CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION 1516 NINTH STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5112



August 4, 2008

Dear Librarian:

#### DOCUMENT HANDLING FOR THE GWF TRACY COMBINED CYCLE POWER PLANT APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION (08-AFC-7)

On July 18, 2008, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from GWF Energy, LLC for the GWF Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant (GWF Tracy). GWF Energy, LLC proposes to modify the existing Tracy Peaker Plant (TPP) (01-AFC-16), a nominal 169-megawatt (MW) simple-cycle power plant by converting the facility into a combined-cycle power plant with a new nominal generating capacity of 314 MW. The proposed project would occupy a 16.38-acre, fenced site within the existing GWF-owned 40-acre parcel in an unincorporated portion of San Joaquin County immediately southwest of Tracy, California, and approximately 20 miles southwest of Stockton, California.

The GWF Tracy project is under the Energy Commission's siting authority. The power plant certification process examines engineering, environmental, public health, and safety aspects of power plant proposals and provides analyses pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). When issuing a certificate, the Energy Commission is the lead state agency under CEQA, and its process is functionally equivalent to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.

The Energy Commission's siting process is open to the public and incorporates the input of the public as well as local, state, and federal agencies. To facilitate public participation in our review process, the Energy Commission has sent copies of the AFC to libraries in the project area, and to libraries in Eureka, San Francisco, Sacramento, Fresno, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Please make the enclosed AFC available for those who may wish to be informed about the project. We request that you not allow the AFC or any of its contents be removed from the library. To increase accessibility of the document, we ask, if possible, that you cross reference it as a general reference work under the title and author categories, as well as under such subjects as "Energy Commission," "electricity," "energy/generation," "power plant siting," or any other relevant subject.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Christopher Meyer, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-1639, or by email at <u>cmeyer@energy.state.ca.us</u>, or April Esau, Project Secretary, at (916) 653-1640, or by e-mail at <u>aesau@energy.state.ca.us</u>.

Sincerely,

Eileen Allen, Manager Energy Facilities Siting and Compliance Office

Enclosure



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August 4, 2008

### To: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW OF THE GWF TRACY, COMBIND CYCLE POWER PLANT, APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION (08-AFC-7)

On July 18, 2008, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from GWF Energy, LLC for the GWF Tracy Combined-Cycle Power Plant. GWF Energy, LLC proposes to modify the existing Tracy Peaker Plant (TPP) (01-AFC-16), a nominal 169-megawatt (MW) simple-cycle power plant by converting the facility into a combined-cycle power plant with a new nominal 314 MW. The proposed project would occupy a 16.38-acre, fenced site within the existing GWF-owned 40-acre parcel in an unincorporated portion of San Joaquin County immediately southwest of Tracy, California, and approximately 20 miles southwest of Stockton, California. If approved, the start of construction is planned for the fall of 2011 with commercial operation planned to begin in the second quarter of 2013.

As part of our review process, the staff of the Energy Commission endeavors to work closely with local, state and federal agencies to ensure that all laws, ordinances, regulations and standards are met and incorporated into the final decision of the Energy Commission.

## **Project Description**

GWF Energy, LLC's objectives are to convert the TPP to a GWF combined cycle plant in order to address the future electricity needs of California, construct and operate an electrical generating facility on an existing brown-field site, provide additional electrical capacity in the San Joaquin County and City of Tracy area, utilize existing TPP infrastructure to reduce environmental impacts and costs, and enhance the reliability of the state's electrical system by providing power generation near the centers of electrical demand.

The proposed project site consists of 16.38 acres within a 40-acre parcel in San Joaquin County, and is located within an industrial and agricultural area which includes the existing TPP. The San Joaquin County General Plan designates the proposed project site as General Agriculture and the County Zoning Designation is G 40, which allows electrical generation.

The project would include the addition of two heat recovery steam generators, a steam turbine generator, an auxiliary boiler, an air-cooled dry condenser unit, and a 115-kilovolt (kV) electrical switchyard. The proposed project would use existing TPP infrastructure, including the existing natural gas pipeline, water supply pipeline and electric transmission line. Three short segments of the PG&E's 115 kV transmission

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system (totaling approximately 3 miles) would require reconductoring (upgraded wires to accommodate the added generating capacity). The reconductoring segments would be a 0.7 mile long transmission line adjacent to the proposed project site, and two segments, approximately 1.6 miles and 0.7 mile long, respectively, near the intersection of Interstate (I-5) and I-205, near the PG&E Kasson Substation.

Process water would be supplied via the existing TPP pipeline from the Delta-Mendota Canal by the Byron Bethany Irrigation District.

Some major components and features of the proposed GWF Tracy project include:

- A new equipment storage area added outside the current footprint, but within an area that was previously disturbed during construction of the TPP.
- Temporary disturbance of approximately 12.3 acres for construction laydown and parking on a previously disturbed portion of the 40-acre parcel that is outside of the existing plant fence line.
- Permanent disturbance of approximately 3.28 acres associated with the relocation of the stormwater retention basin.
- No new, expanded, or modified offsite linear facilities for fuel or water.
- Demolition and removal of the two existing oxidation catalyst and selective catalytic reduction (SCR) systems, including existing 100-foot stacks.
- Demolition of the existing stormwater evaporating/percolation basin to accommodate the air-cooled (dry) condenser (ACC) unit on the existing site.
- Addition of two new heat recovery steam generators (HRSG), each receiving the exhaust from one of the existing General Electric Frame 7EA combustion turbine generators (CTGs), and equipped with 324 MMBtu/hr, HHV capacity, natural gas-fired duct burners.
- Addition of new higher efficiency oxidation catalyst system within each HRSG to control carbon monoxide (CO) and volatile organic compounds (VOC) emissions to outlet concentration of less than 2 parts per million volume dry (ppmvd) at 15% oxygen (O<sub>2</sub>) and less than 2 ppmvd at 15% O<sub>2</sub> respectively.
- Addition of a new higher-efficiency SCR system within each HRSG reusing the existing aqueous ammonia storage system to control oxides of nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions less than 2 ppmvd at 15% O<sub>2</sub>.
- Modification of the wastewater treatment system to optimize water supply requirements and minimize offsite water disposal
- Addition of two new 150-foot-tall, 17-foot-diameter, exhaust stacks replacing the existing exhaust stacks, each equipped with existing continuous emissions monitoring systems for CO, NO<sub>x</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>.

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- Addition of a new 85 MMBtu/hr capacity natural gas-fired auxiliary boiler equipped with ultra low NO<sub>x</sub> burner(s) and 50-foot-tall, 48-inch-diameter stack.
- Addition of new nominal 145 MW (Net output) condensing steam turbine generator (STG)
- Addition of a new 114-foot-tall by 234-foot-long by 215-foot-wide ACC system for system heat injection.
- A small increase in annual water consumption of approximately 24.9 acre-feet per year for HRSG feedwater makeup and lube oil cooler.
- Addition of a new 400,000 gallon fire/service water storage tank, modification to increase the existing 250,000-gallon firewater tank to 300,000 gallons, and the addition of a 125,000-gallon de-mineralized water tank.
- Addition of an onsite 115-kV switchyard to provide an additional circuit breaker and transformer for the STG power output.
- Addition of an onsite 115-kV overhead transmission line from the STG step up transformer to the existing 115-kV switchyard.

#### **Energy Commission's Facility Certification Process**

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying applications for all thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, proposed for construction 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), but through its certified regulatory program produces several environmental and decision documents rather than an Environmental Impact Report.

As part of our review process, the staff of the Energy Commission works closely with local, state and federal agencies to ensure that all laws, ordinances, regulations and standards are addressed in the final decision of the California Energy Commission. The first step in the review process is for the Energy Commission staff to determine whether or not the AFC contains all the information required by our regulations. When the AFC is deemed data adequate, we will begin the data discovery and issue analysis phases. At that time a detailed examination of the issues will occur.

## **Public Participation**

Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings to determine whether the proposed project should be approved for construction and operation and under what set of conditions. The workshops will provide the public as well as local, state and federal agencies the opportunity to participate in reviewing the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least ten days prior to the meeting. If you are not August 4, 2008 Page 4

currently receiving these notices and want to be placed on the mailing list, please contact April Esau, Project Secretary, at (916) 653-1640, or by email at <a href="mailto:aesau@energy.state.ca.us">aesau@energy.state.ca.us</a>.

If you desire information about participating in the Energy Commission's review of the proposed project, please contact Elena Miller, the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by email at pao@energy.state.ca.us. Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to Christopher Meyer, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-1639, or by email at cmeyer@energy.state.ca.us.

Note: Please retain this letter behind the front cover of the AFC. Thank You.