

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Carlsbad Energy Center - Compliance
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Document Title:	Response of the California Energy Commission to Mr Reg Whatley's Inquiry- Nesting Falcons on the Roof of Encina Power Station
Description:	Response letter addresses Mr Reg Whatley's Inquiry regarding Nesting Falcons on the Roof of Encina Power Station
Filer:	Anwar Ali
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	8/27/2020 2:06:36 PM
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August 27, 2020

Mr. Reg Whatley
sdtiburon@gmail.com

**CARLSBAD ENERGY CENTER PROJECT (07-AFC-06C) – NESTING
FALCONS ON THE ROOF OF ENCINA POWER STATION**

Dear Mr. Whatley,

Thank you for your inquiry dated August 9, 2020, regarding the use of Encina Power Station security cameras to view the nesting peregrine falcons.

The referenced Photographs No. 1 and No. 3 in our August 6, 2020 response letter are part of Attachment D for the June 2020 Monthly Compliance Report (MCR). Attachment D is the biological resources report named "*Biological Resources Monthly Compliance Report (07-AFC-06C) Phase IV – Demolition of Encina Power Station.*"

Here is a hyperlink for the June 2020 MCR:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=233897&DocumentContentId=66675>

The referenced Photographs No. 1 and No. 3, are included in Appendix A of the Attachment D (the MCR biological resources report). Appendix A provides details of monitoring activities and is named the "*Biological Resources Compliance Monitoring Logs.*" Photograph No. 1 and Photograph No. 3 are part of the June 5, 2020 and June 12, 2020 compliance monitoring logs; respectively.

In your request, you have mentioned that the falcons are currently nesting on top of the Encina Power Station. As we have indicated in our previous response to you on August 6, 2020, the nesting season for the falcons at the Encina Power Station has concluded and there are no reported nesting activities for the falcons at the facility. However, the falcons still remain in the area solely for the purpose of foraging and perching.

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With respect to your question regarding relocating the falcons, we understand that the current habitat would change in the near future after the removal of Encina Power Station and associated structures. The remaining surrounding habitat is still very suitable for foraging and perching. Additionally, the falcons are resilient species and would, therefore, quickly adapt to the changing habitat. There are well established scientific basis for the relocation or translocation of any species. Your request for relocation of the falcons is not supported by any scientific fact. There is no evidence that this change in habitat would endanger the continued existence and survival of the species in question. Therefore the anticipated change in habitat is not considered a sound reason to relocate the falcons. Therefore, the California Energy Commission and Cabrillo I LLC (Project Owner) decline to adopt your request for the relocation of the falcons.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (916) 698-7498, or via e-mail at anwar.ali@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Anwar Ali

Anwar Ali, Ph.D.
Compliance Project Manager
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental
Protection Division