

## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512**DOCKET****08-AFC-9**

DATE JUN 10 2009

RECD JUN 10 2009

June 10, 2009

Mr. Manuel Alvarez  
Southern California Edison  
1201 K Street, Suite 1810  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: Palmdale Hybrid Power Plant  
08-AFC-9**

Dear Mr. Alvarez,

The city of Palmdale and its agent, Inland Energy, filed an Application for Certification (AFC) for the Palmdale Hybrid Power Plant (08-AFC-09) with the Energy Commission on April 4, 2008. Commission staff is conducting an independent environmental and engineering evaluation of the project. However, due to insufficient detail regarding the proposed transmission interconnection to the Southern California Edison (SCE) Vincent substation, staff is unable to complete its evaluation. A Preliminary Staff Assessment based on current information would find a number of areas incomplete including Transmission System Engineering, Biological Resources and Cultural Resources.

The proposed interconnection requires replacement of the single circuit 230 kV line between the Vincent Substation and the California Department of Water Resource's Pearblossom Pumping Station with a double circuit 230 kV line. The proposed line would cross beneath five 500 kV transmission lines located on the north side of the pumping station, two owned by SCE and three owned by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

The California Department of Water Resources has raised numerous questions in this proceeding which require some degree of certainty regarding the construction and potential impacts of the proposed transmission line. The Energy Commission has licensing authority over transmission facilities from the project up to the first point of interconnection with the existing transmission grid, but has been unable to determine whether the proposed interconnection to the Vincent substation is feasible and acceptable to transmission owners (in this case SCE, the California Department of Water Resources and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power).

Energy Commission staff has had several conversations with you regarding the ongoing discussions taking place between Inland Energy and SCE on the proposed interconnection. The Commission staff has requested that the applicant provide substantive information to document SCE's approval of Palmdale's proposed changes to existing transmission facilities. At this time, the information submitted to the Energy

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ORIGINAL MAILED FROM SACRAMENTO ON 6/10/09

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Commission lacks the specificity which would allow our staff to fully analyze the proposed transmission line route and its interconnection.

The Energy Commission is contacting you to request provision of the following information related to the applicant's proposed transmission interconnection:

- A timeline illustrating the sequence of needed agreements between SCE and the city of Palmdale or Inland Energy regarding the transmission route;
- Specifications of the agreed upon transmission interconnection including:
  - probable reconductoring and tower replacement details;
  - the feasibility of crossing double circuit 230 kV lines and towers under SCE's 500 kV lines in the vicinity of the Pearblossom Substation; and
  - any steps SCE would pursue to coordinate the construction of the proposed transmission facilities with the Department of Water Resources and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

The information requested is critical to enable staff to analyze potential project impacts and to prepare a schedule for publication of the Preliminary and Final Staff Assessments. The Energy Commission would appreciate that your timely comments be submitted to Felicia Miller, Project Manager by June 29, 2009. If you have any questions, or require clarification, please contact Eileen Allen, Siting & Compliance Office Manager at (916) 654-4082.

Sincerely,

TERRENCE O'BRIEN, Deputy Director  
Siting, Transmission  
and Environmental Protection Division

Mr. Manuel Alvarez

June 10, 2009

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cc: Thomas M. Barnett, Executive Vice President  
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**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](http://WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV)**

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION  
For the *PALMDALE HYBRID  
POWER PROJECT***

**Docket No. 08-AFC-9  
  
PROOF OF SERVICE  
(Revised 4/30/2009)**

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**DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

I, Hilarie Anderson, declare that on June 10, 2009, I served and filed copies of the attached Letter to Manuel Alvarez, SCE. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is 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/palmdale/index.html>]**. The document has 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 or by depositing in the United States mail at Sacramento, California with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed as provided on the Proof of Service list above 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-9  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

[docket@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:docket@energy.state.ca.us)

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

**Original Signature in Dockets**  
**Hilarie Anderson**