

Notice of Decision by the California Energy Commission



To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 98512-3044

Clearinghouse No: _____

California Resources Agency
1416 9th Street, Room 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Filing of Notice of Decision in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 21080.5 and Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Section 1768

Project Title: GENESIS SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT

Energy Commission Docket Number: 09-AFC-8

Energy Commission Contact Person: Mike Monasmith Telephone: (916) 654-4894

DOCKET 09-AFC-8
DATE SEP 30 2010
REC'D. SEP 30 2010

Project Location: The proposed Genesis Solar Energy Project (GSEP) would be located on approximately 1,800 acres of federal public land administered by U.S. Bureau of Land Management located 25 miles west of Blythe, California and 4 miles north of Interstate-10 near Ford Dry Lake.

County: Riverside County

Project Description: Construction and operation of two, 125 MW concentrating solar thermal power plants with a combined capacity of 250 MWs. Each power plant would use parabolic trough technology, where parabolic mirrors are used to heat a transfer fluid which is then used to generate steam and produce electricity through a steam turbine generator. Project related, linear facilities located outside the project fence line are limited to a new 230-kV transmission line, access road, and new 8-inch natural gas pipeline. On September 29, 2010, the California Energy Commission approved the above-described project pursuant to a regulatory program certified by the Secretary of California Natural Resources Agency under Section 21080.5 of the California Public Resources Code and has made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project will have a significant impact on the environment.
2. Mitigation measures for the approved project were made via conditions of certification and monitoring plans for both its construction and operation.
3. Statements of Overriding Considerations were adopted for the project's cumulative impacts.
4. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

Based on the evidence and the conclusions drawn in this Final Decision, the Energy Commission made the following findings and conclusions:

1. Climate change poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and the environment of California.
2. Cumulative impacts from past, current and reasonably foreseeable projects in eastern Riverside County and the Mojave Desert would be significant and unmitigable in the technical disciplines of

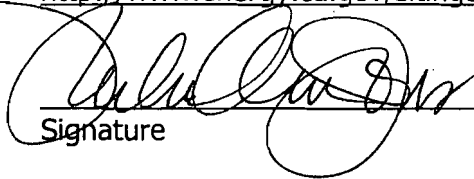
Cultural Resources, Land Use and Visual Resources, thus requiring the statement of Overriding Considerations referenced above.

3. This Decision will result in mitigation of all direct, indirect and cumulative project impacts for GSEP, except as described immediately above, and imposes all feasible mitigation measures as conditions of approval to reduce the significant impacts of the project to the lowest possible level, although direct, significant impacts in the instance of Cultural Resources could still occur, as was noted in the Final Decision.

4. The Genesis Solar Energy Project will provide the following benefits:

- a. 250 MWs of renewable energy power will contribute in meeting California's Renewable Portfolio Standard;
- b. Results in a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions over existing fossil fuel-burning generating facilities;
- c. Reduces California's dependence on fossil fuels;
- d. Creates construction jobs for an average workforce of 646, which will peak at 1,080 workers in month 32 of 37 during construction. Approximately 40 to 50 full-time jobs will be created for the operation of GSEP, most requiring highly-trained workers; and
- e. Direct expenditures of approximately \$1.1 billion for the construction of the project.

The Commission docket files containing the final Commission Decision and other information regarding the project are available to the public at: California Energy Commission, 1516 9th Street, Sacramento, California, 95814. The final Decision and other information regarding the project is also available on the Commission's web site located at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/genesis_solar/index.html.


Signature

³⁰
9/29/2010
Date

Executive Director
Title

Dates received for filing

OPR/CDFG:

Resources Agency:

FILED

SEP 30 2010

Resources Agency of California



State of California—The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

2010 ENVIRONMENTAL FILING FEE CASH RECEIPT

RECEIPT#	394740
STATE CLEARING HOUSE # (If applicable)	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

LEAD AGENCY	Resources Agency	DATE	9-30-10
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COUNTY/STATE AGENCY OF FILING	DFG	DOCUMENT NUMBER	Deposit # 0087
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PROJECT TITLE	09-AFC-8
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PROJECT APPLICANT NAME	CA Energy Commission	PHONE NUMBER	()
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PROJECT APPLICANT ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
1516 9th St.	Sacramento	CA	95814

PROJECT APPLICANT (Check appropriate box):

Local Public Agency
 School District
 Other Special District
 State Agency
 Private Entity

CHECK APPLICABLE FEES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Impact Report (EIR)	\$2,792.25	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigated/Negative Declaration (ND)(MND)	\$2,010.25	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Fee Water Diversion (State Water Resources Control Board Only)	\$850.00	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Projects Subject to Certified Regulatory Programs (CRP)	\$949.50	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> County Administrative Fee	\$50.00	\$	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Project that is exempt from fees			
<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Exemption			
<input type="checkbox"/> DFG No Effect Determination (Form Attached)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Notice of Decision</u>		\$	950.00

PAYMENT METHOD:

Cash
 Credit
 Check
 Other

TOTAL RECEIVED \$ 950.00

SIGNATURE	TITLE
	Accountant I