

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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June 6, 2014

**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE FINAL STAFF ASSESSMENT
FOR THE PROPOSED HUNTINGTON BEACH ENERGY PROJECT (12-AFC-02)**

To: AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST

The enclosed Final Staff Assessment (FSA) contains the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff's final evaluation of the proposed Huntington Beach Energy Project (HBEP) Application for Certification (AFC). The FSA is available for review on the Energy Commission's web site at: http://docketpublic.energy.ca.gov/PublicDocuments/12-AFC-02/TN202405_20140602T085620_Final_Staff_Assessment.pdf.

The FSA will serve as staff's formal testimony in evidentiary hearings to be held by the Energy Commission's Committee assigned to hear this case. The Committee will hold evidentiary hearings in July that will be noticed separately and will consider the recommendations presented by the staff, applicant, intervenors, government agencies, and the public, prior to proposing its decision. The Energy Commission will make the final decision, including findings, after the Committee's publication of the Presiding Member's Proposed Decision.

The Energy Commission appreciates your continued participation in the review of the HBEP AFC. The agency comment period for the FSA ends on June 30, 2014. If you wish to provide comments on the FSA, please submit them by going to the Energy Commission's HBEP webpage http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/huntington_beach_energy/index.html and click on the "Submit e-Comment" link. Please provide your full name, an organization name, an email address, a reference to Docket No. 12-AFC-02 in the subject line, and preferably put your comment in an attached document (.doc, .docx, or .pdf format). After entering characters to ensure that responses are generated by a human user and not a computer, click on the "Agree & Submit Your Comment" button to submit the comment to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit.

If you wish to mail written comments on the FSA, please submit them to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit. Please include the docket number (12-AFC-02) for the HBEP in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments and mail or hand-deliver them to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Unit, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All written comments and materials filed with the Dockets Unit will become a part of the public record of the proceeding.

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED HUNTINGTON BEACH ENERGY PROJECT

On June 27, 2012, AES Southland Corporation submitted an AFC to the Energy Commission seeking permission to construct and operate a power generation facility, HBEP, which would be located entirely within the footprint of the existing Huntington Beach Generating Station, an operating power plant. The proposed project is located in the city of Huntington Beach, just north of the intersection of the Pacific Coast Highway and Newland Street. The proposed HBEP would be a natural-gas fired, combined-cycle, air-cooled, 939-megawatt (MW) electrical generating facility that would replace the AES Huntington Beach Generating Station.

ENERGY COMMISSION'S SITE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications to construct and operate thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, in California. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of proposed power plants and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines. The Energy Commission has a certified regulatory program and is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

SUMMARY OF STAFF'S FINAL CONCLUSIONS

Energy Commission staff concludes that the HBEP complies with all LORS, and with the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures described in the conditions of certification, potential environmental, public health, and transmission system impacts of the HBEP would be mitigated to levels of less than significant.

AVAILABILITY OF PROJECT INFORMATION

The status of the project, copies of notices, and other relevant documents are available on the Energy Commission's HBEP project page:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/huntington_beach_energy/index.html. For additional information contact Felicia Miller, Project Manager at (916) 654-4640 or by email at felicia.miller@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Chris Davis, Manager
Siting Office

Date: 6/6/14

Enclosure:
Final Staff Assessment (12-AFC-02)

Mailed to Agency list - 7438