

DOCKET

09-AFC-3

DATE FEB 08 2010

RECD. FEB 08 2010

Date: Feb 08, 2010

From:

Rajesh Dighe
395 W Conejo Avenue,
Mountain House, CA 95391

To:

Mr Bohdan Buchynsky
Diamond Generating Corporation
333 S. Grand Ave., Suite 1570
Los Angeles, CA 90071

RE: MARIPOSA ENERGY PROJECT (MEP) (09-AFC-3)
DATA REQUEST SET 1 (Nos. 1-4)

Dear Mr. Buchynsky:

Pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Section 1716, Rajesh Dighe seeks the information specified in the enclosed data requests.

The information requested is necessary to:

1. More fully understand the project.
2. Assess whether the facility will be constructed and operated in compliance with applicable regulations.
3. Assess whether the project will result in significant environmental impacts.
4. Assess whether the facilities will be constructed and operated in a safe, efficient and reliable manner.
5. Assess potential mitigation measures.

This set of data requests (Nos. 1-4) is being made in the areas of:

1. Power Plant Site Alternatives
2. Technology Alternatives

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, please send a written notice to both the Committee and me within 20 days of receipt of this notice. The notification must contain the reasons for not providing the information, and the grounds for any objections (see Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Section 1716 (f)).

AREA: Power Plant Site Alternatives Section 6.3 BACKGROUND

The proposed project site located at "*Southeast of the intersection of Bruns Road and Kelso Road on a 10-acre portion of a 158-acre parcel (known as the Lee Property) immediately south of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Bethany Compressor Station and 230-kilovolt(kV) Kelso Substation*" **is only 2.5 miles to a fastly growing Mountain House Residential Community.**

Infact, all the alternative project sites mentioned in Section 6.3 are also very close to Mountain House Residential Homes.

Proposed site: MEP 3200 feet from nearest residence
Alternative site 1: Costanza 2500 feet from nearest residence
Alternative site 2: Gomes - 2100 feet from nearest residence

In the Executive Summary, Section 1.1.1 Project Objectives Mariposa mentions:

"...peaking capacity is **needed to respond to increases in the local demand for electricity** that typically occur in the afternoons of summer days.As a peaking facility, MEP **will not run continuously, but instead will start, run for as many hours as necessary, and then shut down. ..**"

In the coming decade, California is going to push electric cars into the consumer market. As consumers and commercial charging stations start plugging in electric cars and other potential electric devices into the existing electric grids, the existing base power stations could start getting overloaded throughout the year (not just summer). This will cause MEP like gas-fired peaker plants to trigger many times more than as designed above and expected and at more frequents yearly rates, causing excessive pollution and health hazard to Mountain House residents.

Hence more analysis is needed by the applicant to understand the above and investigate other **remote locations further away from residential communities.**

Additionally, all the above sites are blessed with high winds and good sunshine and constructing a non-renewable energy plant and causing any extra pollution to surrounding residential neighbourhood needs more justification.

DATA REQUEST 1:

Please provide details of other researched location sites by the applicant which are sufficiently away (like 50-60 miles away) from residential homes. Comparing the proposed site with a site further away from residential homes would help California Energy Commission (CEC) and other party members.

DATA REQUEST 2:

As explained above, isn't it a high risk to construct a peaker plant too close to Mountain House residential community because of its susceptibility to be running more often in the year and hence increasing the pollution for Mountain House community? Applicant is hereby kindly requested to explain in detail why they would prefer the current discussed project site as oppose to other remote location sites further away from residential communities?

AREA: Technology Alternatives Section 6.6

BACKGROUND

In Section 6.6.2 - Fuel Technology Alternatives states:

"Solar and wind technologies are generally not dispatchable and, therefore, are not capable of providing fast-starting, flexible generating capacity and are not capable of producing ancillary services other than reactive power."

During peak summer days, Government's push towards Photo Voltaic (PV) panels on rooftops of residential and businesses will bring down the load on the gas-fired base power plants(<http://www.gosolarcalifornia.ca.gov/>). Also in the coming decades, California has planned aggressively towards increasing the California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) to 33 percent by 2020 -

Essentially, the reduced loads on the existing gas-fired base plants because of spreading PV panels on rooftops will save lots of MW of energy which can be potentially be consumed in hot nights.

The continuing research in the area of **battery technology** to drive efficient home **Air Conditioning** units using inverters and alternators will continue to be the focus as we go green.

Putting "dispatchable energy" as part MEP requirement causes "renewable" energy solutions to be discarded very early in the process. This doesn't seem correct.

The application requirement should emphasize on ***"Solving the peak power needs of PG&E in summer"*** with **all possible alternatives (renewable and/ or non-renewable solutions locally and remotely and in combination with overall California state's total renewable energy solution targets)**.

PV alternative takes the solution close to the problem location (consumers -both residential and commercial cause the peak load in summer). Hence is interesting to investigate.

DATA REQUEST 3:

Please provide technology alternatives using solar photo voltaic (PV) panels.

Answers to below questions are requested:

1. How many homes on average need to be installed with PV panels to bring down the load on the current gas-fired power plant by 200 MW- which is the current proposed MEP power plant's requirement?
2. In summer days, PV panels will help save existing gas-fired plants power consumption. Hence why can't this saved power from the existing gas-fired power plants be used for summer evening and night peak loads caused by switching on AC units by consumers, instead of creating another "pollution monster" around the Mountain House residential community?

AREA: Safety BACKGROUND

The applicant has sections in the application detailing Land, Air Quality, Biological and Cultural Resources, Geological Resources and Hazards, Noise effects.

God forbidden, if a catastrophic scenario- like an explosion at the Applicant's site occurs, it is unclear from the application about the effects to the close Mountain House residential community. This is a concerning point since Mountain House is only 2.5 miles away from the proposed site.

The recent Feb 7, 2010 explosion of the gas-fired Kleen Energy LLC plant at Middletown, Connecticut caused a huge distress and earthquake like shakes even 10 miles away.

DATA REQUEST 4:

Applicant is requested to provide details and facts about the potential dangers to Mountain House residents under such catastrophic explosion and why the applicant still thinks of constructing a power plant at 3200 feet of an upcoming new residential Mountain House community ?

If you have any questions, please call me at (415) 533-4289 or email me at dighe.rajesh@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Rajesh Dighe

(On Original Sent to Docket)

Feb 8-2010

Name

Signature

Date

Enclosed: Proof of Service and Declaration of Service

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
State Energy Resources
Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of:

[DOCKET NUMBER 09-AFC-03]

[MARIPOSA ENERGY PROJECT]

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, **Rajesh Dighe** declare that on Feb-08-2010, I served and filed copies of the **RajeshDighe-DataRequests-Nos-1-4** dated Feb-08-2010. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent *Proof of Service* list (most recent version is located on the proceeding's web page at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/mariposa/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:

For service to the applicant and 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. [09-AFC-03]
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

docket@energy.state.ca.us

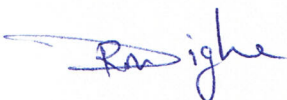
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

RAJESH DIGHE

Feb 8 - 2010

Name

Date



Sign



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

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
FOR THE **MARIPOSA ENERGY PROJECT**
(MEP)

Docket No. 09-AFC-3

PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 2/8/2010)

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