

455 Capitol Mall Suite 350 Sacramento CA 95814 Tel •916.441.6575 Fax •916.441.6553

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED 09-AFC-6C

TN # 66964

AUG 28 2012

August 28, 2012

California Energy Commission Dockets Unit 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: NEXTERA BLYTHE SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC STATUS REPORT

BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT

DOCKET NO. (09-AFC-6C)

Enclosed for filing with the California Energy Commission is the original of **NEXTERA BLYTHE SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC STATUS REPORT**, for the Blythe Solar Power Project (09-AFC-6C).

Sincerely,

Marie Fleming

Scott A. Galati
GALATIBLEK LLP
455 Capitol Mall
Suite 350
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 441-6575

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Energy Resources
Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of:

Application for Certification for the BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT

DOCKET NO: 09-AFC-6C

NEXTERA BLYTHE SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC STATUS REPORT

INTRODUCTION

NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC (NextEra Blythe), a wholly owned subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, hereby files this Status Report to update the Committee on recent events related to current Petition For Amendment for the Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP).

The BSPP was previously owned by Palo Verde Solar I, LLC (PVSI), which was a wholly owned subsidiary of Solar Trust of America (STA). PVSI and STA and related companies filed for federal bankruptcy protection in 2012. The BSPP assets were sold pursuant to bankruptcy court order and approved auction procedures to Nextera Blythe, with the sale closing escrow on July 12, 2012. The Commission approved a Petition For Change or Ownership on July 11, 2012.

Prior to the sale of the BSPP to Nextera Blythe the bankruptcy court authorized the preparation and filing of a Petition For Amendment pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 25500.1 to convert the BSPP from solar thermal technology to photovoltaic (PV) technology. The Petition For Amendment was filed on June 28, 2012.

Since becoming the new owner of the BSPP, Nextera Blythe has been working diligently, including meeting with key environmental groups, to modify the design of the BSPP to further meet its needs and to further minimize environmental impacts.

NextEra Blythe is finalizing those changes and will be filing a Supplement to the Petition For Amendment in October 2012. The Supplement will include the following modifications:

- The private land added by PVSI will be removed from the project;
- The shared transmission corridor will be relocated to bisect the BSPP instead of being located on the eastern boundary;
- The footprint will be reduced and optimized to require less drainage control and grading and reduce impacts to desert dry wash woodland habitat;
- The eastern boundary will be moved westerly to avoid a culturally significant pebble terrace;
- The western boundary will be moved easterly to reduce habitat impacts

Since NextEra Blythe anticipates filing the supplement with the modifications described above in October 2012, we respectfully request that the Committee request proposed schedules from parties to be filed by November 15, 2012 in order to allow the Staff and other parties an opportunity to review the new information designed to further reduce environmental impacts.

Dated: August 28, 2012

Respectfully Submitted,

Six A.C.

Scott A. Galati

Counsel to NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC



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 BLYTHE SOLAR
POWER PLANT PROJECT

Docket No. 09-AFC-6

PROOF OF SERVICE (Revised 8/27/10)

APPLICANT

Alice Harron
Senior Director of Project
Development
*1111 Broadway, 5th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607
harron@solarmillennium.com

Elizabeth Ingram, Associate Developer, Solar Millennium, LLC *1111 Broadway, 5th Floor Oakland, CA 94607 ingram@solarmillennium.com

Carl Lindner
AECOM Project Manager
1220 Avenida Acaso
Camarillo, CA 93012
carl.lindner@aecom.com

Ram Ambatipudi Chevron Energy Solutions 150 E. Colorado Blvd., Ste. 360 Pasadena, CA 91105 rambatipudi@chevron.com

Co-COUNSEL

Scott Galati, Esq. Marie Mills Galati/Blek, LLP 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 350 Sacramento, CA 95814 sgalati@gb-llp.com mmills@gb-llp.com

Co-COUNSEL

Peter Weiner
Matthew Sanders
Paul, Hastings, Janofsky &
Walker LLP
55 2nd Street, Suite 2400-3441
San Francisco, CA 94105
peterweiner@paulhastings.com
matthewsanders@paulhastings.com

INTERESTED AGENCIES

Calfornia ISO <u>e-recipient@caiso.com</u>

Holly L. Roberts, Project Manager Bureau of Land Management Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office 1201 Bird Center Drive Palm Springs, CA 92262 Office CAPSSolarBlythe@blm.gov

INTERVENORS

California Unions for Reliable Energy (CURE)
c/o: Tany A. Gulesserian,
Elizabeth Klebaner
Marc D. Joseph
Adams Broadwell Joseph & Cardozo
601 Gate Way Boulevard,
Suite 1000
South San Francisco, CA 94080
tgulesserian@adamsbroadwell.com
eklebaner@adamsbroadwell.com

ENERGY COMMISSION

KAREN DOUGLAS
Chairman and Presiding Member
kldougla@energy.state.ca.us

ROBERT WEISENMILLER Commissioner and Associate Member

rweisenm@energy.state.ca.us

Raoul Renaud Hearing Officer rrenaud@energy.state.ca.us

Alan Solomon Siting Project Manager asolomon@energy.state.ca.us

Lisa DeCarlo Staff Counsel Idecarlo@energy.state.ca.us

Jennifer Jennings
Public Adviser's Office
<u>e-mail service preferred</u>
publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Marie Fleming, declare that on August 28, 2012, I served and filed copies of the attached NEXTERA BLYTHE SOLAR ENERGY CENTER, LLC STATUS REPORT, dated August 28, 2012. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/solar_millennium_blythe/compliance]

The documents have 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:

(Check all that Apply)

FOR SERVICE TO ALL OTHER PARTIES:

_X	sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;
	by personal delivery;
_X	by delivering on this date, for mailing with the United States Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses NOT marked "email preferred."
AND	
FOR FILING WITH THE ENERGY COMMISSION:	
_X	 sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, via personal delivery and email respectively, to the address below;
OR	
	_ depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:
	CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
	Attn: Docket No. <u>09-AFC-6</u>
	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.

Marie Fleming