

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

**DOCKET****99-AFC-8C**DATE July 01 2009RECD. July 01 2009

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT
PETITION TO AMEND
TO MODIFY**

**THE BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT TRANSMISSION LINE
(99-AFC-8C)**

On June 17, 2009, the California Energy Commission received a petition from Blythe Energy, LLC to modify the Blythe Energy Project Transmission Line (BEPTL). The BEPTL project was certified by the Energy Commission on October 11, 2006, and began construction in February, 2009. The BEPTL project would be located entirely within Riverside County, between the Blythe Energy Center project and Metropolitan Water District's Julian Hinds Substation near Hayfield.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

The project owner is seeking approval for the following modifications in response to recently available information:

- A. Changes are needed to the Edison B-EM transmission line which are designed to accommodate the BEPTL crossings:
 1. Relocation of two H-frame structures, and the replacement in the existing location of two additional H-frame structures; and
 2. Structural support modification at three additional structures by changing hardware from suspension insulators to dead end insulators accompanied with the addition of guy wires.
- B. Replace up to 34 single-circuit poles already installed during construction with double-circuit-ready poles.

ENERGY COMMISSION AND BLM STAFF REVIEW AND DETERMINATION

The Commission is the lead agency for the purpose of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the lead Federal agency for the purpose of NEPA compliance. The BLM involvement is due to the need for portions of the BEPTL to be constructed on BLM administered public lands. Therefore, the BLM is responsible for reviewing the proposed insignificant project changes to ensure NEPA compliance.

Pursuant to section 1769(a)(2), Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Energy Commission approval of the project modifications 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 modifications meet the criteria for staff approval because:

- The modification will not have 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 written comments within 14 days of the date of this notice as set forth in Section 1769(a)(2). All comments must be in writing and must be sent either by U.S. mail, e-mail, or other document delivery service to Mary Dyas, 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: mdyas@energy.state.ca.us. If no substantive objection is received in writing by July 9, 2009, the requested project modifications will be deemed approved, and a description of the change will be placed in the project file.

For further information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

If you have questions about this notice, please contact Mary Dyas at (916) 651-8891, or by fax or e-mail using the above information.

Date:

7/1/09



EILEEN ALLEN, Manager
Siting and Compliance Office
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division