

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	21-AFC-02
Project Title:	Willow Rock Energy Storage Center
TN #:	260318
Document Title:	Staff Status Report #4
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	11/26/2024 4:33:24 PM
Docketed Date:	11/26/2024

Memorandum

To: Commissioner Andrew McAllister, Presiding Member
Commissioner Noemi Gallardo, Associate Member

Date: November 26, 2024

From: California Energy Commission
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Leonidas Payne
Project Manager
(916) 838-2124

Subject: STAFF STATUS REPORT #4 FOR THE WILLOW ROCK ENERGY STORAGE CENTER (21-AFC-02)

In its *Revised Committee Scheduling Order* filed September 9, 2024 (TN 259084), the Committee on the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center project ordered the parties to “continue submitting monthly status reports no later than the 26th day of every month” and further clarified that “[s]tatus reports shall inform the Committee whether the case is progressing satisfactorily and bring potential delays and other relevant matters to the Committee’s attention.”

California Energy Commission staff (staff) continues to coordinate with partner agencies, most notably the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, to gather information necessary for our analysis of the application. Staff has also initiated conversations with potentially affected California Native American tribes.

Staff continues to make progress on its discovery efforts. Staff filed Data Request Set 5 on November 26, 2024, after previously filing Data Request Set 1 on July 26, 2024, Data Request Set 2 on August 22, 2024, Data Request Set 3 on September 23, 2024, and Set 4 on September 27, 2024. Since our last status report, staff received applicant responses to Data Request Set 4 on October 28, 2024. Staff is reviewing all responsive filings to ensure that complete, satisfactory responses have been provided and will file follow-up data requests as necessary. At this stage staff considers our information gathering efforts to be proceeding satisfactorily.

Staff participated in the Site Visit and Informational Hearing in Rosamond on November 6, 2024. We appreciate the Committee’s work to bring the parties together in person and provide information to interested agencies and the public.

Staff is preparing the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and currently on schedule to meet the PSA publication date outlined in the Committee Scheduling Order.