

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	09-AFC-06C
Project Title:	Blythe Solar Power Project - Compliance
TN #:	232708-1
Document Title:	RY 2019 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT
Description:	BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT UNITS 1 & 2
Filer:	Charlyn Mosley
Organization:	Genesis Solar, LLC
Submitter Role:	Applicant Representative
Submission Date:	4/10/2020 9:05:37 AM
Docketed Date:	4/10/2020



RY 2019 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE REPORT

BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT UNITS 1 & 2

Docket # 09-AFC-6C

Prepared for:

California Energy Commission

Attn: Eric Veerkamp

Bureau of Land Management

Palm Springs South Coast Field Office

Attn: Daniel Ryan

Prepared by:

Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC

MARCH 2020

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Project Overview	1
1.2 Annual Reporting Requirements.....	1
2 OPERATION STATUS.....	3
3 CONDITIONS OF CERTIFICATION.....	3
3.1 Compliance and Closure	3
3.1.1 COM-5: Compliance Matrix.....	3
3.1.2 COM-11: Reporting of Complaints, Notices, and Citations.....	3
3.2 Engineering.....	3
3.2.1 TLSN-2: Transmission Line-Related Complaints	3
3.2.2 TLSN-4: Transmission Line Inspections	4
3.3 Public Health and Safety.....	4
3.3.1 AQ-SC-6: List of Equipment.....	4
3.3.2 HAZ-1: Hazardous Materials List	4
3.3.3 HAZ-6: Operations Site Security Plan Implementation	4
3.3.4 WORKER SAFETY-7: Riverside County Fire Department Annual Payment.....	4
3.3.5 WORKER SAFETY-9: RCFD Inspection Fees	5
3.3.6 WORKER SAFETY-10: Heat Related and Valley Fever Incidences	5
3.4 Environmental.....	5
3.4.1 BIO-2 through BIO-26: Biological Resources	5
3.4.2 SOIL AND WATER-1 & 19: Erosion Control and Drainage	5
3.4.3 SOIL AND WATER-4 & 5: Groundwater Monitoring.....	6
3.4.4 SOIL AND WATER-9: Notice of Extraction and Diversion	6
3.4.5 WASTE-7 & WASTE-10: Hazardous Waste Generation Reporting and Solid Waste Disposal Actions.....	6
3.5 Local Impacts.....	7
3.5.1 VIS-1: Surface Treatment.....	7
3.6 Project Incidents and Corrective Actions	7
4 CONDITIONS OF CERTIFICATION CHANGES.....	7
TABLES	
Table 1 Waste Generation, Management, and Disposal Summary	6

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

APPENDICES

A	BSPP Units 1 & 2 Compliance Matrix
B	Vehicle Equipment List
C	Hazardous Materials Inventory (CERS filing)
D	Fire Department Annual Payment
E	Biological Resources Annual Compliance Report
F	Annual Notice of Extraction and Diversion of Water

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Overview

NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC has completed construction of Units 1 and 2 of the Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP or Project), a 485-megawatt photovoltaic (PV) solar power generation facility on over 2,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered land in unincorporated Riverside County, California. The Project was initially approved by the BLM and California Energy Commission (CEC) as a 1,000-megawatt solar thermal energy generating facility before modifying the project to a PV solar facility. The completed BSPP PV facility was built within the planned footprint of the approved thermal energy facility. Construction of Blythe Units 1 & 2 included the solar arrays, support facilities, and shared linear facilities (shared with the neighboring McCoy Solar Energy Project). The BSPP Units 1 & 2 entered into project operations on October 29, 2016. Construction of Unit 3 commenced in the latter half of 2019 and Unit 4 will start construction in 2020.

1.2 Annual Reporting Requirements

The CEC Presiding Member's Proposed Decision for the modified project, which contained revised findings and the Conditions of Certification (COC), was approved by the Commission on January 15, 2014. COC COM-7 requires NextEra Energy Resources, LLC to submit an Annual Compliance Report (ACR) to the CEC Compliance Project Manager (CPM) throughout operations:

COM-7: Annual Compliance Report

After construction is complete, the project owner shall submit searchable electronic ACRs instead of MCRs. ACRs shall be completed for each year of commercial operation, may be required for a specified period after decommissioning to monitor closure compliance, as specified by the CPM, and are due each year on a date agreed to by the CPM. The searchable electronic copies may be filed on an electronic storage medium or by e-mail, subject to CPM approval. Each ACR shall include the AFC number, identify the reporting period, and contain the following:

- 1. an updated compliance matrix showing the status of all conditions of certification (fully satisfied conditions do not need to be included in the matrix after they have been reported as completed);*
- 2. a summary of the current project operating status and an explanation of any significant changes to facility operations during the year;*
- 3. documents required by specific conditions to be submitted along with the ACR. Each of these items shall be identified in the transmittal letter with the condition it satisfies, and submitted as attachments to the ACR;*

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

4. *a cumulative list of all post-certification changes approved by the Energy Commission or the CPM;*
5. *an explanation for any submittal deadlines that were missed, accompanied by an estimate of when the information will be provided;*
6. *a list of filings submitted to, or permits issued by, other governmental agencies during the year;*
7. *a projection of project compliance activities scheduled during the next year;*
8. *a list of the year's additions to the on-site compliance file;*
9. *an evaluation of the Site Contingency Plan, including amendments and plan updates; and*
10. *a list of complaints, notices of violation, official warnings, and citations received during the year, a description of how the issues were resolved, and the status of any unresolved matters.*

Additionally, certain COCs require annual reporting and/or development of a mitigation plan, which may also contain operations reporting requirements.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), as the federal agency responsible for management of public lands on which the project is sited, approved the modified BSPP in a Record of Decision (ROD) for the project on August 1, 2014, and authorized the construction of the project in a Right-of-Way (ROW) Grant (serialized as CACA-048811) on August 12, 2014. Appendix 5, Adopted Mitigation Measures, of the BLM ROD, contains all ROW grant holder-proposed Design Features (DF) and Mitigation Measures for the project. Design Features in the ROD incorporate the CEC's COCs, some of which require annual reporting.

The annual operations reporting requirements outlined in COM-7, the design features, mitigation measures, and additional COC reporting requirements applicable to the operating units 1 & 2 are addressed in this Annual Compliance Report.

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

2 OPERATION STATUS

Units 1 and 2 of the BSPP entered into the operations phase on October 29, 2016. Construction of Blythe Unit 3 commenced in 2019, and Unit 4's construction will commence in 2020. This ACR has been prepared to provide information about the status of operations activities as well as Conditions of Certification and Mitigation Measures which are applicable to the reporting period from January 1st through December 31st of 2019 for the operational units 1 and 2. No significant changes to the facility operations occurred during this reporting period.

3 CONDITIONS OF CERTIFICATION

Compliance with the CEC Conditions of Certification and the BLM's Record of Decision is categorized into the following sections, consistent with the CEC's Commission Decision structure: Compliance and Closure (Section 3.1), Engineering (Section 3.2), Public Health and Safety (Section 3.3), Environmental (Section 3.4), and Local Impacts (Section 3.5). Each of the COCs described below is presented for one, or both, of the following reasons: (1) the COC reporting requirement is specifically required to be addressed in the annual compliance report or (2) the COC is related to mitigation that was implemented during this reporting period.

3.1 Compliance and Closure

3.1.1 COM-5: Compliance Matrix

The project owner is required to submit a compliance matrix (in a spreadsheet format) with each Annual Compliance Report, which includes the status of all Compliance Conditions of Certification. The Compliance Matrix is provided in **Appendix A**.

3.1.2 COM-11: Reporting of Complaints, Notices, and Citations

The project owner is required to include all complaints, notices, and citations with each ACR. No complaints (including noise and lighting complaints), notices of violation, notices of fines, official warnings, or citations were received during this reporting period.

3.2 Engineering

3.2.1 TLSN-2: Transmission Line-Related Complaints

All reports of line-related complaints are required to be summarized in the ACR for the first five years of plant operation. No line-related complaints were received during this reporting period.

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

3.2.2 TLSN-4: Transmission Line Inspections

For the first 5 years of operations, the project owner is required to provide a summary of transmission line inspections results and any fire prevention activities carried out along the right-of-way in the ACR. Transmission Lines were free of any combustion materials. Inspections were conducted of the Transmission line. No combustible materials were found. As a result of the inspection no further actions were required.

3.3 Public Health and Safety

3.3.1 AQ-SC-6: List of Equipment

Every other year, an updated list of equipment planned to be onsite during operation is required to be submitted in the ACR. A list of equipment for operation was submitted to the CEC and BLM on December 21, 2016 via electronic mail. In accordance with AQ-SC-6, this list included the size and type of the onsite vehicle and equipment fleet as well as the vehicle and equipment purchase orders and contracts and/or purchase schedule. The Vehicle List is included as **Appendix B**. There have been no changes to the equipment on site.

3.3.2 HAZ-1: Hazardous Materials List

The project owner is required to provide an annual list of hazardous materials contained at the facility in the ACR. Included as **Appendix C** is the CERS Hazardous Material Inventory for the reporting year containing all hazardous materials contained at the facility.

3.3.3 HAZ-6: Operations Site Security Plan Implementation

The project owner is required to state in the ACR that all current project employee and appropriate contractor background investigations have been performed and that updated certification statements, including hazardous materials transport vendor certifications and employee background investigation certifications, are appended to the operations site security plan. All project employee background investigations have been performed and all contractors have provided signed statements certifying that background investigations have been conducted on contractors working onsite in accordance with the OSSP. In addition, the hazardous materials transport vendors have prepared and implemented security plans in accordance with the OSSP.

3.3.4 WORKER SAFETY-7: Riverside County Fire Department Annual Payment

The project owner is required to provide evidence in the ACR that the annual payments of \$100,000 and 2% annual escalator have been made to the Riverside County Fire Department (RCFD) to fund a share of the costs RCFD have incurred for support of construction, operations,

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

and maintenance project activities. See **Appendix D** for evidence of payment to Riverside County during the reporting year.

3.3.5 WORKER SAFETY-9: RCFD Inspection Fees

During operation, the project owner is required to provide proof in the ACR that the customary compliance inspection fees not covered by the annual payment have been paid to the RCFD. During this reporting period, no inspection fees were required in addition to the annual payment.

3.3.6 WORKER SAFETY-10: Heat Related and Valley Fever Incidences

The project owner is required to include all reports of heat-related and Valley Fever incidences in the ACR. During this reporting period, there have been no potential heat-related or Valley Fever incidents reported.

3.4 Environmental

3.4.1 BIO-2 through BIO-26: Biological Resources

Included as **Appendix E** is the Biological Resources Annual Compliance Report prepared by Dudek, the Designated Biologist, for Conditions of Certification and Mitigation Measures specific to Biological Resources for Operations Phase.

3.4.2 SOIL AND WATER-1 & 19: Erosion Control and Drainage

The project owner is required to prepare an annual summary of the number of solar panels that fail due to damage, the cause and extent of damage, and the cleanup and mitigation performed for each damaged solar panel. During this reporting period, no panels failed due to damage and no repairs were required.

The annual summary is also required to report the effectiveness of the modified drainage washes against storms, including information on the damage and repair of associated erosion control elements. In accordance with the approved Storm Water Damage Monitoring and Response Plan, the operations Designated Inspector is completing post-storm site inspections to identify any potential erosion control issues during operations. During this reporting period, the Designated Inspector found no breaches or damage to the Permanent Security Fence/Desert Tortoise Fence. No panels or support structures were damaged or eroded past the Minimum Depth Stability Threshold.

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

3.4.3 SOIL AND WATER-4 & 5: Groundwater Monitoring

During project operation of Units 1 & 2, the project owner is required provide an annual compliance report which includes data on daily, monthly, and annual water usage. The 2019 fourth quarter Groundwater Monitoring Report was submitted under a separate cover in January 2020.

3.4.4 SOIL AND WATER-9: Notice of Extraction and Diversion

The project owner is required to include a copy of the annual Notice of Extraction and Diversion of Water filed with the SWRCB in the ACR. A copy of the Notice filed during the reporting year is included as **Appendix F**.

3.4.5 WASTE-7 & WASTE-10: Hazardous Waste Generation Reporting and Solid Waste Disposal Actions

WASTE-7 requires the Project Owner to document in each ACR the actual volume of wastes generated and the waste management methods used during the reporting year, a comparison of the actual waste generation and management methods to those proposed in the Operation Waste Management Plan, and any necessary updates to the plan as necessary to address current waste generation and management practices. The Operation Waste Management Plan originally approved in December 2016 was revised in November 2017.

WASTE-10 requires the project owner to document all project-related solid waste disposal actions to the Compliance Project Manager annually.

Table 1 below identifies all Waste generated during the reporting year, management method and disposal action. No waste was generated during the reporting year.

**Table 1
Waste Generation, Management, and Disposal Summary**

Waste Type	Volume or Weight	Disposal/Recycling Facility	Disposal Action
None			

Blythe Solar Power Project (BSPP) 2019 Annual Compliance Report

3.5 Local Impacts

3.5.1 VIS-1: Surface Treatment

The project owner is required to provide a report regarding surface treatment maintenance in the ACR including information on the condition of the surfaces of all structures and buildings at the end of the reporting year, maintenance activities that occurred during the reporting year, and the schedule of major maintenance activities for the next year. All surfaces remained in good condition and no preventative maintenance activities occurred during this reporting period. There are currently no scheduled maintenance activities for 2020.

3.6 Project Incidents and Corrective Actions

No non-compliance incidents or corrective actions were issued or identified during this reporting period.

4 CONDITIONS OF CERTIFICATION CHANGES

A list of CPM approved Post-certification Changes to the operations of the BSPP is included here:

- The CPM determined that COCs BIO-19, BIO-25, and BIO-26 do not require any action during operations for Units 1 and 2 until further unit construction or the evaporation ponds are built.
- The CPM confirmed on 8-7-2017 that an SPCC Plan is not required at BSPP and that the Oil Spill Plan submitted by BSPP is equivalent to the SPCC Plan and acceptable for the purpose of meeting HAZ-2 SPCC requirements.
- The CPM confirmed on 1-3-2017 that the Provisional Closure Plan required by COC COM-15 can be submitted one year after the start of commercial operation and that the sixty-day reference in the COC verification should be disregarded. This Plan will be prepared and submitted within one year after the final constructed unit (anticipated to be Blythe IV) begins commercial operation (commercial operation anticipated to be in late 2020) and will incorporate all 4 Units of BSPP.