

Memorandum

Date: December 20, 2002
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File: Inland Empire Energy Center

To: Commissioner Robert Pernell, Presiding Member
Commissioner James Boyd, Associate Member

From: California Energy Commission - Jim Bartridge
1516 Ninth Street Siting Project Manager
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: INLAND EMPIRE ENERGY CENTER PROJECT (01-AFC-17) STATUS REPORT #9

This report is provided to update the Committee on staff's activities on the Inland Empire Energy Center Project since publication of Status Report #8 on November 13, 2002. Staff is currently working on the FSA, but is still awaiting additional information from Calpine on visual mitigation and the Final Determination of Compliance (FDOC) from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) before the FSA can be completed.

REMAINING ISSUES

AIR QUALITY

Calpine submitted revised air quality modeling results to the federal land management (FLM) agencies on December 18, 2002. Upon review of the revised modeling for potential visibility and nitrogen deposition impacts, the FLMs are expected to issue comments to the SCAQMD. Upon receipt of the FLM comments, the SCAQMD is expected to issue the FDOC. However, the timing of these actions remains unclear.

BIOLOGY

As noted above, the FLMs will review Calpine's revised air quality modeling and issue comments related to potential visibility and nitrogen deposition concerns. Staff will review the FLM comments and address them as necessary in the FSA.

LAND USE

The California Department of Education (CDE) noted in their letter of November 18, 2002, that the distance from the proposed project to the proposed Ashby school site is at least 1500 feet. In addition, CDE's letter reaffirmed their previous recommendation that the Romoland School District pursue an alternative school site. Staff will address this issue in the FSA.

VISUAL

Calpine agreed to review visual mitigation options discussed at the PSA workshop, and stated in its October 2, 2002, status report that it would provide a memo describing its findings "shortly". However, Calpine has not yet provided this additional information to staff. Staff will need time to review this material before completing the FSA.

SCHEDULE

The anticipated visual mitigation information and the FDOC are needed for staff to complete the FSA. However, the timing of these items remains unclear. Staff plans to publish the FSA within 30 days of receipt of Calpine's visual mitigation information and the FDOC.

Staff will continue its efforts to complete the FSA in a timely manner and keep the Committee informed of any new development that may further impact the project schedule.

cc: Inland Empire Energy Center POS
Docket 01-AFC-17