

# CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

REPORT OF CONVERSATION

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## DOCKET

11-AFC-2

DATE FEB 13 2012

RECD. FEB 21 2012



Siting, Transmission, and Environmental  
Protection Division

FILE: 11-AFC-02

PROJECT TITLE: Hidden Hills Solar Energy Generating  
System

<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone	Email	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location:			
NAME:	Melissa Mourkas	DATE	2-13-2012	TIME:	7:05 PM
WITH:	Tom Priestly, CH2MHill				
SUBJECT:	Location and Visibility of Onsite Transmission Poles in KOP-4.				

cc: Project file	Signed:
Dick Ratliff, Staff Counsel	Name: Melissa Mourkas

From: Tom Priestly, 2-13-2012, 7:05 pm.

Melissa,

I understand that you have had some questions about the simulation of the view from KOP 4, particularly related to whether we should be seeing the on-site transmission system in the view from this location.

To answer your questions, I have worked with our simulation specialist to take a very careful look at what was done in creating the simulation. Attached is a screen shot (kop4-transmission towers) that our simulation specialist provided of a portion of the digital model that was used to create the simulations. As you can see, the model we used definitely included the transmission structures that carry the lines that transport the electricity from the power blocks to the switching station. This screen shot also provides the answer to your question about how many transmission structures there are on the site. I count 19 transmission structures between Power Block 1 and the switching station and 4 structures between Power Block 2 and the switching station.

The other file I have attached is a view cone diagram which provides an understanding of the physical relationships between the viewpoint and the various elements in the view. This diagram provides a basis for understanding that the transmission structures are in the portion of the view where they will be hidden by the structures and vegetation in the foreground and middleground. The vegetation in the foreground and middleground extends to the road at the left side of the view. If you extend this road north through the project site, you can see that this line transects the northern boundary of the Power Block 1 heliostat field at a point west of the location where the above-ground portion of the internal transmission system begins. As a consequence, the Power Block 1 transmission line is located entirely behind the foreground and middleground screening. In addition, review of this view cone diagram indicates that the area where the Power Block 2 transmission line is located lies outside the area the photo encompasses.

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If you have and questions about these images you would like to discuss, by all means feel free to give me a call.

Tom Priestley

**Thomas Priestley, Ph.D., AICP/ASLA**

*Principal Technologist for Visual Resources*

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