

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT
PETITION TO AMEND
THE BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT TRANSMISSION LINE
(99-AFC-8C)**

DOCKET	
99-AFC-8C	
DATE	DEC 10 2010
RECD.	DEC 15 2010

On November 12, 2010, 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 was energized in June 2010. The BEPTL project is located entirely within Riverside County, between the Blythe Energy Center (BEC) and Southern California Edison's (SCE) Julian Hinds Substation near Hayfield.

The Blythe Energy Center is currently connected to the Buck Boulevard Substation (Buck Substation) owned by the Western Area Power Administration (Western), which, in turn, is connected to the Blythe Substation and the Southern California Edison Company (SCE) Blythe Eagle Mountain (B-EM) transmission system. This interconnection is currently made at 230 kilovolts (kV).

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

The BEC presently interconnects to the Southern California Edison (SCE) operating grid through a 67-mile, 230-kV generation intertie transmission line through the leased Buck Boulevard Substation. Western has noted that the lease will not be renewed. Because the lease will not be renewed, and because Blythe Energy, LLC would prefer not to permit a separate substation with new ground disturbance, Blythe Energy is requesting permission to construct the gas-insulated substation (GIS) that was initially petitioned for and approved in 2007. As part of the proposed modifications, the current connection to the Buck Substation will be removed. One new 230kV underground circuit and two new 230kV overhead circuits will be installed from the existing GSU transformers over to the new proposed 230kV gas-insulated switchyard that will be located on the south side of the Buck Substation in an already disturbed/graveled area.

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF REVIEW AND DETERMINATION

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 is currently reviewing the proposed modifications to determine if they meet the criteria for staff approval. Staff's determination will be based on the following:

- 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 14 days of this notice, 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: _____

CHRIS MARXEN, Compliance Office Manager
Siting and Compliance Office
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

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