

From: Caryn Holmes
To: Felicia Miller
Date: 2/26/2009 8:27 AM
Subject: Fwd: Palmdale Geoaerchology Option 1, Revision to Counterproposal
Attachments: Palmdale Geoaerchology Option 1 staff revision.doc

>>> Caryn Holmes 1/30/2009 10:29 AM >>>

Good morning Mike - I think the only changes are to require submission of qualifications, and some words to direct emphasis on specific aspects of what's been identified in the study plan.'

Let me know. . .

caryn

>>> Michael McGuirt 1/30/2009 10:01 AM >>>

Caryn,

Here's our version of the applicant's counterproposal for the geoarchaeology information for Palmdale.

Mike

DOCKET 08-AFC-9
DATE FEB 26 2009
RECD FEB 26 2009

Palmdale Hybrid Power Project, 08-AFC-9

CEC Data Request 22 Proposed Scope of Response

In response to Data Request 22, the Applicant proposes to provide additional information on which to assess the potential presence and locations of buried archaeological sites in the proposed project area for the purpose of gauging whether the construction and operation of the proposed project could impact such resources. The proposed study includes a review of the extant literatures for archaeology, geoarchaeology, and Quaternary science, and an assessment, based on this review, of what is currently known about the incidence of buried archaeological deposits in the portion of Antelope Valley that includes the proposed project area. The review will utilize materials pertinent to the study at the cultural resources records and curation facility at Edwards Air Force Base, and will also include reference to aerial photographs. The study will focus on the landscape contexts for archaeological resources that are characteristically found in the portion of the Antelope Valley that includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the proposed power plant site area as shown in the attached figure and on the landform or landforms traversed by the proposed project laterals, the reclaimed water supply pipeline, the SoCal natural gas pipeline, and the transmission line.

Although the study will focus on the historical geomorphology and archaeology of the proposed project area, the scope of the study will be broader in scale in order to develop an understanding of the regional geomorphic context (including the landforms and drainages) that played a role in the historical geomorphology of the proposed project area and that has shaped the character of the surface and subsurface archaeological records there.

Applicant will prepare and submit, under confidential cover, an assessment of what is currently known about the landforms on which PHPP components will be located and the stratigraphy of those landforms, a discussion of the known incidence of buried archaeological deposits in this portion of Antelope Valley, a discussion of the volume of previous archaeological investigations in the same portion of the Antelope Valley that include subsurface inventory or subsurface monitoring efforts, and a summary of archaeologists', ethnohistorians', ethnographers', and historians' understanding of the prehistoric and historic utilization of the project area. The fewer archaeological data that are available, the more emphasis will be given to the historical geomorphology of the project area to provide a more substantive context for interpreting the possible presence of buried archaeological deposits. Where the data are available, emphasis will be on the distribution, depths, and kinds of buried archaeological deposits that have been found, and their stratigraphic context.

The study shall be prepared by a professional in geoarchaeology, a person who, at a minimum, meets the U.S. Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for a professional in archaeology and is able to demonstrate the completion of graduate-level coursework in geoarchaeology, physical geography, geomorphology, or Quaternary science.