

## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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

**DOCKET****09-AFC-1**

DATE APR 10 2009

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Dear Librarian:

**DOCUMENT HANDLING FOR THE WATSON COGENERATION STEAM AND ELECTRIC RELIABILITY PROJECT (09-AFC-1)**

On March 19, 2009, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from the Watson Cogeneration Company. The Watson Cogeneration Steam and Electric Reliability Project (project) is a proposed expansion of a steam and electrical generating (cogeneration) facility that is located in the City of Carson in Los Angeles County.

The project is under the Energy Commission's siting authority. The power plant certification process examines engineering, public health and safety, and environmental 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 Alan Solomon, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-8236, or by email at [asolomon@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:asolomon@energy.state.ca.us) or Teraja Golston, Project Secretary, at (916) 654-4498, or by e-mail at [tgolston@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:tgolston@energy.state.ca.us).

Sincerely,

Eric Knight, Manager  
Energy Facilities Siting and Docket Office

Enclosure

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**TO: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC****PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW OF THE WATSON COGENERATION STEAM AND ELECTRIC RELIABILITY PROJECT (09-AFC-1)**

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

On March 19, 2009, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from the Watson Cogeneration Company. The Watson Cogeneration Steam and Electric Reliability Project (project) is a proposed expansion of a steam and electrical generating (cogeneration) facility that is located in the City of Carson in Los Angeles County.

**Project Description**

The project complements the existing cogeneration facility located within the confines of the BP Carson Refinery. The existing facility has four General Electric (GE) 7EA combustion turbine generators (CTG), four heat recovery steam generators (HRSG) and two steam turbine generators (STG). In operation since 1988, the existing cogeneration facility is owned by Watson Cogeneration Company (Watson) and operated by BP West Coast Products, LLC – BP Carson Refinery. Watson is a joint partnership between subsidiaries of BP America and Edison Mission Energy. Since the project consists of adding a fifth CTG/HRSG to the existing configuration, it is also referred to as the “fifth train.”

This fifth train would increase the existing capacity of the 385-megawatt (MW) Watson Cogeneration Facility by approximately 85 MW to a total output of 470 MW.

The project site is located within the boundary of the existing Watson Cogeneration Facility, which is a 21.7-acre area and is part of a larger parcel containing the BP Carson Refinery. The project site is located in the City of Carson, approximately 0.7 mile south of the 405 Freeway, roughly bounded by East 223rd Street to the north, Wilmington Avenue to the west, East Sepulveda Boulevard to the south, and South Alameda Street to the east.

The Construction Laydown and Parking Area is a paved 25-acre parcel located approximately 1 mile southeast of the Project Site, and is located at 2149 East Sepulveda Boulevard.

No off-site improvements such as water supply, natural gas or wastewater pipelines are proposed. Instead, the project would connect to the existing supply pipelines currently used by the Watson Cogeneration Facility. Similarly, the project would obtain its other utility needs and services (compressed air and anhydrous ammonia) from the existing systems. Upgrades to existing transmission lines to accommodate the project would not be required.

If approved, project construction would begin in May 2010, with commercial operation commencing in June 2012.

### **Energy Commission's Facility Certification 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 issuance of a certificate by the Energy Commission is in lieu of any local, state or federal permit (to the extent permitted by federal law). 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. The Energy Commission is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and because the siting process is a Certified Regulatory program, it produces several environmental and decision documents rather than an Environmental Impact Report.

### **Public Participation**

Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings on the proposal to determine whether the project should be approved for construction and operation and under what set of conditions. These workshops will provide the public as well as local, state and federal agencies the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to the meeting. If you are not currently receiving these notices and want to be placed on the mailing list, please contact Teraja Golston, Project Secretary, at (916) 654-4498, or by e-mail at [tgolston@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:tgolston@energy.state.ca.us).

If you want information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser Office, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228 or by email at [publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us).

Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to Alan Solomon, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-8236, or by email at [asolomon@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:asolomon@energy.state.ca.us).

The status of the proposed project, copies of notices, a copy of the AFC, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/watson/index.html>. You can also receive email notification of all project related activities and availability of reports by subscribing to the Listserve at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html>.