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April 1, 2016

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## VIA ELECTRONIC DOCKETING

The Honorable Andrew McAllister, Presiding Member The Honorable Karen Douglas, Associate Member California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Hearing Adviser Susan Cochran California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Huntington Beach Energy Project (12-AFC-02C)
Project Owner's Status Report #3

Dear Commissioners and Hearing Adviser Cochran:

Project Owner AES Southland Development, LLC ("Project Owner" or "AES") submits this Status Report for the Huntington Beach Energy Project ("HBEP") Petition to Amend ("PTA") proceeding pursuant to the Committee's March 8, 2016 Amended Committee Scheduling Order. Since filing the March 1, 2016 Status Report, Project Owner docketed updated responses to Staff's Data Requests A4-A6 (TN#s 210620-1, 210620-2, 210620-3) and Staff's concurrence with the approach regarding cumulative sources outlined therein (TN# 210660). Lastly, on March 22, Project Owner docketed a copy of the revised air permit application submitted to the South Coast Air Quality Management District ("SCAQMD") that reflects an increase in the number of monthly cold starts for the project. (TN# 210807). As of the date of this Status Report, Project Owner is not aware of any other outstanding data requests from Staff.

As noted in Project Owner's Status Report #4, Project Owner submitted a design review application to the City of Huntington Beach ("City") regarding proposed architectural treatment for the Amended HBEP. On March 10, 2016, the City's Design Review Board recommended the application for approval by the City Council as submitted. (TN# 210763). City Staff are tentatively scheduled to present the visual simulations to the City Council during a study session on April 18, 2016. As previously stated, the PTA and data responses demonstrate that the Amended HBEP will have a lesser impact on visual resources than those previously analyzed (and mitigated, where applicable) for the Licensed HBEP. Thus, regardless of the status of the City's review and approval of Project Owner's proposed architectural screening, CEC Visual Staff has had all of the information it needs to finalize its visual resources analysis of the Amended HBEP.



The Honorable Andrew McAllister, Presiding Member The Honorable Karen Douglas, Associate Member Hearing Adviser Susan Cochran April 1, 2016 Page 2

Lastly, Project Owner anticipates Staff's publication of the Preliminary Staff Assessment within three weeks of SCAQMD's issuance of the PDOC, as agreed to by CEC Staff Project Manager John Heiser during the February 16 Status Conference. Project Owner is also looking forward to participating in the Committee's April 19 Status Conference.

Respectfully submitted,

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Melissa A. Foster

MAF:jmw