

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Blythe Solar Power Project - Compliance
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Document Title:	Blythe Solar - Limited Notice to Proceed #3 (01-16-2015)
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Filer:	Mary Dyas
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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January 16, 2015

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, subject to the conditions below and provided the Bureau of Land Management has issued their notice to proceed, the following activities may commence as of January 16, 2015, in advance of the nesting bird season:

- Mowing/vegetation removal and cacti salvage;
- Installing permanent fencing around Units 1 and 2, with tortoise fencing attached to the bottom of the permanent fences (tortoise fencing around Unit 1 has already been installed with CEC/BLM permission but will be replaced). This work involves excavating post holes and a trench for the fencing;
- Drilling a second well in Unit 1 including installing a well pad;
- Installing temporary power and communication lines;
- Grading of up to 10 acres for trailers/parking and no more than an additional 10 acres for the substation/O&M area;
- Setting 10 gen-tie structures consisting of 14 total poles;
- Framing gen-tie poles (installing support arms and insulator); and
- Stringing gen-tie conductor/fiber.

Activities cannot impact any known cultural resources for which treatment has not yet been approved. In particular, no activity can take place that could interfere in any way with the future treatment of prehistoric archaeological site CA-RIV-9812.

The commencement of these activities shall be 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). Full-time biological, archaeological and Native American monitors shall be present during the above noted activities.

The review of the pre-construction submittals will continue, including an on-going review of the draft Cultural Resources Monitoring and Mitigation Plan. NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC (NextEra Blythe) 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 printed name and title.

Mary Dyas
Compliance Project Manager

cc: Energy Commission Docket Unit
Andy Flajole, NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center, LLC
Frank McMenimen, Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management