

## DOCKETED

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**In a Proceeding Before the  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
State Energy Resources  
Conservation and Development Commission**

In the Matter of:

**REDONDO BEACH ENERGY PROJECT  
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION**

**DOCKET NO. 12-AFC-03**

**INTERVENOR CITY OF HERMOSA BEACH'S  
STATUS REPORT**

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Intervenor City of Hermosa Beach hereby submits this Status Report pursuant to the Committee's ORDERS FOLLOWING THE AUGUST 5, 2015 COMMITTEE CONFERENCE, issued on August 13, 2015. The City of Hermosa Beach has intervened in this proceeding because the AES project site is located on Herondo Street, which serves as the border between Hermosa Beach and Redondo Beach, and a number of Hermosa Beach residents in a density populated area live directly across from the project site. Due to their proximity to the project, residents of Hermosa Beach are likely to experience the same types of health, safety and welfare impacts experienced by residents of the City of Redondo Beach, potentially to an even greater degree. This interconnectedness was demonstrated by the natural gas leak that occurred at the existing AES facility on Friday, August 28, 2015.

As the September 1, 2015 status report filed by the City of Redondo Beach and AES press release following the incident indicate, the existing AES power plant in Redondo Beach experienced a malfunction resulting in a natural gas leak on August 28, 2015, which activated the facility's alarms and caused the release of natural gas. At 7:48 p.m., the Hermosa Beach Fire Department ("HBPD") received notification from the South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority ("RCC") of reports of loud "hissing/whistling" sounds in the vicinity of the AES power plant site. HBFD Paramedic Engine 11 was dispatched to investigate and encountered a strong odor of natural gas as it approached Herondo Street. The source of the leak was quickly determined to be the AES power station. HBFD was aware that the Redondo Beach Fire Department ("Rbfd") had also dispatched a vehicle to respond to similar complaints, and the Hermosa Beach engine captain made his unit available to assist Rbfd. HBFD Engine 11 monitored the north side of the power station property on Herondo Street while the Rbfd conducted its investigation.

During this incident and its aftermath, AES has disregarded the impacts resulting from the Redondo Beach facility's close proximity to the City of Hermosa Beach, and the City of Hermosa Beach has serious concerns that should be considered in the context of the pending application for a new facility at the Redondo Beach site. First, it is alarming that AES did not answer phone calls from Rbfd or have anyone stationed at the facility's security gate to grant the fire departments access to the facility. Second, it is evident that noise and odor from the Redondo Beach site will spill over into Hermosa Beach and impact its residents. This spillover effect should be taken into account as the Committee and staff continue to work toward a Final Staff Assessment. Additionally, as was the case here, the HBFD will likely be called upon to respond to incidents at the proposed facility in concert with Rbfd, potentially placing additional burdens on the City's limited resources.

On September 1, 2015, the City of Redondo Beach requested that AES provide a full and complete written explanation of the incident within 48 hours. Both affected cities may be interested in completing further investigations of the incident, which may produce information pertinent to the pending Application for Certification. As such, the City of Hermosa Beach respectfully requests that completion of the Final Staff Assessment be delayed until the completion of such investigation(s). Alternatively, the City requests that any certification of the proposed facility include a condition requiring AES to adopt a plan to notify both the cities of Redondo Beach and Hermosa Beach of emergency incidents so that all affected local agencies may more efficiently and effectively protect the safety and welfare of residents.

DATED: September 4, 2015

JENKINS & HOGIN, LLP

By:   
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HERMOSA BEACH