



Almond 2 Power Plant

Application for Certification
Docket # 09-AFC-02

DOCKET	
09-AFC-2	
DATE	<u>JUL 30 2009</u>
RECD	<u>JUL 31 2009</u>

Informational Hearing & Site Visit

Felicia Miller – Project Manager

July 30, 2009



Energy Commission's Role

- **Energy Commission (CEC) Permitting Authority**
 - Thermal power plants “50 Megawatts or Greater”
 - Related facilities:
 - electric transmission lines to first point of interconnection
 - water supply pipelines
 - natural gas pipelines
 - access roads
- **Lead state agency for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**



Overview of Licensing Process

1. Data Adequacy

- Minimum requirements to accept application

2. Staff Discovery and Analyses

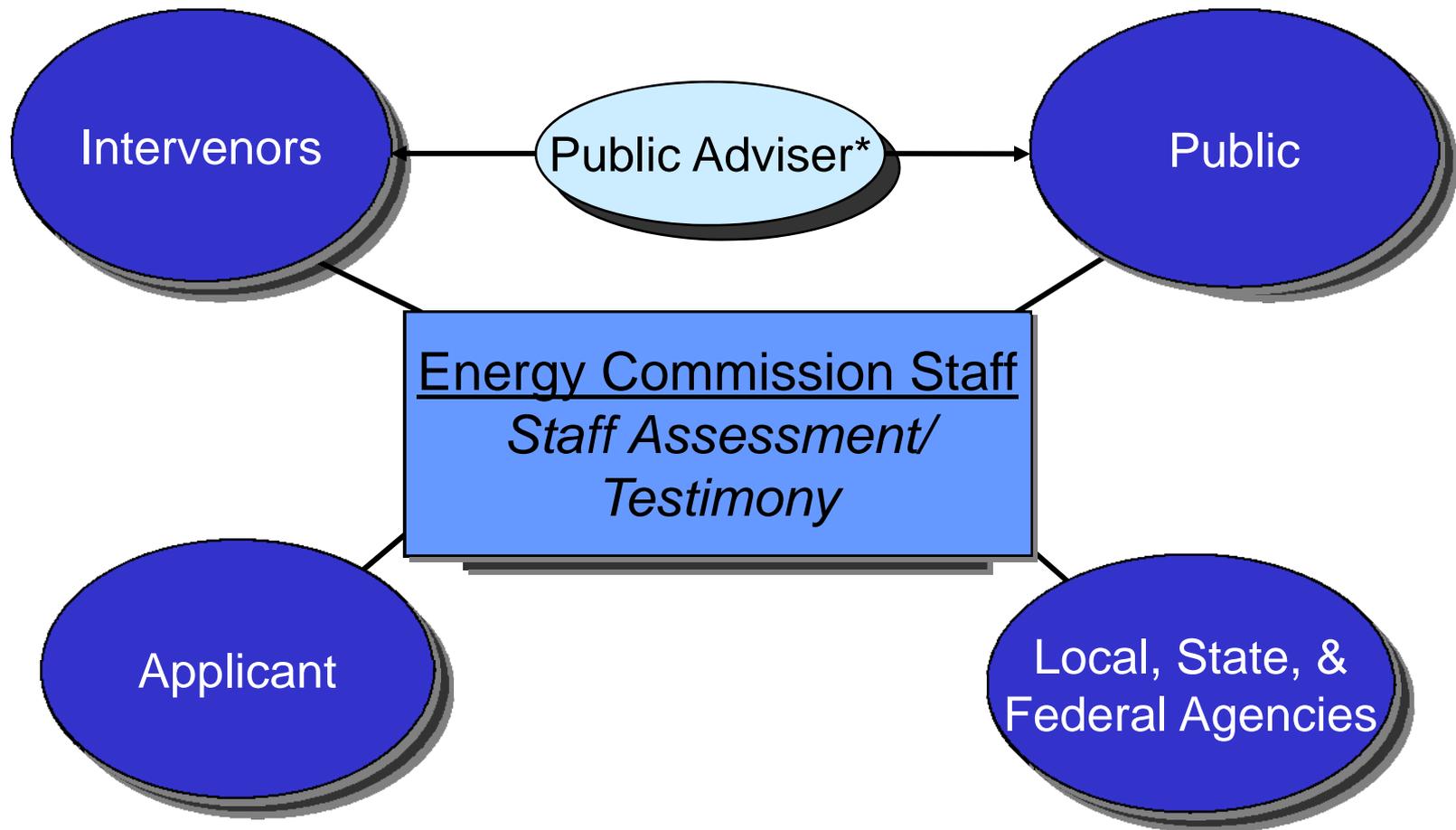
- Issues Identification
- Data requests
- Public Workshops
- Preliminary and Final Staff Assessments (PSA & FSA)

3. Committee Evidentiary Hearing and Decision

- Evidentiary Hearings on FSA and other information
- Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD)
- PMPD hearing and Commission decision



Discovery & Analysis Process



* The Public Adviser provides assistance on how to participate in the CEC's public process.

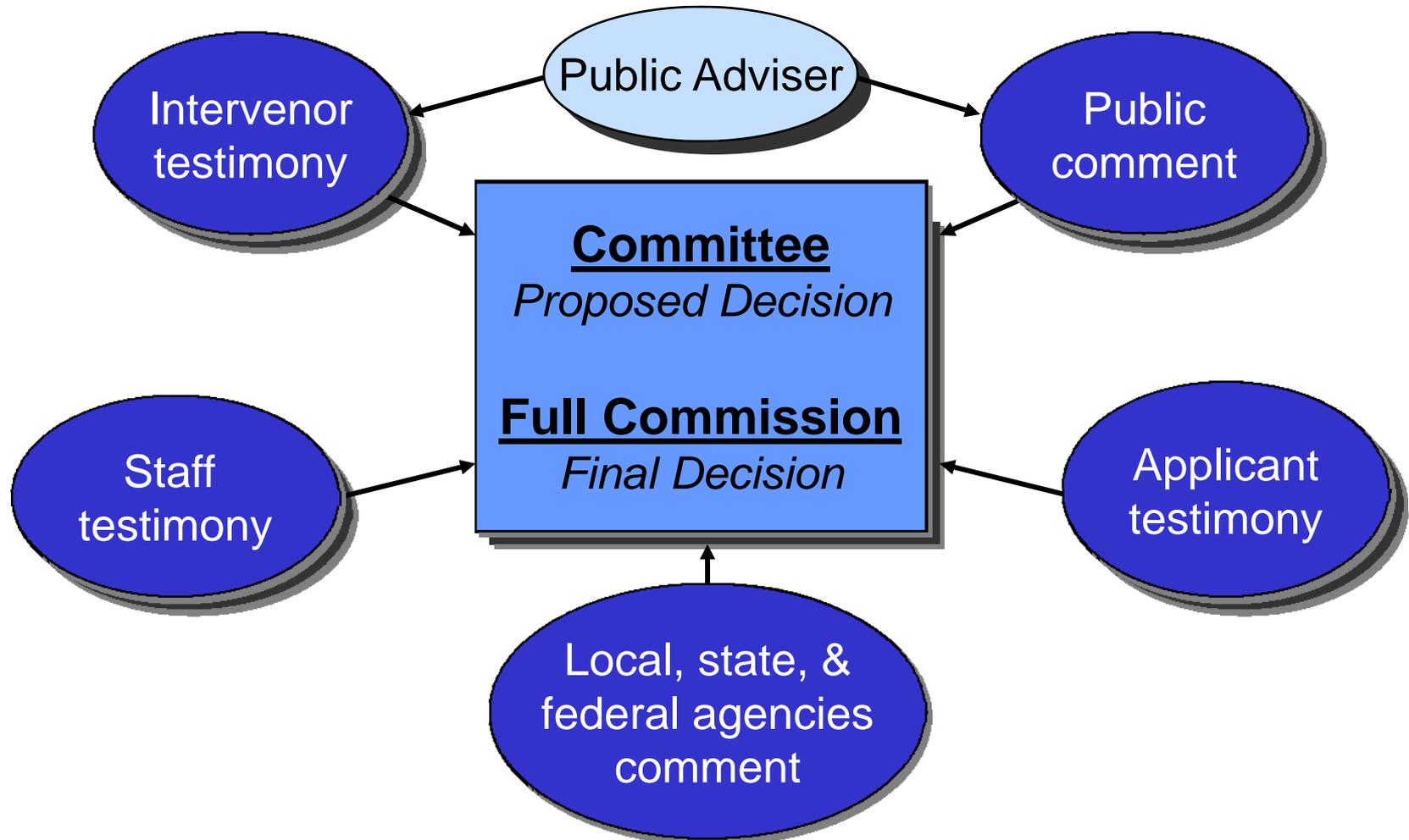


Discovery and Analysis Process

- **Determine if proposal complies with Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, Standards (LORS)**
- **Conduct engineering and environmental analysis**
 - Identify issues
 - Evaluate alternatives
 - Identify mitigation measures
 - Recommend Conditions of Certification
- **Facilitate public and agency participation**
- **Staff products: Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and Final Staff Assessment (FSA)**
- **Make recommendations to the Committee**



Evidentiary Hearing & Decision Process





Evidentiary Hearing & Decision Process

- **Committee conducts evidentiary hearings**
 - **Issues Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD)**
 - **PMPD contains:**
 - **Findings regarding environmental impacts, public health, engineering**
 - **Findings regarding project's compliance with LORS**
 - **Conditions of certification**
 - **Discussion regarding agency/public comments**
 - **Recommends whether or not to approve the project**
- **Full Commission makes decision**
- **Energy Commission monitors compliance with all conditions of certification, for the life of the project and closure**



Local, State and Federal Agencies

- **Staff works closely with local, state and federal agencies, for example:**
 - **Local/Regional**
 - **City of Ceres - Planning, Health, Public Works**
 - **Stanislaus County - Planning, Health, Public Works**
 - **San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District**
 - **State**
 - **California Department of Fish & Game**
 - **Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board**
 - **Federal**
 - **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**
 - **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**



Public Participation Information

■ Open Public Process

- Workshops and Hearings noticed at least 10 days in advance
- Mailing lists: Energy Commission
1516 9th Street, MS - 4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
- List Server: www.energy.ca.gov/listservers
- Energy Commission Web site:
www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/almond2/index.html



Public Participation Information

- Documents are available for public review at:
 - *Ceres Library - Modesto Library - Keyes Public Library - Stanislaus County Free Library - CSU Stanislaus Library 112*
 - Energy Commission Library in Sacramento
 - Dockets Unit at the Energy Commission
1516 9th Street, MS - 4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
(916) 654-5076



Almond 2 Project Contacts

California Energy Commission's Committee

Commissioner - Julia Levin - Presiding Member

Commissioner – Karen Douglas - Associate Member

Ken Celli – Energy Commission's Hearing Officer

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California Energy Commission Staff

Felicia Miller - Project Manager

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Almond 2 Project Contacts

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(209) 883-8300**



Staff's Issues Identification Report

■ Purpose

- Inform participants of potential issues
- Early focus on important topics

■ Criteria

- Significant impacts that may be difficult to mitigate
- Potential non-compliance with LORS
- Potential conflicts between parties that could delay schedule



POTENTIAL ISSUE: TRANSMISSION SYSTEM DESIGN

- **The California Independent System Operator (ISO) System Impact Study/Facility Study is not expected until late July of 2009. A prolonged delay in the release of this study could result in a delay to completion of staff's transmission system analysis.**



Staff's Proposed Schedule

- Meeting this schedule will depend on:
 - Applicant's timely response to staff's data requests.
 - Required actions by other local, state, and federal agencies.
 - Resolution of the identified issues.
 - The proposed Almond 2 project, qualifies for the 12-month licensing process. The applicant and the Commission may mutually agree to extend the schedule as needed. Staff anticipates possible delays due to the heavy workload, however staff will work to ensure a timely review of the proposed project.



Staff's Proposed Schedule

	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1	Applicant files Application for Certification (AFC)	5/11/09
2	Commission's determination that AFC is complete	7/01/09
3	Staff files Issue Identification Report	7/23/09
4	Informational Hearing and Site Visit	7/30/09
5	Staff files data requests	8/6/09
6	Applicant provides data responses	9/7/09
7	Data response and issue resolution workshop	9/17/09
8	Staff files data request set 2 (if necessary)	9/30/09
9	Local, state and federal agency preliminary comments	10/29/09
10	Applicant provides data responses set 2	10/29/09
11	Staff files Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA)	11/25/09



Staff's Proposed Schedule

	<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>DATE</u>
12	PSA workshop	12/16/09
13	Local, state and federal agency final comments	12/30/09
14	Staff files Final Staff Assessment (FSA)	2/14/10
15	FSA Workshop	3/3/10
16	Prehearing Conference*	TBD
17	Evidentiary hearings*	TBD
18	Committee files proposed decision*	TBD
19	Hearing on the proposed decision*	TBD
20	Committee files revised proposed decision*	TBD
21	Commission Decision (based on 12-month schedule)*	TBD
*	Actual Date to be determined	



Post-Licensing Project Compliance Oversight

- **If the project is approved:**
 - **The Compliance phase would apply during construction, operation & decommissioning**
 - **Purpose: To assure compliance with all Conditions of Certification and applicable LORS**
 - **Compliance Project Manager (CPM) – provides oversight of construction and operation.**