

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

**NOTICE OF INSIGNIFICANT PROJECT CHANGE
TO MODIFY THE BACKWASH HOLDING TANK FOR THE
WALNUT ENERGY CENTER
(02-AFC-4C)**

DOCKET	
02-AFC-4C	
DATE	MAR 19 2008
RECD.	MAR 19 2008

On February 26, 2008, the California Energy Commission received a petition from Walnut Energy Center Authority to modify the Walnut Energy Center Project. The 250-megawatt project was certified on February 18, 2004, and began commercial operation on February 28, 2006. The facility is located in the City of Turlock, in Stanislaus County.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Walnut Energy Center Authority is seeking approval to replace its 18,000 gallon, 12-foot diameter by 20-foot high backwash holding tank with a 24,000 gallon, 12-foot diameter by 30-foot high tank. The backwash tank is part of the project's zero liquid discharge (ZLD) system. The larger tank is needed to make the ZLD system operate more effectively and to address changes to the system resulting from the plant's use of recycled water.

The purpose of the backwash tank is to contain the backwash streams produced by the plant's water purification systems during the water filtration process. The current backwash tank volume was designed with different assumptions regarding the recycled water's properties. The complete petition is available on the Energy Commission's website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/turlock/compliance/index.html>

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF REVIEW AND DETERMINATION

Pursuant to section 1769(a)(2), Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Energy Commission approval of the project modification is not required if Energy Commission staff determines that:

- There is no possibility that the modification may have a significant effect on the environment, and
- The modification will not result in a change to or deletion of a condition of certification, or make changes that would cause the project not to comply with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards (LORS).

Energy Commission staff has determined that the proposed modification meets these criteria because:

- The modification will not have the possibility of any significant effect on the environment.
- Existing conditions of certification are sufficient to cover the proposed modification without changes to, or deletions of, any conditions of certification; and
- The project as modified will maintain full compliance with applicable LORS.

Any person may file a written objection to staff's determination within 14 days of the date of this notice on the grounds that the project modification does not meet the criteria set forth in

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Section 1769(a)(2). All objections must be in writing and must be sent either by U.S. mail, e-mail, or other document delivery service to Ron Yasny, Compliance Project Manager, at the address shown below:

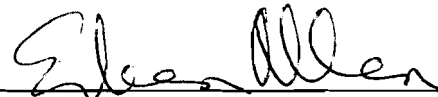
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street, MS 2000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments may be submitted by fax to (916) 654-3882, or by e-mail to ryasny@energy.state.ca.us. If no substantive objection is received in writing by 5:00 p.m. on March 31, 2008, the requested project modifications will be deemed approved and a description of the change will be placed in the project file.

If you have questions about this notice, please contact Ron Yasny at (916) 651-1227, or by fax or e-mail using the above information.

Date:

3/19/08



EILEEN ALLEN, Manager
Siting and Compliance Office
Energy Facilities Siting Division

Mail List # 7164