

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Hydrogen Energy Center Application for Certification Amendment
TN #:	201752
Document Title:	Police Needs Assessment Letter to Kern County Sherriff's Office- Wasco City Substation
Description:	Letter from CEC L.Worrall to Kern County Sherriff's Office Sergeant Chandler
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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February 14, 2014

Sergeant Ian Chandler
Kern County Sherriff's Office
Wasco City Substation
748 F Street
Wasco, CA 93280

RE: Potential Law Enforcement Needs for the Savage Coal Terminal operations associated with the proposed Hydrogen Energy California Project (HECA) (08-AFC-8A)

Dear Sergeant Chandler,

The Warren-Alquist Act (Public Resources Code 25000 et. seq.) gives the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) the exclusive jurisdiction over the permitting of thermal power plants with a net generating capacity of 50 megawatts or larger and appurtenant related facilities to serve it. The Act, among other items also imposes a general "conformity" requirement that requires a proposed new or modified thermal power plant to be consistent with the local jurisdiction's ordinances, regulations and standards in order to be granted a license to operate.

The Energy Commission is considering an application request for the proposed Hydrogen Energy California (HECA or project), an Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle polygeneration project that would be located approximately 2 miles northwest of the community of Tupman, 4 miles southeast of the community of Buttonwillow, and 7 miles from the western most boundary of the city of Bakersfield. As part of the project, coal would be transported either via rail to the HECA site (rail spur alternative) or via truck from the Savage General Services Corporation coal transloading facility in the city of Wasco (Wasco Coal Terminal) to the HECA site (non-spur alternative).

Energy Commission staff (staff) has published a Preliminary Staff Assessment/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (PSA/DEIS) for HECA and is working on the Final Staff Assessment/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Since the release of the PSA/DEIS, the applicant submitted additional information related to HECA's possible use of the Wasco Coal Terminal. Staff is considering this additional information (Wasco Coal Terminal Supplemental Environmental Analysis) in the Final Staff Assessment/Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

If the proposed HECA project were approved and the non-spur alternative were selected, a maximum of 182 inbound and 182 outbound truck trips per day (364 total) would be required to deliver coal from the Wasco Coal Terminal to the project site located near Tupman. This would increase current operations by 133 inbound and outbound trucks per day (266 total increase). The coal trucks would use either Poso Drive or Kimberlina Road (via Wasco Avenue) to access Highway 43. Currently an average of less than one train a month makes deliveries to the Wasco Coal Terminal. If

HECA were approved and the non-spur alternative were selected, and average of 10 deliveries per month would be made to the Wasco Coal Terminal.

No physical expansion of the coal terminal or construction of additional new systems or additional coal terminal silos are necessary to accommodate HECA's use of the Savage Services Corporation's Wasco Coal Terminal, thus no construction workforce would be required at this facility. However, to serve the HECA project, approximately 70 operational workers would be needed. Currently, the Wasco Coal Terminal is staffed with six employees. Savage General Services Corporation estimates approximately 90 percent of the new operational workforce would be from the local area. Approximately 63 local and 7 non-local workers would be employed.

Staff understands that in 1981, the city of Wasco entered into a contract with the Kern County Sherriff's Office to provide law enforcement services within the city limits. To assess the impacts on law enforcement from the possible increased use of the Wasco Coal Terminal in connection with HECA project, staff would appreciate your response to the following questions:

1. What are the current staffing levels at the Kern County Sherriff's Office Wasco City Substation, and do these levels meet adopted or desired service standards?
2. How many additional residents in the city of Wasco would trigger a need for additional law enforcement services?
3. How would emergency response times be impacted by the increased employment (approximately 70 workers) at the Wasco Coal Terminal and increased traffic (coal truck, rail, and employee) at the coal terminal and on Poso Drive, Kimberlina Road, Wasco Avenue, and Highway 43 in the city of Wasco?

You can find more information about the HECA project at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hydrogen_energy/

Staff's Preliminary Staff Assessment/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (PSA/DEIS) (TN# 71444, docketed June 28, 2013) can be found through this website. This document is staff's preliminary environmental analysis of the HECA project. Another document, the Wasco Coal Terminal Supplemental Environmental Analysis (TN# 200797, docketed Oct. 9, 2013) provides information from the applicant on the HECA project's proposed use of the coal terminal.

Please provide your responses to the above questions and include any comments you may have regarding law enforcement services related to the possible increased employment and additional residents in the city of Wasco by March 7, 2014. Send your responses to my attention, and if you have any questions about this request, please contact me via email at lisa.worrall@energy.ca.gov or telephone 916-654-4545. Thank you in advance for your time and assistance.

Sergeant Chandler
February 14, 2013
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Sincerely,

Original signed by

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