

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

1516 Ninth Street , MS-15  
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)



## Notice of Workshop for the Proposed Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System (11-AFC-02)

The workshop will be held:  
**MONDAY, February 11, 2013**  
Starting at 9:00 AM

**California Energy Commission**  
First Floor, Hearing Room B  
1516 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512  
(Wheelchair accessible, map attached)

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**  
**11-AFC-02**

TN # 69342

JAN. 31 2013

To participate in the meeting by telephone:  
WebEx call-in toll-free number: 1-866-469-3239  
Webex meeting number: 929 916 686  
Webex meeting password: Meeting@9

### Purpose

The purpose of the workshop is to allow staff, the applicant, intervenors, interested agencies, and the public the opportunity to discuss **Biological Resources** – specifically, applicant's Data Responses to Data Request Set 3, issued on October 26, 2012, related to solar power convective heat and radiant flux and associated potential impacts:

[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/documents/2012-10-26\\_Staff\\_Data\\_Request\\_Set\\_3\\_199-208\\_TN-68255.pdf](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/documents/2012-10-26_Staff_Data_Request_Set_3_199-208_TN-68255.pdf).

These data requests concern what the applicant has termed “the SEDC flux study” which pertains to an experiment conducted in Dimona, Israel. This study was presented at an August 28, 2012, workshop, and considered the effect of solar flux from that facility on dead birds exposed to various levels of solar flux. The workshop is for the sole purpose of discussing that study with the author of the report, who has been identified as Gary Santolo.

No other issues are scheduled for discussion at this workshop, although there will be an opportunity for public comment.

### Background

#### Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System

On August 5, 2011, Hidden Hills Solar Holdings, LLC, (subsidiary to BrightSource Energy, Inc.), submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to construct and operate the Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System (HHSEGS). On October 5, 2011, the Energy Commission approved the Executive Director's recommendation that the AFC was deemed complete for purposes of commencing the Energy Commission's siting review process. The Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) was filed on May 24, 2012. The Final Staff Assessment (FSA) was filed on December 21, 2012.

## **Summary of the Proposed Project**

### **Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System**

As currently proposed, the HHSEGS would comprise two solar fields and associated facilities permanently encompassing a total of approximately 3,097 acres of privately owned land, leased in Inyo County, California, immediately adjacent to the Nevada stateline. The project site is approximately 8 miles southeast of Pahrump, Nevada, and approximately 45 miles northwest of Las Vegas, Nevada. If approved, each solar plant would generate 250 megawatts (MW), for a total net output of 500 MW and would use heliostats – elevated mirrors guided by a tracking system mounted on pylons – to focus the sun’s rays on a receiver steam generator located atop a 750-foot tall solar power tower near the center of each solar field. Each solar plant would utilize approximately 85,000 heliostats. The transmission line and natural gas pipeline would both be located wholly within the state of Nevada on federal land managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The components of the project located within federal lands noted above, along with the entirety of the project, as a connected action, are being reviewed under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for which the BLM is the lead agency.

### **Status of Project Review**

As of publication of the Hidden Hills Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) on May 24, 2012, staff has conducted three PSA workshops, on June 14, 2012 (in Pahrump, NV), June 27, 2012 (in Bishop, CA) and July 3, 2012 (in Sacramento, CA). Staff has also participated in two joint Hidden Hills-Rio Mesa workshops focused on avian impact issues, held in Sacramento on August 28, 2012 and December 5, 2012.

The Final Staff Assessment (FSA) published on December 21, 2012 will be staff’s testimony, and is only one piece of evidence that will be considered by the Hidden Hills Committee (two Energy Commission Commissioners who have been assigned to the project) in reaching a decision on whether or not to recommend that the full Energy Commission approve the proposed projects.

Staff and other parties anticipated the ability to ask questions about the SEDC flux study prior to publishing the FSA. However, Mr. Santolo was not made available for such questions at the workshop held on December 5, 2012 (although the applicant stated at the workshop that it would make Mr. Santolo available at a subsequent workshop). Staff specifically requests that Mr. Santolo be made available by the applicant at this workshop.

Staff seeks answers to questions about the methods used by Mr. Santolo when he conducted the SEDC flux study for which he provided a report, and intends to testify. Staff had expected these questions to be addressed at the December 5, 2012 Joint Hidden Hills-Rio Mesa Workshop that Mr. Santolo did not attend. At that December 5, 2012 workshop, Staff and other parties were assured by the applicant that Mr. Santolo would be made available at a future workshop to answer such questions, which had tentatively been scheduled to occur on January 31, 2013. However, these questions must still be answered before staff can complete rebuttal testimony for the forthcoming March, 2013 Evidentiary Hearings.

## Participation

Please direct your technical or project schedule questions to Mike Monasmith, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 654-4894, or by e-mail at [mike.monasmith@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mike.monasmith@energy.ca.gov). If you desire information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of either 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 [publicadviser@energy.ca.gov](mailto:publicadviser@energy.ca.gov). If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 or via email at [lou.quiroz@energy.ca.gov](mailto:lou.quiroz@energy.ca.gov) at least five days in advance. News media inquiries should be directed to the media office at (916) 654-4989, or via email at [mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov).

If you wish to provide written comments on the project, please submit comments to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit. Please include the docket number 11-AFC-02 in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments. If you wish to submit comments electronically, please provide them in either Microsoft Word format or as a Portable Document Format (PDF) to [docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov). Please include your name or organization's name in the file name. If you are preparing non-electronic written comments, please mail or hand deliver them to:

California Energy Commission  
Dockets Unit, MS-4  
Docket No. 11-AFC-02  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All written comments and materials filed with the Dockets Unit will become a part of the public record of the proceeding. Additionally, comments may be posted on the project website, along with notices, electronic versions of the AFC and FSA, and other relevant documents: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/index.html>. You can also subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices and announcements through the project website List Server. By being on the List Server e-mail list, you will receive notification of, and links to, all project-related notices and documents pertaining to the project's evaluation and review.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

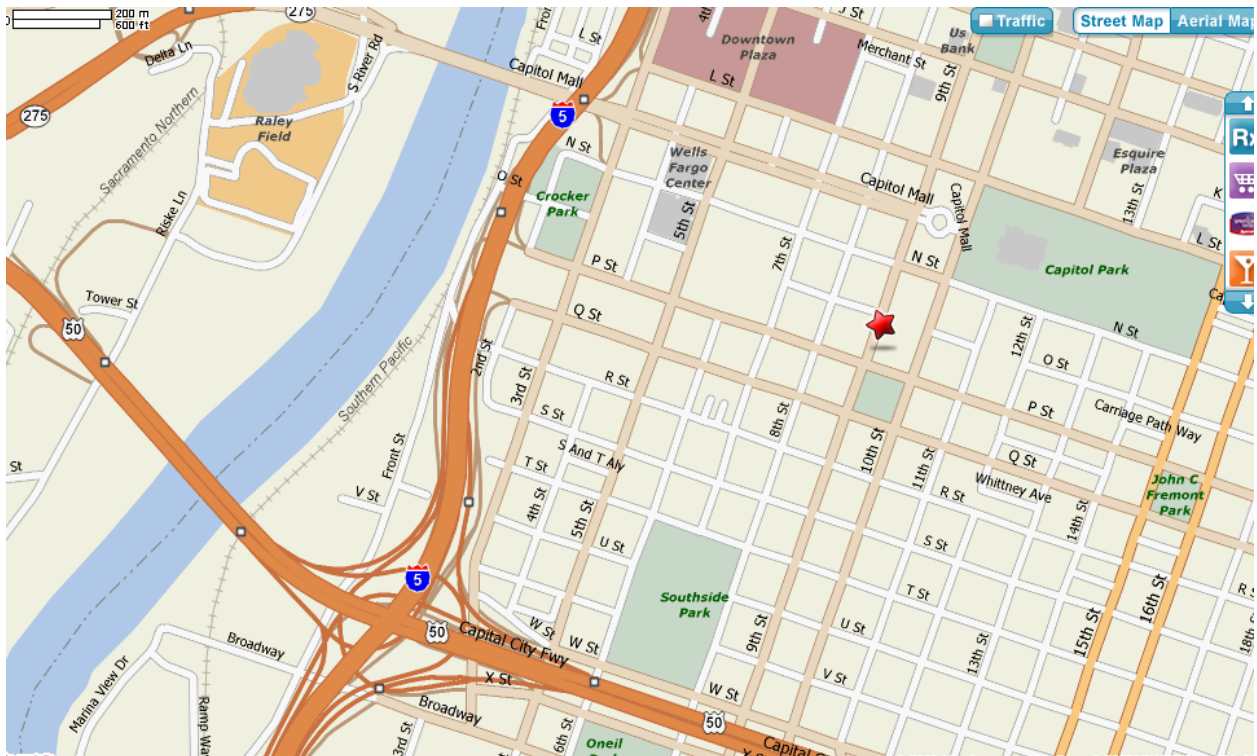
\_\_\_\_\_  
ROGER E. JOHNSON, Deputy Director  
Siting, Transmission & Environmental  
Protection Division

cc: HHSEGS (11-AFC-2)  
Proof of Service List  
Property Owner List No. 7402  
Agency List No. 7403  
Library List No. 7404

**ENERGY COMMISSION WORKSHOP**  
**Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System (11-AFC-02)**

**MONDAY, February 11, 2013**  
**Beginning at 9:00 AM**

**California Energy Commission**  
**First Floor, Hearing Room B**  
**1516 9<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814-5512**  
**(wheelchair accessible, map attached)**



**PARTICIPATION IN THE**  
**February 11, 2013**  
**ENERGY COMMISSION WORKSHOP**  
**Hidden Hills Solar Electric Generating System (11-AFC-02)**  
**THROUGH WEBEX**

**1. COMPUTER LOG-ON WITH A DIRECT PHONE NUMBER:**

- Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter **929 916 686**
- When prompted, enter your information and **Meeting@9** (case sensitive)

After you login, a prompt will appear on-screen for you to provide **your** phone number.  
In the **Number box**, type your area code and phone number and click OK.

**You will receive a call back on your phone for the audio portion of the meeting.**

**2. COMPUTER LOG-ON FOR CALLERS WITH AN EXTENSION PHONE NUMBER, ETC:**

- Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter **929 916 686** and **Meeting@9** (case sensitive)
- After you login, a prompt will ask for your phone number. Click **"CANCEL."**
- Instead call **1-866-469-3239**. When prompted, enter **929 916 686** and your unique Attendee ID number which is listed in the top left area of your computer screen after you login.

**3. TELEPHONE ONLY (NO COMPUTER ACCESS):**

- Call **1-866-469-3239** and when prompted enter **929 916 686**

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at **1-866-229-3239**. To see if your computer is compatible, visit [<http://support.webex.com/support/systemrequirements.html>]. Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

WebEx Call-in toll-free number: **1-866-469-3239**  
WebEx Access code: **929 916 686**  
WebEx Meeting Password (case sensitive): **Meeting@9**



**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  
HIDDEN HILLS SOLAR ELECTRIC  
GENERATING SYSTEM***

**Docket No. 11-AFC-02**

**PROOF OF SERVICE  
(Revised 9/20/12)**

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### DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Cenne Jackson, declare that on January 31, 2012 I served and filed copies of the attached Status Report , dated January 31, 2013. This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/index.html](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hiddenhills/index.html).

The document has been sent to the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit or Chief Counsel, as appropriate, in the following manner:

*(Check all that Apply)*

For service to all other parties:

- x   Served electronically to all e-mail addresses on the Proof of Service list;
- x   Served by delivering on this date, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. 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 marked **"hard copy required"** or where no e-mail address is provided.

**AND**

For filing with the Docket Unit at the Energy Commission:

- x   by sending an electronic copy to the e-mail address below (preferred method); **OR**
- by depositing an original and 12 paper copies in the mail with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION – DOCKET UNIT  
Attn: Docket No. 11-AFC-02  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512  
[docket@energy.ca.gov](mailto:docket@energy.ca.gov)

**OR, if filing a Petition for Reconsideration of Decision or Order pursuant to Title 20, § 1720:**

- Served by delivering on this date one electronic copy by e-mail, and an original paper copy to the Chief Counsel at the following address, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid:

California Energy Commission  
Michael J. Levy, Chief Counsel  
1516 Ninth Street MS-14  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[michael.levy@energy.ca.gov](mailto:michael.levy@energy.ca.gov)

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Originally Signed by Cenne Jackson