

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



October 15, 2013

Dear Librarian:

**DOCUMENT HANDLING FOR THE PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT - Part A
FOR THE PROPOSED HUNTINGTON BEACH ENERGY PROJECT (12-AFC-02)**

The enclosed Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) Part A contains the California Energy Commission staff's preliminary engineering and environmental evaluation of the Huntington Beach Energy Project (HBEP) proposed to be located in Orange County. Please make this PSA available for those who may wish to be informed about the project. We request that you not allow the PSA or any of its contents to be removed from the library. To increase accessibility of the document, we ask, if possible, that you cross reference it as a general reference work under the title and author categories, as well as under such subjects as "Energy Commission," "electricity energy/generation," "power plant siting," or any other relevant subject.

The Energy Commission's siting process is open to the public and incorporates the input of the public as well as local, state and federal agencies. To facilitate public participation in our review process, the Commission distributes copies of staff documents such as the PSA to public libraries in communities near the proposed project, and in major cities throughout the state. As such, please retain a copy of the enclosed Notice of Availability behind the front cover of the PSA and also post a copy of the Notice of Availability in a place conspicuous and accessible to those members of the general public who visit the library.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Felicia Miller, Siting Project Manager at (916) 654-4640 or at the address on this letterhead or by email to felicia.miller@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Davis".

Chris Davis, Manager
Siting Office

Enclosure:
Preliminary Staff Assessment – Part A (12-AFC-02)

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



October 15, 2013

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT PART A FOR THE
PROPOSED HUNTINGTON BEACH ENERGY PROJECT (12-AFC-02)**

To: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) Part A for the Huntington Beach Energy Project (HBEP) Application for Certification (12-AFC-02) which was published on October 10, 2013. The PSA Part A contains the California Energy Commission staff's preliminary engineering, environmental and public health and safety evaluation of the proposed HBEP. Part A provides staff's analyses in the areas of Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Efficiency, Facility Design, Geology and Paleontology, Hazardous Materials, Land Use, Reliability, Socioeconomics, Soils and Water, Traffic and Transportation, Transmission System Engineering, Transmission Line Safety and Nuisance, Visual Resources, Waste Management and Worker Safety and Fire Protection. The PSA Part B will include Air Quality, Public Health and Alternatives analyses and will be filed 45-days from receipt of a Preliminary Determination of Compliance from South Coast Air Quality Management District.

This PSA is not a decision document for these proceedings, nor does it contain findings of the Energy Commission related to environmental impacts or the project's compliance with local, state, and federal LORS. The PSA will serve as a precursor to the Final Staff Assessment (FSA). After allowing for a public comment period on this PSA, staff will prepare and publish a Final Staff Assessment that will serve as staff's formal testimony in evidentiary hearings to be held by the Energy Commission Committee assigned to hear this case. The Committee will hold evidentiary hearings and will consider the recommendations presented by the staff, applicant, intervenors, government agencies, and the public, prior to proposing its decision. The Energy Commission will make the final decision, including findings, after the Committee's publication of its proposed decision.

The California Energy Commission encourages public participation in the review of the HBEP's Application for Certification (AFC). The public comment period for this PSA Part A is from October 10, 2013 to November 10, 2013. If you wish to provide comments on the document, please submit comments by going to the Energy Commission's HBEP webpage http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/huntington_beach_energy/index.html and click on the "Submit e-Comment" link. Please provide your full name, any organization name, an e-mail address, a reference to Docket No. 12-AFC-02 in the subject line, and preferably put your comment in an attached document (.doc, .docx, or .pdf format). After entering characters to ensure that responses are generated by a human user and not a computer, click on the "Agree & Submit Your Comment" button to

submit the comment to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit. If you wish to mail written comments on the project, please submit them to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit. Please include the docket number (12-AFC-02) for the HBEP in the subject line or first paragraph of your comments and mail or hand-deliver them to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Unit, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All written comments and materials filed with the Dockets Unit will become a part of the public record of the proceeding. Additionally, comments will be posted on the HBEP webpage of the Energy Commission's website.

Following publication of the PSA Part A, and after a 30-day public comment period, staff will notice a public workshop. Once the PSA Part B is published, and a 30-day comment period, staff will notice an additional public workshop. Staff will then prepare a Final Staff Assessment (FSA) which will serve as staff's formal testimony in evidentiary hearings to be held by the Energy Commission's Committee assigned to hear this case. The Committee will hold evidentiary hearings to consider the recommendations presented by staff, applicant, interveners, government agencies, and the public prior to proposing its decision. In the last step, the full Energy Commission will issue the final decision.

SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

On June 27, 2012, AES Southland Corporation submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to the California Energy Commission seeking permission to construct and operate a power generation facility, the Huntington Beach Energy Project (HBEP), located in the city of Huntington Beach just north of the intersection of the Pacific Coast Highway and Newland Street. The project will be located entirely within the footprint of the existing Huntington Beach Generating Station, an operating power plant.

The proposed HBEP is a natural gas-fired, combined-cycle, air-cooled, 939-megawatt (MW) electrical generating facility that would replace the AES Huntington Beach Generating Station. The HBEP would consist of two independently operating, three-on-one, combined-cycle gas turbine power blocks. Each power block will consist of three gas-fired combustion turbine generators (CTG), three supplemental fired heat recovery steam generators (HRSG), one steam turbine generator (STG), an air-cooled condenser, and related ancillary equipment. Other equipment and facilities to be constructed and shared by both power blocks include natural gas compressors, water treatment facilities, emergency services, and administration and maintenance buildings.

ENERGY COMMISSION'S SITE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications to construct and operate thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, in California. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering

aspects of proposed power plants and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines. The Energy Commission has a certified regulatory program and is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF’S PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

Staff concludes that with implementation of staff’s recommended mitigation measures described in the conditions of certification, the HBEP would comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS), with the exception of Land Use, Transmission System Engineering and Visual Resources, as staff needs additional information to complete their findings in those three areas.

AVAILABILITY OF THE PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT

A copy of the PSA is available on the project web site at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/huntington_beach/index.html. Copies of the PSA are also available at the Energy Commission’s Library in Sacramento, the California State Library in Sacramento, and at public libraries in Eureka, Fresno, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Additionally, copies of the PSA were mailed to the following public libraries:

Huntington Beach Public Library 7111 Talbert Avenue Huntington Beach, CA 92648	Orange County Public Library HQ 1501 E Street Andrew Place Santa Ana, CA 92705
Costa Mesa/Donald Dungan Library 1855 Park Avenue Costa Mesa, CA 92627	Costa Mesa/Mesa Verde Library 2969 Mesa Verde Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Mary Wilson Library 707 Electric Avenue Seal Beach, CA 90740	Fountain Valley Library 17635 Los Alamos Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Copies of the PSA have also been sent to those public agencies that would normally have jurisdiction except for the Energy Commission’s exclusive authority to certify sites and related facilities.

PUBLIC RESOURCES, CONTACT INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL SOURCES FOR INFORMATION

If you desire information on how to participate in the Energy Commission’s review of the proposed project, please contact the Energy Commission’s Public Adviser at (916) 653-5898 or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by email at publicadviser@energy.ca.gov.

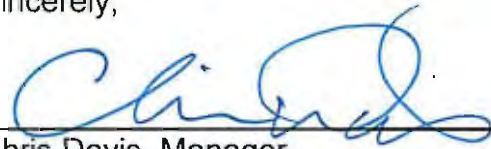
To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities, contact Lourdes Quiroz at lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us or by telephone (916) 654-5146.

For additional information contact Felicia Miller, CEC Project Manager, at (916) 654-4640 or email at felicia.miller@energy.ca.gov.

News media inquiries should be directed to Deputy Executive Director, Lori Sinsley at (916) 654-4989, or by email at mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Date: 10/15/13



Chris Davis, Manager
Siting Office

Note to Librarian: Please retain a copy of this Public Notice behind the front cover of the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA)-Part A and post a copy of the Public Notice in a place conspicuous and accessible to those members of the general public who visit the library. Thank You.