

DOCKETED

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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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September 30, 2014

Mathew Handel
Vice President
NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC
700 Universe Blvd, FBD/JB
Juno Beach, FL 33408

**SUBJECT: BLYTHE SOLAR POWER PROJECT (09-AFC-6C)
AUTHORIZATION TO START LIMITED CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES**

Dear Mr. Handel:

The California Energy Commission staff is currently in the process of completing its review of the pre-construction submittals required for the Blythe Solar Power Project. However, before this review is completed, staff has determined that biological clearance survey activities pertaining to Unit 1 may commence as of October 1, 2014, in accordance with the applicable Energy Commission Conditions of Certification, Bureau of Land Management Right-of-Way Grant and other governing document requirements, and the associated plans (in their most current draft status or as approved). No ground disturbance activities will be completed beyond those required to implement biological clearance survey activities i.e., excavating kit fox or burrowing owl dens.

The review of the pre-construction submittals will continue, including an on-going review of the draft Cultural Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan. You will be given a full notice to proceed for all other construction activities when all pre-construction condition of certification submittals are approved as required by the conditions of certification. Energy Commission staff will continue to work closely with NextEra Blythe to ensure conformance with all conditions of certification as written in the Energy Commission's Final Decision.

If you have any questions, please call me at (916) 651-8891 or e-mail me at mary.dyas@energy.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Dyas", written over a circular stamp or seal.

Mary Dyas
Compliance Project Manager

cc: Energy Commission Docket Unit
Kevin W. Bell, Senior Staff Counsel, Energy Commission
Stuart McCurdy, NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC