

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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March 28, 2014

**REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON THE
PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT
OF THE
EL SEGUNDO POWER FACILITY MODIFICATION AMENDMENT
FOR THE
EL SEGUNDO ENERGY CENTER (00-AFC-14C)**

TO: AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST

The enclosed Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) contains the California Energy Commission staff's preliminary evaluation of the proposed El Segundo Energy Center (ESEC) Petition to Amend (PTA). The PSA is available for review on the Energy Commission's web site at:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=00-AFC-14C>

This PSA is not a decision document for power plant proceedings, nor does it contain findings of the Energy Commission related to environmental impacts or the project's compliance with local, state, and federal laws, ordinances, regulations and standards (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 an FSA that will address comments received and 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, petitioner, 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 agency participation in the review of the ESEC PTA. The agency comment period for this PSA ends on April 28, 2014. If you wish to provide comments on the document, please submit comments by going to the Energy Commission's ESEC webpage <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/elsegundo/> and click on the "Submit e-Comment" link. Please provide your full name, agency 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, 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.

Summary of the El Segundo Energy Center Petition to Amend

The modified project will be located within the existing 33-acre ESEC power plant site. The 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.

ESEC LLC, the 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.

Summary of the California Energy Commission Staff's Preliminary Conclusions

Based upon the information provided, discovery achieved and analyses completed to date, **Summary Table-1** (shown below) illustrates the 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

Technical Area	Complies with LORS	Impacts Mitigated	Additional Information Required
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

*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.

Additional Project Information

The status of the project, copies of notices and other relevant documents are available on the Energy Commission's web site:

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=00-AFC-14C>

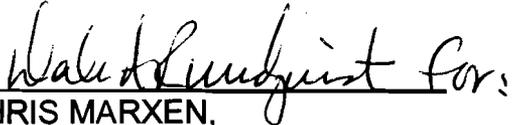
If you have questions about the project, review process or schedule, please contact Christine Stora, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 654-4745 or christine.stora@energy.ca.gov.

List Serve

If you would like to be notified of upcoming workshops and hearings or other documents being docketed for this project you can subscribe to the List Serve for this project by going to <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html> 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.

Sincerely,

Date: March 28, 2014


 CHRIS MARXEN,
 Compliance Office Manager
 Siting, Transmission and Environmental
 Protection Division

Mailed to agency list