

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	79-AFC-02C
<b>Project Title:</b>	NCPA/Shell Geothermal Project #2 (78-NOI-5) - Compliance
<b>TN #:</b>	241074
<b>Document Title:</b>	Data Requests Set 1 for NCPA-2 Post Certification Petition
<b>Description:</b>	Data Requests Set 1 for Northern California Power Agency Geothermal Plant No. 2 (NCPA-2) Post Certification Petition Related to the Establishment of Inter-tie Connection Between Transmission Lines
<b>Filer:</b>	Anwar Ali
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Commission Staff
<b>Submission Date:</b>	12/22/2021 5:22:52 PM
<b>Docketed Date:</b>	12/22/2021



**CALIFORNIA  
ENERGY COMMISSION**



December 22, 2021

Mr. Shaun Robinson  
Plant Engineer  
Northern California Power Agency  
Middletown, California 95461

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA POWER AGENCY GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT  
NO. 2 (79-AFC-02C) - DATA REQUESTS**

Dear Mr. Robinson:

On September 27, 2021, the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA) filed a post certification petition with the California Energy Commission (CEC) for the NCPA Geothermal Plant No. 2 (NCPA-2) regarding establishment of a 230 kilovolt (kV) intertie connection between the NCPA gen-tie transmission lines.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations Title 20, section 1716, the California Energy Commission (CEC) staff requests the information specified in the enclosed data requests Nos A1-Axx. The information requested is necessary to:

- 1) more fully understand the proposed changes to the facility;
- 2) assess whether the changes would be constructed, and the facility would continue to operate in compliance with applicable regulations;
- 3) assess whether the proposed changes would result in significant environmental impacts; and
- 4) assess any potential mitigation measures that might be required.

These data requests, numbered A1 through A11, are being made in the technical areas of Air Quality, Cultural Resources, Socioeconomics and Transportation, and Transmission Line Engineering. Written responses to the enclosed data requests are due to CEC staff 30 days after the receipt of this letter, or at a mutually agreed upon date.

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, please send me a written notice within 20 days of receipt of this notice. The notice must contain the reasons for

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the inability to provide the information, the need for additional time, or the grounds for any objections.

If you have any questions regarding the enclosed data requests, please call me at (916) 698-7498, or email me at [anwar.ali@energy.ca.gov](mailto:anwar.ali@energy.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Anwar Ali*

Anwar Ali  
Compliance Project Manager  
Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Office  
Siting, Transmission and Environmental  
Protection Division

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**PETITION FOR POST CERTIFICATION PROJECT CHANGE  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA POWER AGENCY GEOTHERMAL  
PLANT NO. 2 (79-AFC-02C)**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF 230 KILVOLT (kV) INTER-TIE CONNECTION  
BETWEEN THE NCPA GEN-TIE TRANSMISSION LINES**

**California Energy Commission  
Staff's Data Requests Set 1, A1 – A11**

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**Technical Area:** Air Quality  
**Author:** Wenjun Qian

## **BACKGROUND: CONSTRUCTION/GROUND DISTURBANCE**

The Petition to Amend filing, docketed on October 13, 2021, is unclear whether the requested modification will require construction activities within the existing switchyard, and whether heavy-duty construction equipment would be utilized for this project.

## **DATA REQUESTS**

- A1. Will there be any construction on-site? For example, any type of ground disturbance, grading, and/or the utilization of heavy-duty ground moving equipment like excavators, heavy-duty trucks, or lifting equipment?
- A2. If so, please describe the types of construction activities expected to occur and the expected construction schedule.

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**Technical Area:** Cultural Resources  
**Author:** Cameron Travis

## **BACKGROUND**

The Project Owner is proposing a modification to establish a 230kV intertie connection between the NCPA gen-tie transmission lines NCPA No. 2 and NCPA No. 3. This proposed modification includes the relocation of the un-used NCPA Unit 3 230kV vertical break, gang-operated, manual disconnect switch and its installation of at the NCPA No. 2 switchyard.

## **DATA REQUESTS**

The petition states that the intertie switch will be installed on existing disturbed land within the existing NCPA No. 2 switchyard that is located within the NCPA No. 2 plant boundary. Please provide the following information:

- A3. Please explain if the ground disturbance would be limited to previously disturbed soil, or if the ground disturbance would include soil at depths that were previously undisturbed at the site where the intertie switch would be installed.
  
- A4. If the ground disturbance would include soil at depths previously undisturbed at the installation site of the intertie switch, then please describe the extent and depth of the ground disturbance required by the installation of the switch in the switchyard as well as the extent and depth of previously disturbed soil at the proposed installation site.

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**Technical Area:** Socioeconomics and Transportation  
**Author:** Ellen LeFevre

## **BACKGROUND**

The Project Owner is proposing to establish a 230kV intertie connection between the NCPA gen-tie transmission lines, NCPA No 2 and NCPA No. 3.

## **DATA REQUESTS**

- A5. What is the estimated number of workers required for installation of the intertie switch? What is the estimated length of time required to complete the installation of the intertie switch?
- A6. What is the estimated number of truck trips generated by the installation of the intertie switch? How many, if any, oversized trucks would be used for the intertie switch installation?



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**Technical Area:** Transmission System Engineering  
**Author:** Laiping Ng

## **BACKGROUND**

The proposed amendment would change the point of interconnection for the NCPA No. 2 and No. 3 (NCPA-2 and NCPA-3) geothermal projects under certain conditions. Staff requires detailed information on the proposed changes to the licensed projects and evidence that the change in the point of interconnection will not impact the transmission system downstream of the facilities licensed by the Energy Commission. The change in the point of interconnection will affect facilities owned by Pacific Gas and Electric and operated by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO).

## **DATA REQUESTS**

- A7. Please provide letters from CAISO and PG&E indicating that the proposed change in the point of interconnection for the NCPA-2 and NCPA-3 projects would not have significant effects on the transmission network that would require upgrades downstream of the project interconnection.
- A8. Provide one-line diagrams for the existing NCPA-2 and NCPA-3 substations.
  - Show the interconnection of the two substations.
  - Show bay arrangement, equipment ratings including breakers, disconnect switches, buses, etc. that would be required for the interconnection.
  - Provide ratings of the breakers, disconnect switches, relays, buses, and etc.
- A9. Provide the new 230 kV tie-line conductor type, current carrying capacity, and conductor size.

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- A10. Provide detail drawings for the pole and tower configurations which would require to support the 230 kV tie-line.
- A11. Provide a map showing the approved tie-line route the 230 kV tie-line length.