

## DOCKETED

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<b>Project Title:</b>	Alamitos Energy Center
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<b>Document Title:</b>	Staff Comments on Schedule of AEC
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**From:** Babula, Jared@Energy  
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**Cc:** Layton, Matthew@Energy; Winstead, Keith@Energy; Davis, Chris@Energy  
**Subject:** Staff comments on schedule of AEC

To All Parties:

The Final Determination of Compliance (FDOC) for the Alamitos Energy Center (AEC) was published by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (Air District) to the AEC docket Friday, November 18, 2016. The current schedule from the AEC Committee includes Energy Commission staff's publication of the AEC Final Staff Assessment (FSA) Part 2, addressing Air Quality and Public Health, two weeks from the FDOC publication, or December 2, 2016. Staff raised the issue of the FDOC and FSA Part 2 schedule with the Committee at the November 15, 2016 Evidentiary Hearing on FSA Part 1. The Committee indicated that it would provide an updated schedule, based on the information available when the FDOC was published and available to the parties for review.

Staff is requesting that the Committee consider an FSA Part 2 publication date of no later than December 9, 2016. The project applicant has filed to the docket a request that the current schedule remain in place, requiring staff to publish the FSA Part 2 no later than December 2, 2016. However, staff believes that the December 2<sup>nd</sup> date may be unreasonable and lead to additional delays if inconsistencies between the published version of the draft facility permit and published version of the FDOC are found, as they have been in the Huntington Beach Energy Project, which will need to be resolved with Air District staff. Additionally, staff points out that:

- the Air District offices are closed Monday, November 21, 2016, Thursday November 24 2016, Friday November 25, 2016, Monday November 28, 2016 and Monday December 6, 2016, resulting in only 10 business days between November 18, 2016 and December 9, 2016;
- the two Air District engineers responsible for the AEC and Huntington Beach Energy Project FDOC's are both out of the office this entire week;
- Energy Commission staff are scheduled time off around the November 25 and 26 holidays;
- staff did not receive any courtesy or preliminary versions of the AEC FDOC prior to its publication on November 18, 2016; and
- the project applicant is requesting a schedule that does not appear to consider the availability of the Committee members, or the status of the preparation of the PMPD – rendering any shortening of the FSA Part 2 publication wasted in the schedule of adoption of the final Decision.

Staff appreciates the tremendous effort the Air District has put forth to address late project changes and comments on the PDOC. Staff does not want to squander the effort by the Air District to provide a robust analysis if we were to unnecessarily rush the review of the FDOC and the preparation of the FSA Part 2. Staff will make every effort to publish prior December 9th, but asks for some margin given the time of year and the importance to getting it correct.

Staff also believes that it is possible to combine the filing of opening testimony with the filing of a short pre-hearing statement covering the witnesses necessary and other hearing related information. This will allow some compression of the schedule.