

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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

DOCKET	
08-AFC-5	
DATE	<u>08/12/10</u>
RECD.	<u>08/13/10</u>



August 12, 2010

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE
SUPPLEMENTAL STAFF ASSESSMENT PART II FOR THE PROPOSED
IMPERIAL VALLEY SOLAR PROJECT (08-AFC-5)**

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the Supplemental Staff Assessment (SSA) Part II for the proposed Imperial Valley Solar Project. The SSA contains the California Energy Commission staff's cultural resources evaluation of the proposed Imperial Valley Solar Project. The California Energy Commission encourages public agency participation in the review of the Imperial Valley Solar Application for Certification and the SSA.

The SSA is available for public review. The Imperial Valley Solar Project is scheduled for additional evidentiary hearings before the Energy Commission committee on August 16, 2010 in Sacramento, CA.

The SSA will serve as the Energy Commission staff's testimony during the Commission's evidentiary hearings. The Energy Commission Committee assigned to the Imperial Valley Solar Project proceeding will consider and weigh the testimony, comments, and recommendations of all interested parties, including Energy Commission staff, the applicant, intervenors, members of the public, and other local, state, and federal agencies, before issuing the Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD) for a 30-day comment period before consideration by the full Energy Commission. The public, intervenors, local, state and federal agencies are encouraged to participate in these hearings.

Background

On June 30, 2008, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from the applicant Imperial Valley Solar, LLC to construct and operate the Imperial Valley Solar Project on approximately 360 acres of private land and 6,140 acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Imperial County, California. The project site is approximately 100 miles east of San Diego, 14 miles west of El Centro, and 4 miles east of Ocotillo.

Project Description

The proposed Imperial Solar Project would be a nominal 750-megawatt (MW) solar Stirling engine project, with construction planned to begin in late 2010. Construction would take approximately 40 months to complete. The primary equipment for the generating facility would include approximately 30,000, 25-kilowatt solar dish Stirling systems (referred to as SunCatchers), their associated equipment and systems, and their support infrastructure. Each SunCatcher consists of a solar receiver heat exchanger and a closed-cycle, high-efficiency Solar Stirling Engine specifically designed to convert solar power to rotary power

PROOF OF SERVICE (REVISED 5/10/10) FILED WITH
ORIGINAL MAILED FROM SACRAMENTO ON 8/13/10

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then driving an electrical generator to produce electricity. Power would be available to the grid as each of the 1.5-MW, 60-unit groups of SunCatchers is completed.

Energy Commission Review 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. 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 is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Because the project is proposed to be developed on land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the BLM is reviewing the project as the lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The initial environmental review document for the Imperial Valley Solar Project (Staff Assessment/Draft Environmental Impact Study, SA/DEIS) was conducted jointly by the Energy Commission and the BLM and published on February 12, 2010. The final environmental review documents for this project were published separately (the SSA for the Energy Commission and a Final EIS for the BLM).

Public Resources, Contact Information and Additional Sources for Information

The status of the proposed project, copies of notices, an electronic version of the SSA, AFC, and other relevant documents are available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solartwo/index.html>. You can also subscribe to receive email notification of all notices at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers>.

Please direct your technical or project schedule questions to Christopher Meyer, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-1639, or by email at cmeyer@energy.state.ca.us. If you desire information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the proposed project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4701, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by email at: publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to (916) 654-4989, or by email at: mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

If you have any questions related to the automatic email notification list, please contact Maria Santourdjian, Siting Project Assistant, at (916) 651-9410, or by e-mail at: msergoyan@energy.state.ca.us.

Availability of the AFC, SA/DEIS, and Parts I and II of the SSA Documents

Copies of the AFC, SA/DEIS and both parts of the SSA are available for public inspection at the following libraries:

Imperial County Free Library
Ocotillo Branch
1159 N. Imperial Hwy.
Ocotillo, CA 92259

Imperial County Free Library
Seeley Branch
1812 Rio Vista Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Copies 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. 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: _____

ROGER JOHNSON, Siting Office Manager
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection
Division

Enclosure

Mailed to list:
7302 - General
7303 - Property Owners
7304 - Agencies
7305 - Libraries

Please send me a CD of the California Energy Commission staff's Supplemental Staff Assessment Part II for the Imperial Valley Solar Application for Certification (08-AFC-5).

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

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California Energy Commission
Attention: Maria Santourdjian
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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Staple or Tape closed.



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
IMPERIAL VALLEY SOLAR PROJECT**
(formerly known as SES Solar Two Project)
IMPERIAL VALLEY SOLAR, LLC

**Docket No. 08-AFC-5
PROOF OF SERVICE**
(Revised 5/10/10)

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Maria Santourdjian, declare that on August 13, 2010, I served and filed copies of the attached, Notice of Availability of the SSA Part I and Part II for Imperial Valley Solar Project. The original documents, filed with the Docket Unit, are accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [\[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solartwo/index.html\]](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solartwo/index.html)

The documents have been sent to both the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

(Check all that Apply)

FOR SERVICE TO ALL OTHER PARTIES:

- sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;
- by personal delivery;
- by delivering on this date, for mailing with the United States 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 NOT marked "email preferred."

AND

FOR FILING WITH THE ENERGY COMMISSION:

- sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed respectively, to the address below (*preferred method*);

OR

- depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Attn: Docket No. 08-AFC-5
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.state.ca.us

I declare under penalty of perjury 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 _____
Maria Santourdjian