

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



November 22, 2011

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF A SUPPLEMENT TO THE
 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR
 THE RIO MESA SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITY
 (11-AFC-4)**

DOCKET	
11-AFC-04	
DATE	NOV 22 2011
RECD.	NOV 22 2011

On October 14, 2011, BrightSource Energy, Inc. (applicant), submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to construct and operate the Rio Mesa Solar Electric Generating Facility (Rio Mesa SEGF). On October 28, 2011, a Notice of Receipt was delivered informing of the following: 1) The Energy Commission's receipt of the filing of the original AFC, 2) a brief project description, 3) the Energy Commission's site certification process, 4) a summary of the agency/public participation process, and 5) where information related to the proceeding could be obtained, including a copy of the AFC.

On November 16, 2011, the Energy Commission deemed the AFC incomplete in five technical areas. In response to the Energy Commission's decision, on November 18, 2011, the applicant submitted a Supplement to the AFC wherein they provided a response addressing the identified inadequacies. For agencies and libraries, enclosed is a copy of the applicant's supplemental filing. The applicant's supplemental filing is also located on the project website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/riomesa/index.html>.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Rio Mesa SEGF site is located on the Palo Verde Mesa in Riverside County, California, approximately 13 miles southwest of the City of Blythe. As proposed, it would comprise three solar fields and a common area with shared facilities encompassing a total of approximately 5,750 acres. Each solar plant would generate approximately 250 megawatts (MW), for a total net output of 750 MW and would use heliostats – elevated mirrors guided by a tracking system mounted on a pylon – to focus the sun's rays on a receiver 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.

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 and its permit is in lieu of all other applicable state, local, and federal permits to the extent permitted by federal law. 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).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings for the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

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 project linear features. By being on the mailing list, you will receive notices of project-related workshops and hearings and notices when the PSA and FSA are available for review. If you want your name removed from the mailing list, please contact Maria Santourdjian, Project Assistant, at (916) 651-9410 or by email at msergoya@energy.state.ca.us.

You can find information about the project and proceedings on the project website: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/riomesa/index.html>. If you want to be notified by email whenever a document is posted to the project website, sign up for the project list server on the main web page. Please direct your technical or project schedule questions to Pierre Martinez, Project Manager, at (916) 651-3765, or by email at pmartine@energy.state.ca.us.

If you desire information on participating 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 publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us.

AVAILABILITY OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE AFC DOCUMENT

Copies of the Supplement to the AFC are available for public inspection at the following public libraries:

Palo Verde Valley District Library 125 West Chanslor Way Blythe, CA 92225-1245	Riverside Main Library 3581 Mission Inn Avenue Riverside, CA 92501
Lake Tamarisk Library 43880 Lake Tamarisk Drive Desert Center, CA 92239	Coachella Branch Library 1538 Seventh Street Coachella, CA 92236

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

Sincerely,

Date: _____

Chris Davis, Manager
Energy Facilities Siting Office

Mailed to:
Property Owner List #7412 (Notice)
Agency List #7413 (Notice and CD)
Library List #7414 (Notice, hard copy and CD)