



88/89-AFC-1C

OCT 17 1994

GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS AND CONSULTING

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DOCKET 89-AFC-1C
DATE: OCT 14 1994
RECD: OCT 18 1994

October 14, 1994

Mr. Dale Edwards
Project Compliance Manager
Energy Facilities Siting and
Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-2000
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Marsh Enhancement Amendment, SEGS VIII (88-AFC-1C) and SEGS IX (89-AFC-1C)

Dear Dale:

You have requested "a written description of your specific [marsh enhancement] amendment proposal by October 21, 1994."

For the purposes of facilitating staff evaluation and Committee review of the proposed amendment, I can particularize the amendment originally submitted on March 2, 1994, to the following extent: LSP VIII and LSP IX, by their administrative general partners Harper Lake Company VIII and HLC IX, shall provide rights for up to 75 acre feet per year of water to the Bureau of Land Management expressly for the purpose of maintaining the wildlife habitat in the central and southern Harper dry lake marshes approximately in its current condition, for so long as the SEGS VIII and Segs IX projects shall be subject to their ownership and control.

In order to address the concerns raised by representatives of the BLM in the July 14 workshop on the above referenced matter, the owners have agreed to deliver the water to the agency at the property line of the parcel which contains the marsh most closely proximate to the water source, rather than providing a water well. You may recall that the Bureau had concerns about the ongoing responsibilities and costs associated with ownership and management of such a well.

In order not to prejudice negotiations which may ensue with various potential providers of the well water, the precise location and current owner of the well

Mr. Dale Edwards
October 14, 1994
Page 2

which will serve the marsh may not be disclosed at this time. However, for the purpose of permitting preliminary evaluations of the suitability of such a water source, it may be assumed that the well will be drawing water from ground water supplies immediately beneath the marshes. The effect of the draft, therefore, will be to create a cycle as to the extracted ground water; its extraction and infusion into the marsh will result in its percolation back into the underground source from which it is extracted. Hopefully, this will permit a quick determination of both availability and water quality questions which may arise in evaluating our proposal.

Further on the issue of water quality, thank you for the confirmation in your September 30, 1994 letter that neither the Lahonton Regional Water Quality Control Board nor the California Department of Fish and Game assert "standards" for selenium in discharges to surface waters.

I hope you find this reply satisfactory. If you have questions or if the issue requires further clarification in writing, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael Gersick by mm

Michael Gersick

MG:mm

cc: Phil DiVirgilio