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October 2, 2017

George Piantka  
NRG Energy, Inc.  
181 7 Aston Avenue, Suite 104  
Carlsbad, CA  92008

RE:  EL SEGUNDO ENERGY CENTER PROJECT (00-AFC-14C) PETITION TO AMEND DATA REQUESTS Set 2 (Nos. 2-4)

Dear Mr. Piantka:

The California Energy Commission staff has reviewed the Petition to Amend the El Segundo Energy Center project, and requires additional information in the enclosed Data Requests to supplement the environmental analysis pursuant to Title 20, California Code of Regulations, section 1769(a)(1)(E). The information requested is necessary to: 1) more fully understand the project; 2) assess whether the facility will be constructed and operated in compliance with applicable regulations; 3) assess whether the project will result in significant environmental impacts; and 4) assess whether the facilities will be constructed and operated in a safe, efficient, and reliable manner.

This second set of Data Requests contains questions in the areas of: Visual Resources (No. 2), and Air Quality (Nos. 3-4). Staff requests written responses to the enclosed Data Requests on or before November 1, 2017. Staff encourages the applicant to submit responses sooner, if possible, in order to facilitate the schedule.

If you are unable to provide the information requested, need additional time, or object to providing the requested information, please send a written notice to me within 20 days of receipt of this letter. The notification should contain the reasons for not providing the information, the need for additional time, and the grounds for any objections. If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 654-4894, or email me at mike.monasmith@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Mike Monasmith  
Senior Project Manager

Enclosure:  
Data Requests, Set 2
INTRODUCTION
On August 6, 2017, NRG, the owner of the El Segundo Energy Center, submitted an amendment request to upgrade certain hot gas path components for the Unit 5 and 7 combustion turbines. On August 16, 2017, Energy Commission staff sent an email request to the facility owner asking for additional operating data to evaluate their request. The project owner responded to the email request formally with Set 1 data responses (TN# 221064, docketed on 9/6/2017). The Set 1 response shows that the stack exit temperatures would decrease after the proposed modifications are made to Units 5 and 7. Staff has additional data requests (Set 2, below) in response to the project owner’s September 6, 2017 responses.

Technical Area: Visual Resources – Visible Plume
Author: Wenjun Qian

VISIBLE PLUME MODELING DATA
BACKGROUND
Staff needs to compare the potential for visible plume formation before and after the proposed modifications. Staff requires additional data to complete this analysis.

DATA REQUEST

2. Please provide the corresponding stack exhaust moisture contents (% by weight), mass flow rates (1000 lbs/hr), and average molecular weight (lbs/mole) for each of the scenarios listed in Table 2 of the facility owner’s response (TN# 221064).

Technical Area: Air Quality
Author: Wenjun Qian

AIR QUALITY MODELING DATA
BACKGROUND
Lower exhaust temperatures in the stack could possibly lead to higher incremental air quality impacts from the stacks. Staff needs to make sure that the project would not result in significant air quality related impacts after the proposed modifications.

DATA REQUESTS

3. Please provide the corresponding stack exhaust velocities for each of the scenarios listed in Table 2 of the facility owner’s response.
4. Please provide the corresponding emission rates (in lbs/hr) of criteria pollutants (NOx, CO, SO2, PM10 and PM2.5) for each of the scenarios listed in Table 2 of the facility owner’s response.