

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512



December 6, 2013

Pat Flanagan, Board Member
Morongo Basin Conservation Association

RE: Palen Solar Energy Generating System Power Tower Dimensions

Dear Ms. Flanagan:

Staff has reviewed your December 3, 2013 letter regarding the appropriate dimensions of the Palen Solar Electric Generating System power towers. While the language you cite to in the Final Staff Assessment (Visual Resources, p. 4.12-4) may be ambiguous as to the tower dimensions, staff's analysis is correctly based on information provided by the project owner in the Petition to Amend which indicates a tower height of 750 feet (not including the lightning rod or required Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) lighting).

The Petition to Amend states that the solar power tower structure height is approximately 620 feet tall and that the Solar Receiver Steam Generator (SRSG) located at the top of the solar power tower is approximately 130 feet tall, resulting in an overall tower height of approximately 750 feet (not including regulation lighting appurtenance.) (Petition for Amendment p. 2-8.)

For a more straightforward description of the tower dimensions staff analyzed, please see the Final Staff Assessment, Visual Resources Table 1 on page 4.12-5 (first row under the headings Power Block #1 and Power Block #2) and Visual Resources Attachment 1B, a rendering of the power towers, including the 10 foot-tall FAA obstruction lighting. For your convenience, a more legible rendering can be found in the Petition to Amend, at PDF pages 54 and 55 of 258.

Thank you for your letter. I hope this clarifies your concerns.

Sincerely,

s/Jennifer Martin-Gallardo
Attorney

Ms. Flanagan
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