

Jason Pyle
Intervenor
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Stephen O'Kane
AES Southland, LLC
690 Studebaker Road
Long Beach, CA 90803

November 16, 2012

Regarding: Huntington Beach Energy Project (12-AFC-02)
Intervenor's Data Request, 1- 16

Dear Mr. O'Kane,

Pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716, I request the information specified in the enclosed data requests. The data requests ask for information that is reasonably available to the applicant and is necessary to make a decision on the application for certification.

These data requests are numbered 1 through 16. Written responses to the enclosed data requests are due to me on or before, December 16, 2012.

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, please send a written notice to me and the Committee within 20 days of receipt of this notice. The notification must contain the reasons for the inability to provide the information or the grounds for any objections (see Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716 (f)).

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed data requests, please feel free to contact me at (949) 500-8979

Sincerely,

Jason Pyle
Intervenor

Enclosure (Data Request Packet)
POS List.

BACKGROUND

The HBEP site is located in an industrial area of Huntington Beach at 21730 Newland Street, just north of the intersection of the Pacific Coast Highway (Highway 1) and Newland Street. The project will be located entirely within the existing Huntington Beach Generating Station, an operating power plant. The HBEP site is bounded on the west by a manufactured home/recreational vehicle park, on the north by a tank farm, on the north and east by the Huntington Beach Channel and residential areas, on the southeast by the Huntington Beach Wetland Preserve / Magnolia Marsh wetlands, and to the south and southwest by the Huntington Beach State Park and the Pacific Ocean. The site is located on a gently sloping coastal plain. HBEP is a 939-megawatt combined-cycle power plant, consisting of two power blocks. Each power block is composed of three combustion turbines with supplemental fired heat recovery steam generators, a steam turbine generator, an air-cooled condenser, and ancillary facilities. HBEP will reuse existing onsite potable water, natural gas, stormwater, process wastewater, and sanitary pipelines and electrical transmission facilities. No offsite linear developments are proposed as part of the project.

Two 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission interconnections will connect HBEP Power Blocks 1 and 2 to the existing onsite Southern California Edison 230-kV switchyard.

HBEP construction will require the removal of the existing Huntington Beach Generating Station Units 1, 2, and 5. Demolition of Unit 5, scheduled to occur between the fourth quarter of 2014 and the end of 2015, will provide the space for the construction of HBEP Block 1. Construction of Blocks 1 and 2 are each expected to take approximately 42 and 30 months, respectively, with Block 1 construction scheduled to occur from the first quarter of 2015 through the second quarter of 2018, and Block 2 construction scheduled to occur from the first quarter of 2018 through the second quarter of 2020. Removal/demolition of existing Huntington Beach Generating Station Units 1 and 2 is scheduled to occur from the fourth quarter of 2020 through the third quarter of 2022.

Fundamentals of Acoustics

Acoustics is the study of sound, and noise is defined as unwanted sound. Airborne sound is a rapid fluctuation or oscillation of air pressure above and below atmospheric pressure creating a sound wave.

Metrics used in determining the impact of environmental noise consider the differences in response that people have to daytime and nighttime noise levels. During the nighttime, exterior background noises are generally lower than the daytime levels. However, most household noise also decreases at night and exterior noise becomes more noticeable. Furthermore, most people sleep at night and are sensitive to intrusive noises. To account for human sensitivity to nighttime noise levels, the day-night sound level (Ldn or DNL) was developed. Ldn is a noise index that accounts for the greater annoyance of noise during the nighttime hours. For the purposes of assessing noise, the 24-hour day is divided into two time periods, with the following weightings:

- Daytime: 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (15 hours) weighting factor of 0 decibels (dB)
- Nighttime: 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. (9 hours) weighting factor of 10 dB

Section 5.2.3.3.3 of the AFC (page 5.2-36) acknowledges that noise from site preparation, construction, and demolition, could temporarily discourage wildlife from foraging and nesting in the coastal wetland habitat immediately adjacent to the project area. This section also states that the expected loudest composite noise levels from HBEP are approximately 70 dba at the HBEP fence line, which will result in a noise level of 63 dba at 400 feet from the fence line.

METEOROLOGY DATA BACKGROUND

As indicated in the AFC (page 5.1-20), the surface meteorology data used for the project modeling have been compiled and preprocessed.

Background CEQA

5.7.4.1 Significance Criteria

As indicated in the AFC, the Huntington Beach Power Project is subject to all CEQA requirements.

Following the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines (California Code of Regulations [CCR], Title 14, Appendix G, Section XI), the HBEP would cause a significant impact if it would result in the following:

- Exposure of people to noise levels in excess of standards established in the local General Plan or noise ordinance
- Exposure of people to excessive ground-borne noise levels or vibration
- Substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity
- **Substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity**

Background

Proposed Plant Operational Noise Levels

5.7.4.3.3 Plant Operational Noise Levels

“A noise model of the proposed HBEP has been developed using the CADNA/A noise model by DataKustik GmbH of Munich, Germany. The CADNA/A noise model is very sophisticated and is capable of modeling very complex industrial plants. The sound propagation factors used in the model have been adopted from International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9613-2, *Acoustics – Sound Attenuation during Propagation Outdoors* (ISO, 1996). The model divides the proposed facility into a list of individual noise sources representing each piece of equipment that produces a significant amount of noise. Using these noise levels as a basis, the model calculates the noise level that would occur at each receptor from each source after losses from distance, air absorption, blockages, etc., are considered. The sum of all these individual levels is the total plant level at the modeling point.

A-weighted sound power (noise) levels used to estimate project noise are summarized in Table 5.7-10....

“The anticipated steady-state sound levels incorporating design features for HBEP at M2, M3, and M4 are 63, 63, and 60 dba, respectively” The AFC also indicates in section 5.7.7 Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards, table 5.7-11, the LORS that apply to noise. Specifically noted is “City of Huntington Beach Municipal Code”. The City of Huntington Beach noise standards as regulated in the City Charter, Chapter 8.4. Section 8.40.050 indicates that the maximum db in a residential zone will be 50 – 55bd.

Data Request

1. Please provide how many feet closer to the residential homes Block 1 will be then the current Plant 1 and 2.
2. Please provide a thorough assessment of the proposed projects anticipated noise avoidance and mitigation measures to offset the direct and indirect temporary and permanent impacts of elevated noise levels. Please list specifically the values of the mitigation and attenuation measures.
3. Please identify what is a “feasible” mitigation measure as stated in 5.7.6.2. Also please describe how you will measure “feasibility”
4. Please identify when it will be determined if the applicant is going to use “high or low pressure blower”. Also, please provide the calculations used to determine the decibel affect created by both “low” and “high” pressure blowers.
5. Please determine the expected noise levels and the extent and duration of noise and attenuation across the site and into the residential areas during construction and demolition. Specifically affecting the homes at the intersection of Magnolia and Banning.
6. Please provide a model (isopleths map) of what the calculated noise will be in the surrounding neighborhoods when both Block 1 and Block 2 are in full operation. Specifically at the intersection of Magnolia and Banning, Newland and PCH.
7. Please provide a model (isopleths map) of what the current ambient noise is currently in the surrounding neighborhoods off Magnolia, Newland and Hamilton, specifically the hours of 10pm to 7am. Please provide what the current ambient noise is when the current plant is in full operation and when the current plant is not operating. Specifically between the hours of 10pm to 7am.
8. Please identify the currently used meteorology data identifying the prominent weather patterns for the site, specifically wind.
9. Please model (isopleth map) the cumulative noise (db) by all operations on the site, including the proposed power plant and the proposed desalination plant.
10. Please model (isopleth map) the cumulative noise by all operations on the site, including the proposed power plant and the proposed desalination plant as to what the db levels will be in the residential neighborhoods off Magnolia, Newland and Hamilton.
11. Please correct the conflicting data submitted in the AFC, specifically the inconsistency between sections 5.7-10 that states anticipated steady state noise levels of 60 – 63 db and the City of Huntington Beach noise standards as regulated in the City Charter, Chapter 8.4., Section 8.40.050 indicates that the maximum db in a residential zone will be 50–55 db.
12. Please provide how many hours the current power plant operated in 2011. Please identify for specifically Generating Plant 1 & 2, Plant 3 & 4 and combined.
13. Please provide how many hours the current power plant operated in 2011, between the hours of 10pm and 7am. Please identify specifically Generating Plant 1 & 2, Plant 3 & 4 and combined.
14. Please identify the anticipated number of hours of operation that block 1 and block 2, both separately and combined, will operate in a given year.
15. Please identify the anticipated number of hours of operation that block 1 and block 2, both separately and combined, will operate in a given year between the hours of 10 pm and 7 am.
16. Please provide further date as to the following. On the day that the ambient noise study was conducted was the current power plant in operation? If so please provide data as to the hours of operation and as to what level of power production.



**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
HUNTINGTON BEACH ENERGY PROJECT***

**Docket No. 12-AFC-02
(Revised 10/08/12)**

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*indicates change

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Jason Pyle_, declare that on November 16, 2012, I served and filed a copy of the attached **INRERVENOR'S DATA REQUEST 1-16** for the proposed Huntington Beach Energy Project (12-AFC-02). This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/huntington_beach_energy/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:

- Served electronically to all e-mail addresses on the Proof of Service list;
- 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:

- by sending one 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. 12-AFC-02
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
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

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.

Jason Pyle
Intervenor

