

BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
AVENAL ENERGY POWER PLANT

DOCKET No. 08-AFC-1

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SITE VISIT
AND INFORMATIONAL HEARING**

On February 21, 2008, Avenal Power Center, LLC (Avenal Power) filed an Application for Certification (AFC) for the Avenal Energy project (Avenal Energy). Avenal Power is seeking Energy Commission approval to construct and operate a 600-megawatt (MW) power plant in the City of Avenal in Kings County. The project would be built on 25 acres of a 148-acre site that is just south of the Fresno County line, and about two miles east of Interstate 5. Although the proposed project is within City of Avenal town limits in an area zoned for industrial use, it is located approximately 6 miles from the city's residential and commercial districts. Current land use at the project site is irrigated agriculture, as is the surrounding land use.

The Energy Commission has exclusive jurisdiction to license this project and is considering the proposal under a twelve-month review process established by Public Resources Code section 25540.6.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Energy Commission has designated a Committee of two commissioners to conduct proceedings on the Application. The Committee has scheduled a public Site Visit and Informational Hearing to discuss the proposed project as described below:

TUESDAY, May 20, 2008

Site Visit begins (bus leaves) at 4:30 p.m.
Public Informational Hearing begins at 5:30 p.m.

City of Avenal Recreation Center
717 E. Monterey Street
Avenal, California 93204
Wheelchair Accessible
(Map Attached)

DOCKET 08-AFC-1
DATE <u>APR 30 2008</u>
RECD. <u>APR 30 2008</u>

Prior to the Informational Hearing, members of the public are invited to join the Committee on a tour of the proposed site. The Applicant will provide transportation to and from the site. For reservations, contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or e-mail at: pao@energy.state.ca.us. Please make your reservation on or before Thursday, May 19, 2008, so that we can assure you a space.

Background

On April 16, 2008, the Energy Commission began review of Avenal Energy. The review process will take approximately twelve months. During the review period, the Energy Commission will determine whether the proposed project complies with applicable laws related to public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering requirements. The Informational Hearing is sponsored by the Energy Commission to inform the public about the project and to invite public participation in the review process.

Project Description

The proposed Avenal Energy would be a combined cycle generating plant consisting of two natural gas-fired General Electric 7FA Gas Turbines with Heat Recovery Steam Generators (HRSG) and one General Electric Steam Turbine. Natural gas would be provided via a 2.5-mile, 20-inch underground pipeline interconnection to PG&E's natural gas pipeline transmission system at the Kettleman compressor station. The plant would use a dry cooling process to minimize water consumption. The City of Avenal would provide water to the proposed project from the city's water treatment plant adjacent to the site. Groundwater from three local wells would provide a back-up water source to the project via two separate pipelines, totaling less than 1.4-miles. The proposed project would recycle water to the maximum extent possible through the use of a zero liquid discharge system to further minimize water consumption and eliminate waste water discharge. The proposed project would be connected to the PG&E transmission grid via a 6.4-mile single-circuit 230 kV transmission line, traversing agricultural land to the Gates substation in Fresno County.

The engineering and environmental details of the proposed project are contained in the AFC. Copies of the AFC are available at the local public agencies that are involved in the review process and at the following libraries: Coalinga District Library; Kings County Libraries at Avenal, Lemoore, Stratford, Kettleman City, and Hanford Branches. Copies of the AFC 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, Fresno, Los Angeles and San Diego.

Purpose of the Informational Hearing

The power plant licensing process, which incorporates requirements equivalent to the California Environmental Quality Act, considers all relevant engineering and environmental aspects of the proposed project. It provides a public forum allowing the Applicant, Commission staff, governmental agencies, adjacent landowners, and members of the general public to consider the advantages and disadvantages of the project, and to propose changes, mitigation measures, and alternatives as necessary.

The informational hearing scheduled in this Notice provides an opportunity for members of the community in the project vicinity to obtain information, to offer comments and concerns, and to view the project site. The Applicant will explain plans for developing the project and the related facilities and the Energy Commission staff will explain the licensing process and Staff's role in reviewing the project.

Proposed Schedule and Issue Identification Report

To assist the parties and public in understanding the process, Energy Commission staff shall file a proposed schedule for project review. Staff shall also file an Issue Identification Report summarizing the major issues. The proposed schedule and Staff's report shall be filed by **noon on May 14, 2008**. The Applicant shall file its response, if any, by **noon on May 16, 2008**.

Public Adviser and Public Participation

The Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office is available to assist the public in participating in the Application review process. For those individuals who require general information on how to participate, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or e-mail: [pao@energy.state.ca.us]. If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in this event, call 916-654-5146 or e-mail: [lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us].

Contact Information

Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Gary Fay, the Hearing Officer, at (916) 654-3965 or e-mail: [gfay@energy.state.ca.us].

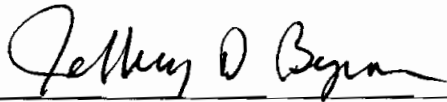
Technical questions concerning the Project should be addressed to Christopher Meyer, the Staff Project Manager, at (916) 653-1639, or by e-mail at: [cmeyer@energy.state.ca.us].

Media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission's Media Office at (916) 654-4989 or e-mail at: [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us].

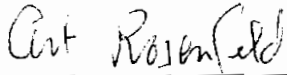
If you have a disability and need assistance to participate, please contact Lourdes Quiroz at 916-654-5146 or e-mail at: lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us.

Information concerning the status of the project, as well as notices and other relevant documents, may be viewed on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/avenal.

Dated April 30, 2008, at Sacramento, California.



JEFFREY D. BYRON
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Avenal AFC Committee



ARTHUR H. ROSENFELD
Commissioner and Associate Member
Avenal AFC Committee

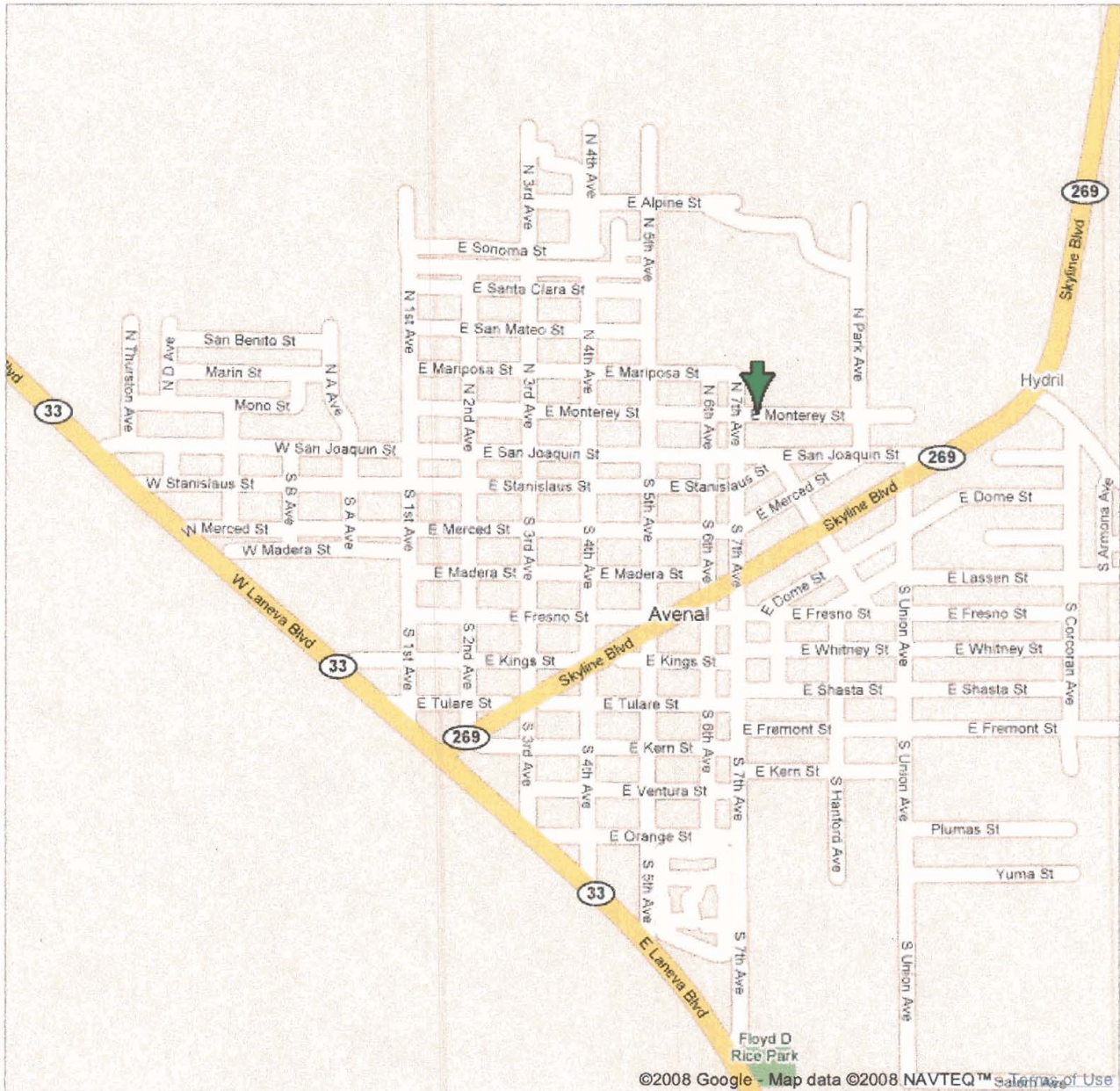
Mailed to Lists: POS, 7275, 7276, 7277, 7278

Proof of Service List (Revised on N/A
filed with Original Document. Mailed from
Sacramento on April 30, 2008)



Address 717 E Monterey St
CA 93204

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
For the AVENAL ENERGY
POWER PLANT PROJECT

Docket No. 08-AFC-1

PROOF OF SERVICE

INSTRUCTIONS: All parties shall either (1) send an original signed document plus 12 copies or (2) mail one original signed copy AND e-mail the document to the address for the Docket as shown below, AND (3) all parties shall also send a printed or electronic copy of the document, which includes a proof of service declaration to each of the individuals on the proof of service list shown below:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Attn: Docket No. 07-AFC-9
1516 Ninth Street, MS-14
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.state.ca.us

APPLICANT

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Jim.Rexroad@macquarie.com

APPLICANT CONSULTANT

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TRC Companies
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Los Osos, CA 93402

COUNSEL FOR APPLICANT

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INTERVENORS

ENERGY COMMISSION

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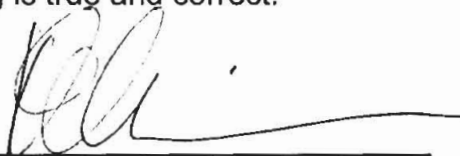
DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Kate Nicholls, declare that on April 30, 2008, I deposited copies of the attached Notice of Site Visit and Informational Hearing in the United States mail at with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to those identified on the Proof of Service list above.

OR

Transmission via electronic mail was consistent with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 20, sections 1209, 1209.5, and 1210. All electronic copies were sent to all those identified on the Proof of Service list above.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



Kate Nicholls