

Memorandum

Date : February 5, 2001

Telephone:

ATSS (916) 657-4394

To : William J. Keese, Chairman and Presiding Member
Michal C. Moore, Commissioner and Associate Member

From : **California Energy Commission - Cheri Davis**
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
Energy Commission Project Manager

Subject : **CONTRA COSTA POWER PLANT UNIT 8 STATUS REPORT #7 – February, 2001**

The Contra Costa Power Project AFC Committee's June 20, 2000 scheduling order directed parties to file status reports concerning matters relevant to the schedule. This status report for February, 2001, is being filed pursuant to the Committee's order.

Key Events

On January 18, 2001, Energy Commission Staff held a visual resources workshop at the Sportsmen Yacht Club. The workshop accomplished the desired objectives which were: 1) to identify a new Key Observation Point from which the applicant will produce new simulations, and 2) to discuss a new proposed landscaping plan from the applicant. The workshop was well attended by members of the Sportsmen Yacht Club who provided valuable feedback on the potential impacts of the proposed project.

Schedule

The previous status report presented several unresolved issues that were causing delays in the completion of the Final Staff Assessment (FSA). Below is a summary of the issues and their current status:

- Applicant responses to the December 21 data request package – Staff granted Mirant (formerly Southern Energy Delta) an extension from the original deadline for responses of January 20, to February 2. Staff will require approximately two weeks to incorporate the new information from these data responses into the various areas of analysis.
- The Final Determination of Compliance (FDOC) or a draft FDOC – The FDOC has been further delayed and the new date provided by the BAAQMD is February 7. Staff will require approximately two weeks to review the FDOC and finalize their Air Quality analysis.
- The National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit – Energy Commission staff met with Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board staff to discuss the timeline for the NPDES permit. Given new federal rules with which the Board must comply, the draft permit is not likely to become publicly available until early April, and a final permit is not likely earlier than June. Staff has decided not to wait for the draft permit and to proceed with a final staff assessment. The staff assessment will recommend that the project obtain a final NPDES permit prior to construction.

William J. Keese

Michal C. Moore

Page 2

- Based on the status of these three items, staff predicts that the FSA will be complete by mid to late February. The exact date for the FSA will depend upon the delivery of the FDOC and the applicant's data responses.

cc: Contra Costa Proof of Service
Dick Wocasek, Bay Area AQMD
Peter Mackin, CAL-ISO
Greg Vaughn, Central Valley RWQCB
Habib Amin, Contra Costa County Health Services
Michael Thiebault, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Jim Starr, California Department of Fish and Game
Michael E. Aceituno, US National Marine Fisheries Service