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Project Title:	Redondo Beach Energy Project
TN #:	204364
Document Title:	Redondo Beach Coastal Commission Status Letter
Description:	Letter describing status of Coastal Commission review and requested schedule
Filer:	Tom Luster
Organization:	California Coastal Commission
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CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

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April 24, 2015

Committee for Redondo Beach Energy Project (12-AFC-03) Commissioner Karen Douglas – Presiding Member Commissioner Janea A. Scott – Associate Member Susan Cochran – Hearing Officer California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

RE: Status Report on 12-AFC-03

Dear Commissioners Douglas and Scott,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced AFC proceeding. This letter provides the status of the Coastal Commission staff review and includes a recommended schedule for your consideration.

As you know, in July 2014, Energy Commission staff published the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) for the proposed project; however, in September 2014, the Committee suspended the AFC proceeding until April 1st of this year pending the results of a City of Redondo Beach initiative that could have obviated the need for this AFC proceeding. In March of this year, the initiative failed, and AES requested that the Committee adopt a new schedule for completing the AFC review. On April 10, 2015, the Committee held a status conference to allow parties to describe the status of the project and their reviews. Following the status conference, the Committee issued an Order requesting that parties provide any additional information the Committee should consider regarding the scheduling of the upcoming AFC process. The Order specifically requested that Coastal Commission staff provide a timeframe for preparing and submitting its Coastal Act Section 30413(d) report.

As we discussed with Energy Commission staff last year, Coastal Commission staff generally need from 60 to 90 days between publication of the PSA (or modified PSA) and submittal of our 30413(d) report. This time period allows us to review the PSA and any additional or modified information, prepare our report, and provide it for public comment and review before the Coastal Commission considers adopting it at one of its monthly public hearings, which is required before we submit it to the Committee.

As discussed during the April 10th status conference, Coastal Commission staff will need some additional information before preparing the report for consideration and approval by the Coastal Commission. We understand from AES that the currently proposed project is the same as was being reviewed prior to last year's AFC suspension; however, we also understand that Energy Commission staff is working to obtain updated information about changes to the proposed

project's construction and demolition schedule, possible changes to the PSA's cumulative impacts assessment, and changes to the PSA's alternatives assessment to address project elements related to AES Huntington Beach and AES Alamitos. We also understand that Energy Commission staff will be meeting with the City to discuss and possibly resolve land use issues.

We will likely need to incorporate much of this new or updated information into our 30413(d) report. We therefore recommend that the Committee allow at least 90 days between publication of a modified PSA or publication of this updated information, whichever comes later. Alternatively, the Committee could provide a shorter review period; however, that may require Coastal Commission staff to use the Final Staff Assessment as the basis for its 30413(d) report.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to comment. Should you have any questions or need more information, please contact me at 415-904-5248 or <u>tluster@coastal.ca.gov</u>

Sincerely,

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Tom Luster Energy, Ocean Resources, and Federal Consistency Division