

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 NINTH STREET
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January 14, 2014

To: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW OF THE ALAMITOS ENERGY CENTER (13-AFC-01)**

On December 27, 2013, AES Southland Development, LLC (AES-SD) submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to the California Energy Commission to modernize the existing Alamitos Generating Station (AGS). The Alamitos Energy Center (AEC) would be located on approximately 63 acres of privately owned land. The proposed project site is bounded to the north by State Route 22; to the east by the San Gabriel River; to the south by 2nd Street; and to the west by N. Studebaker Rd., in the city of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California. Existing Alamitos Generating Station Units 1–6 are currently in operation with a net generating capacity of 1,950 megawatts (MW). All six operating units and retired Unit 7 would be demolished as part of the proposed project. Construction and demolition activities at the project site are anticipated to last 139 months, from first quarter 2016 until third quarter 2027.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The AEC is a proposed natural gas-fired, fast starting, combined-cycle gas-turbine, air-cooled generating facility with a net generating capacity of 1,936 megawatts (MW) and gross generating capacity of 1,995 MW. The project would consist of four 3-on-1 combined-cycle gas-turbine power blocks consisting of twelve natural gas-fired combustion-turbine generators, twelve heat recovery steam generators, four steam-turbine generators, four air-cooled condensers, and related ancillary equipment. The AEC would use air-cooled condensers for cooling, completely eliminating the existing ocean water once-through cooling system. The AEC is proposed to use potable water provided by the city of Long Beach Water Department (LBWD) for construction, operational process, and sanitary uses. This water would be supplied through existing onsite potable water lines.

The AEC would interconnect to the existing SCE 230-kilovolt (kV) switchyard adjacent to the northern side of the property. Natural gas would be supplied to the AEC via the existing offsite 30-inch-diameter, high-pressure pipeline owned and operated by SoCalGas that currently serves the AGS. Natural gas compressors, water treatment facilities, emergency services, and administration and maintenance buildings would be constructed within the existing site footprint. Storm water would be discharged into two retention basins and then ultimately to the San Gabriel River via existing storm water outfalls.

The AEC would include a new 1,000 linear foot process/sanitary wastewater pipeline to the first point of interconnection with the existing LBWD sewer system and would eliminate the current practice of treatment and discharge of process/sanitary wastewater to the San Gabriel River. The project may also require upgrading approximately 4,000 linear feet of the existing offsite LBWD sewer line downstream of

the first point of interconnection. Therefore, this possible offsite project-related improvement to the LBWD system will require analysis during the Energy Commission certification process.

The AEC would include the following principal design elements:

- twelve Mitsubishi Power Systems America (MPSA) 501DA combustion-turbine generators (CTG) with a nominal rating of approximately 119 MW each. The CTGs would be equipped with evaporative coolers on the inlet air system and dry low oxides of nitrogen (NO_x) combustors;
- four single-cylinder steam turbine generators (STG) with a nominal rating of approximately 143 MW each;
- twelve heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs). Each HRSG would be equipped with a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) unit in the outlet ductwork for the control of NO_x emissions and an oxidation catalyst to control carbon monoxide (CO) and volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions;
- four air-cooled condensers and four closed-loop cooling fin fan coolers;
- four 230-kV interconnections to the existing SCE switchyard, which is adjacent to the site;
- direct connection to an existing SoCalGas 30-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline;
- demolition of AGS Units 1–6 and retired AGS Unit 7;
- demolition of ancillary facilities and selected existing warehouses;
- connection to existing onsite potable water lines; and
- recontouring of two existing retention basins and the existing outfalls to the San Gabriel River.

ENERGY COMMISSION'S SITE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications to construct and operate thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, in California. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts and engineering aspects of proposed power plants and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines. The Energy Commission is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and because the siting process is a certified regulatory program, the Energy Commission produces several environmental and decision documents rather than an environmental impact report. The issuance of a certificate by the Energy Commission is in lieu of any local or state permits, and federal permits to the extent permitted by federal law.

The first step in the review process is for Energy Commission staff to determine whether the AFC contains all the information required by Energy Commission regulations. When the AFC is deemed data adequate by the Energy Commission at a Business Meeting, a committee of two commissioners will be assigned to oversee the

proceeding. At that time, the discovery and analysis phases begin and a detailed examination of the issues will occur.

Under its certified regulatory program, the Energy Commission staff prepares and publishes both a Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and a Final Staff Assessment (FSA). After allowing for a public comment period on the PSA, staff will prepare and publish the FSA which will address comments received on the PSA and serve as staff's expert testimony in evidentiary hearings to be held by the Energy Commission Committee assigned to hear this case. The Committee will hold evidentiary hearings and will consider the testimony and information presented by staff, applicant, intervenors, government agencies, and the public, prior to proposing its decision. In the last step, the full Energy Commission will issue the final decision.

As part of the review process, the staff of the Energy Commission endeavors to work closely with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure that all laws, ordinances, regulations and standards are met and incorporated into the final decision of the Energy Commission.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings to determine whether the proposed project should be approved for construction and operation and under what set of conditions. These workshops and hearings will provide the public, as well as local, state, and federal agencies, the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to each meeting.

A notice of receipt has been mailed to all parties that requested placement on the mailing list and to property owners located within 1000 feet of the proposed project site or 500 feet of project linear features (e.g. pipeline). If you want to receive notices of all project-related activities and when documents related to the proposed project's evaluation are available for review, you must sign up on the e-mail list serve at www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/ or please contact Cenne Jackson, Project Assistant, at (916) 651-9010, or by e-mail at cenne.jackson@energy.ca.gov. Please direct your technical or project schedule questions to Keith Winstead, Project Manager, at (916) 654-5191, or by e-mail at keith.winstead@energy.ca.gov.

The status of the proposed project, copies of notices, a copy of the AFC, and other relevant documents will be available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/alamitos/>.

If you desire information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228. The Public Adviser's Office can also be contacted via e-mail at publicadviser@energy.ca.gov.