

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	03-AFC-02C
Project Title:	Los Esteros Phase II Compliance
TN #:	228224
Document Title:	CEC Staff's Data Requests, Set 2, A1 through A4
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Raquel Rodriguez
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	5/9/2019 2:23:45 PM
Docketed Date:	5/9/2019



May 9, 2019

Ms. Barbara McBride
Director of Environmental Services
Calpine Corporation
4160 Dublin Blvd.
Dublin, CA 94568

**Re: Post-Certification Petition for Los Esteros Critical Energy Facility
(03-AFC-02C), TN 224569 - Increasing Cooling Tower Water
Circulation Rate, Staff's Data Requests, Set 2, A1 through A4**

Dear Ms. McBride,

Pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716, the California Energy Commission staff requests the information specified in the enclosed data requests regarding the proposal to increase the water circulation rate through the cooling tower. The information requested is necessary to: 1) more fully understand the proposed changes to the facility, 2) assess whether the facility would continue to operate in compliance with applicable regulations, 3) assess whether the changes will result in significant environmental impacts, and 4) assess potential mitigation measures.

These data requests, numbered A1 through A4, are being made in the technical area of Visual Resources. Written responses to the enclosed data requests are due to the Energy Commission staff on or before June 10, 2019.

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, please send a written notice to me within 20 days of receipt of this notice. The notification must contain the reasons for the inability to provide the information or the grounds for any objections (see Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1716 (f)).

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed data requests, please call me at (916) 653-8236 or email me at John.Heiser@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

John Heiser
Project Manager

Enclosure (Data Request Packet)
cc: Docket (03-AFC-02C)

**POST-CERTIFICATION PETITION FOR LOS ESTEROS CRITICAL ENERGY
FACILITY
(03-AFC-02C)
TN 224569 - Increasing Cooling Tower Water Circulation Rate**

Energy Commission Staff's Data Requests Set 2, A1 – A4

MAY 09, 2019

Technical Area: Visual Resources
Author: Gerry Bemis and Jacquelyn Record

BACKGROUND

During the licensing proceeding, a fogging frequency curve was provided for a 73,000 gallon per minute case in Data Response 53, Attachment VIS-3. Staff requires additional information regarding the new circulation rate in order to assess the potential for a change in the frequency of forming visible plumes and to verify that the increase would not affect the frequency of forming visible plumes, as stated by the petitioner's current responses for visible plumes. Staff also needs to know the maximum heat rejection rates for the current 73,000 gpm cooling system water circulation rate and the proposed increase to 90,000 gpm (both cases again, maximum gas turbine and maximum gas turbine and duct firing operation). The requested information will be used to ensure consistency with Condition of Certification – VIS-6.

DATA REQUESTS

- A1. An updated cooling tower fogging frequency curve for the 90,000 gpm water recirculation rate with maximum gas turbine and maximum gas turbine/duct firing operating loads (two curves on one drawing), with maximum cooling tower visible plume abatement.
- A2. If the curve shifts towards the portion of the chart indicating an increase in visible plume occurrence, explain the procedures that will be used to ensure that such occurrences are minimized to comply with the Energy Commission Decision (condition VIS-6).
- A3. Please provide the maximum cooling tower heat rejection rates (in MW or MMBtu/hour) for the current 73,000 gpm and for the requested 90,000 gpm cooling tower water recirculation rates, at maximum gas turbine and maximum gas turbine and duct firing operating conditions.
- A4. Prior to construction, as part of VIS-6, the project owner was required to submit specifications for the abatement system (including the fogging frequency curve) and for the meteorological monitoring and notification system and the operations protocol. Please re-submit this information.

Note: The current VIS-6 condition includes the following language:

"At least 60 days prior to construction of the six-cell cooling tower, the project owner shall provide to the CPM for review and approval the specifications for the abatement system (including the fogging frequency curve) and for the meteorological monitoring and notification system and the operations protocol for its use, that will be used to ensure maximum plume abatement from the dry-cooling section of the six-cell cooling tower."