

**DOCKET****08-AFC-9****Felicia Miller - Follow-On Comments from ASC DET 1 on Palmdale Hybrid Power Plant (PHPP)**

DATE JUN 09 2010

RECD. JUN 10 2010

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**To:** <jledford@cityofpalmdale.org>  
**Date:** 6/9/2010 6:00 PM  
**Subject:** Follow-On Comments from ASC DET 1 on Palmdale Hybrid Power Plant (PHPP)  
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**Attachments:** Response to City of Palmdale PHPP Funding Letter 2010-06-09.pdf

Mayor Ledford,

We have resolved the majority of the Air Force concerns regarding the Palmdale Hybrid Power Plant as referenced in our 21 May 2010 letter to the California Energy Commission, Docket No. 08-AFC-9. The area that remains unresolved is potential safety of flight risks that glare and reflections from the solar arrays may pose to pilots flying in the area. As a result of safety of flight concerns, ASC Detachment 1 requests that the City of Palmdale fund a flight study to be conducted by the Air Force Flight Test Center (AFFTC), 412<sup>th</sup> Test Wing. This flight study will document flights flown to similar solar fields simulating the approach/departure for Runways 7 and 25 at the same altitudes and angles of approach to determine any potential safety of flight risk from the parabolic solar troughs. The 412<sup>th</sup> Test Wing Operations Group Commander, Col Colin Miller, has given his approval to conduct such a test. Current estimates are that the flight study will cost between \$80K and \$100K and will take approximately 120 days from the development of the test plan to the completion of the test report. ASC Detachment 1 stands ready to support the City of Palmdale and AFFTC in this flight test endeavour. This issue has the attention of both the Air Staff Airspace and Ranges Operations Sustainment Office (AF/A30-

BR) and the Air Force Materiel Command Operations and Safety Offices (HQ AFMC/A30 and HQ AFMC/SEF). A quick resolution of this issue is desired by all parties concerned. Please address any questions to the undersigned.

V/R

**Ron**

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