supply pipeline. Both routes would connect to an existing San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) natural gas pipeline, but at different locations. Route A would extend approximately 8,000 feet south along Alta Road to near the US–Mexico border, at which point it would connect to the existing SDG&E natural gas pipeline. Route B would extend approximately 2,375 feet south along Alta Road, turn west on Otay Mesa Road, and continue approximately 7,920 feet to Harvest Road at which point it would connect to the existing SDG&E natural gas pipeline for a total of approximately 10,300 feet. The pipeline will be constructed, owned, and operated by SDG&E.

Sewer Pipeline
An underground sewer pipeline connection would be made to an existing 12-inch sewer main along Calzada de la Fuente along the north project site boundary or to an existing 15-inch sewer main along Alta Road, along the west project site boundary.

Stormwater Pipeline
An underground stormwater pipeline connection would be made from a detention pond located at the northwest corner of the project site to an existing 30-inch stormwater pipeline located along Calzada de la Fuente, adjacent to the project site.

Water Supply Pipelines
The project would make a short connection to the potable service system, either at an existing 12-inch main along Calzada de la Fuente, or at an existing 24-inch main along Alta Road. Upon the Otay Water District (OWD)'s completion of the planned Otay Mesa area recycled water system, the project would make a connection to the new 24-inch recycled water main to be constructed in Alta Road.

Construction Schedule
The start of construction is planned for February 2013 with testing planned for March 2014 and commercial operation planned to begin in May 2014. The PPEC has signed a 20-year power purchase agreement (PPA) with SDG&E.

ENERGY COMMISSION'S SITE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications to construct and operate thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, in California. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts and engineering aspects of proposed power plants and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines. The Energy Commission has a certified regulatory program and is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The first step in the review process is for Energy Commission staff to determine whether or not the AFC contains all the information required by our regulations. When the AFC is deemed complete, we will begin data discovery and issue analysis phases. At that time, a detailed examination of the issues will occur.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings on the proposal to determine whether the proposed project should be approved for construction and operation and under what set of conditions. These workshops will provide the public as well as local, state and federal agencies the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

Please direct your technical or project schedule questions to Eric Solorio, Project Manager, at (916) 651-0966, or by email at esolorio@energy.state.ca.us. For more information on how to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228. The Public Adviser's Office can also be contacted via email at pao@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to the media office at (916) 654-4989 or via email at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us. The status of the proposed project, copies of notices, an electronic version of the AFC, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/piopico/index.html. You can also subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices at http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers.

This notice of receipt has been mailed to all parties that requested placement on the mailing list during the pre-filing period and to property owners located within 1000 feet of the proposed project site and 500 feet of a project linear feature (e.g. pipeline). By being on the mailing list, you will receive notices of all project-related activities and notices when documents related to the proposed project's evaluation are available for review. If you want your name removed from the mailing list, please contact Teraja Golston, Project Assistant, at (916) 651-8839, or by e-mail at tgolston@energy.state.ca.us.

AVAILABILITY OF THE APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION (11-AFC-1)
Copies of the AFC are available for public review at the following public libraries:

Civic Center Branch 365 F Street Chula Vista, CA 91910	South Chula Vista Branch 389 Orange Avenue Chula Vista, CA 91911	East Lake Branch 1120 EastLake Parkway Chula Vista, CA 91915	Central Library 820 E Street San Diego, CA 92101
Otay Mesa-Nestor Branch 3003 Coronado Avenue San Diego, CA 92154	Bonita-Sunnyside Branch 4375 Bonita Road Bonita, CA 91902	Imperial Beach Branch 810 Imperial Beach Boulevard Imperial Beach, CA 91932	Lincoln Acres Branch 2725 Granger Avenue National City, CA 91950

Copies are also available at the Energy Commission's Library in Sacramento, the California State Library in Sacramento, and at public libraries in Eureka, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. In addition, this information has been shared with those public agencies that would normally have jurisdiction except for the Energy Commission's exclusive authority to certify sites and related facilities.

Sincerely,

Original Signature in Dockets
Roger Johnson, *Manager*
Energy Facilities Siting Office

Mailing List:
Property Owners