

**DOCKETED**

<b>Docket Number:</b>	21-AFC-02
<b>Project Title:</b>	Willow Rock Energy Storage Center
<b>TN #:</b>	254900
<b>Document Title:</b>	Hearing Officer Clarification of Suspension Order and Request for Amended Cover Letter
<b>Description:</b>	Memorandum from the Hearing Officer clarifying the suspension order and requesting an amended cover letter from Applicant
<b>Filer:</b>	Renee Webster-Hawkins
<b>Organization:</b>	California Energy Commission
<b>Submitter Role:</b>	Hearing Office
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<b>Docketed Date:</b>	3/7/2024



## California Energy Commission Memorandum

**To:** Applicant, All Parties, and Interested Persons  
Willow Rock Energy Storage Center  
Docket 21-AFC-02

**Date:** March 7, 2024

**From:** Reneé Webster-Hawkins, Hearing Officer  
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### **Subject: Hearing Officer Clarification of Suspension Order and Request for Amended Cover Letter**

Pursuant to the Order Suspending the Application for Certification Proceeding and Further Orders<sup>1</sup> (Suspension Order) filed on August 11, 2023, the Applicant began submitting documents supporting a supplemental application for certification (SAFC) on March 1, 2024. The first filing was a cover letter attesting to the completeness of the SAFC (Applicant's Cover Letter).<sup>2</sup> The attestation included a 111-page matrix provided to support staff's review of the SAFC for data adequacy. Following that and over the ensuing days, many documents were filed and continue to be filed. Based on communications with the Applicant, the Dockets Unit is of the belief that at least one or more files remain to be submitted. However, neither the Applicant's Cover Letter nor the matrix includes a list identifying each of the documents that constitute the "single supplemental AFC" including "all amended sections of the application and related appendices." It is unclear to the Hearing Officer whether the documents constituting the SAFC have all been filed or whether more will be submitted.

This memo clarifies that the Suspension Order's invitation to Applicant to "file a *single supplemental AFC* when it is prepared to update the project description and *all required elements of the application* reflecting any and all project modifications" calls for the attestation to be submitted **after** all amended sections and related appendices have been filed and the SAFC is complete.

The Hearing Officer respectfully requests that the Applicant submit an Amended Cover Letter and attestation **after** all files in support of its "single supplemental AFC" are uploaded to Docket No. 21-AFC-02. For the benefit of the Committee and all parties and interested persons, the Amended Cover Letter should include a list of all documents in Docket No. 21-AFC-02 including their respective TN numbers which shall comprise the SAFC. If any documents filed before the Suspension Order are included on that list but partially amended by documents filed beginning March 1, 2024, please provide a concise description of the nature

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<sup>1</sup> [TN 251599](#).

<sup>2</sup> [TN 254774](#). Open

and extent of amendments of each of the preexisting documents. It will also benefit all interested persons if the Amended Cover Letter includes a list of previously filed documents that the Applicant now deems obsolete or superseded in light of the changes to the project and the SAFC.

The Suspension Order directs staff to “verify the completeness of the supplemental AFC or docket Staff’s report indicating the deficiencies in the filing” within 30 days of the Applicant’s attestation. This memo clarifies that the 30-day clock for staff’s review shall commence once the Amended Cover Letter and attestation of completeness is filed.