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#### CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



March 28, 2014

# NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE

# PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT FOR THE EL SEGUNDO POWER FACILITY MODIFICATION AMENDMENT TO THE EL SEGUNDO ENERGY CENTER (00-AFC-14C)

#### TO: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

This notice is to inform you that the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff has prepared a Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA). The PSA contains the Energy Commission staff's independent evaluation of the proposed amendment for the El Segundo Energy Center (ESEC). The PSA is now available for public review and comment. Energy Commission staff's preliminary conclusions are summarized in this notice.

The Energy Commission encourages public participation in the review of the PSA. The public comment period for this PSA begins now and will continue for 30-days until 5:00pm on April 28, 2014.

The Energy Commission staff is planning to hold public workshops during April 2014. The workshop(s) will be a forum to discuss the PSA with all stakeholders who are interested. Public comment will also be taken at the workshop(s). In the near future, the Energy Commission will issue public notices of the workshop date(s), time and location. If you wish to be notified of these workshops, please subscribe to the List Serve as discussed below.

If you wish to provide comments on the document, please submit comments by going to the Energy Commission's ESEC webpage at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/elsegundo/ and click on the "Submit e-Comment" link. Please provide your full name, any organization name, an e-mail address, reference Docket No. 00-AFC-14C, 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 amendment, please submit them to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit. Please include the docket number (00-AFC-14C) for the ESEC 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 ESEC webpage of the Energy Commission's website.

#### **List Serve**

If you would like to be notified of upcoming workshops or other documents being docketed for this project you can subscribe to the List Serve for this project by going to <a href="http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html">http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html</a> and entering your first and last name, e-mail address and selecting "elsegundo (El Segundo Re-Power Project, & Amendment Project)" located under the heading Certified Projects.

#### **Energy Commission Licensing Authority**

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications for construction and operation of thermal electric power plants, 50 megawatts (MW) and greater, proposed for construction 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 is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and through its certified regulatory program produces Preliminary and Final Staff Assessments (FSAs) rather than Draft and Final Environmental Impact Reports.

#### Summary of the El Segundo Energy Center Petition to Amend

The ESEC site is located at the southernmost city limit of the City of El Segundo on the coast of the Pacific Ocean, between Dockweiler State Beach and the City of Manhattan Beach, in Los Angeles County.

The ESEC project owner proposes to replace utility boiler Units 3 and 4 at the ESEC with one new combined-cycle generator (Unit 9), one new steam turbine generator (Unit 10), and two new simple-cycle gas turbines (Units 11 and 12), totaling 449 megawatts (MW). The amendment, also known as the El Segundo Power Facility Modification (ESPFM) or the ESEC amendment, proposes the demolition of Units 3 and 4, to be replaced with Units 9, 10, 11, and 12, and the replacement of a once-through seawater cooling system with dry-cooling technology.

#### <u>Summary of the California Energy Commission Staff's Preliminary Conclusions</u>

Based upon the information provided, discovery achieved and analyses completed to date, Summary Table-1 on the following page illustrates Energy Commission staff's preliminary assessment of the Petition to Amend. Please review the PSA for a detailed discussion of the significance of staff's conclusions. These preliminary conclusions are subject to change in the FSA depending upon additional information and comments received.

## Summary Table 1 Environmental and Engineering Assessment

Technical Area	Complies with LORS	Impacts Mitigated	Additional Information Required
Air Quality/Greenhouse gases	Yes	Yes	No
Biological Resources	Yes	Yes	No
Cultural Resources	Undetermined	Undetermined	Undetermined*
Hazardous Materials	Yes	Yes	No
Land Use	Yes	Yes	No
Noise and Vibration	Yes	Yes	No
Public Health	Yes	Yes	No
Socioeconomics	Yes	Yes	No
Soil and Water Resources	Yes	Yes	No
Traffic & Transportation	Yes	Yes	No
Transmission Line Safety/Nuisance	Yes	Yes	No
Visual Resources	Yes	Yes	No
Waste Management	Yes	Yes	No
Worker Safety and Fire Protection	Yes	Yes	No
Facility Design	Yes	Yes	No
Geology & Paleontology	Yes	Yes	No
Power Plant Efficiency	N/A	Yes	No
Power Plant Reliability	N/A	Yes	No
Transmission System Engineering	Yes	Yes	No
Alternatives	N/A	N/A	No

<sup>\*</sup>Staff's analysis of the proposed amendment is presently inconclusive for Cultural Resources. Insufficient data was available to staff at the time the PSA was prepared to conduct a reliable analysis of potential impacts on archaeological resources. Currently staff is reviewing additional information provided by the petitioner and has yet to determine if all information is complete.

## Availability Of The Preliminary Staff Assessment

A copy of the PSA is available on the project web site at: https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=00-AFC-14C

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.

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:

El Segundo Public Library 111 W. Mariposa Ave, El Segundo, CA 90245
Manhattan Beach Library 1320 Highland Ave., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
Inglewood Public Library 11141 S. Crenshaw Blvd., Inglewood, CA 90303

## 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, Alana Mathews, at (916) 653-5898 or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:publicadviser@energy.ca.gov">publicadviser@energy.ca.gov</a>. The Public Adviser's Office webpage is: <a href="http://www.energy.ca.gov/public">http://www.energy.ca.gov/public</a> adviser/

To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities, contact Lourdes Quiroz at <a href="mailto:lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us">lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us</a> or by telephone (916) 654-5146.

For additional information about this project, contact Christine Stora, Energy Commission Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 654-4745 or e-mail at christine.stora@energy.ca.gov.

News media inquiries should be directed to Deputy Executive Director, Lori Sinsley at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov">mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Date: March 28, 2014

CHRIS MARXEN, ( )
Compliance Office Manager

Siting, Transmission, and Environmental

Protection

Mail list 7046