

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	15-IEPR-03
Project Title:	Electricity and Natural Gas Demand Forecast
TN #:	204205
Document Title:	Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.'s Application for Confidential Designation Demand Forecast Submittal
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Eric Janssen
Organization:	Ellison, Schneider & Harris L.L.P.
Submitter Role:	Applicant Representative
Submission Date:	4/15/2015 1:54:50 PM
Docketed Date:	4/15/2015

ELLISON, SCHNEIDER & HARRIS L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

2600 CAPITOL AVENUE, SUITE 400

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95816

TELEPHONE: (916) 447-2166

<http://www.eslawfirm.com>

April 15, 2015

Robert Oglesby
Executive Director
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-39
Sacramento, CA 95814-5504

**RE: Application for Confidential Designation – Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.
IEPR Electricity Demand Forecast Submission, Docket No. 15-IEPR-03.**

Dear Mr. Oglesby:

Constellation NewEnergy, Inc., (“CNE”) requests, by this Application for Confidential Designation (“Application”), to protect certain information provided to the Commission in the attached Demand Forecast submission consistent with Title 20 California Code of Regulations (“CCR”) Sections 2501 *et seq.*

I am resubmitting this Application solely to correct a typographical error to eliminate confusion in the period of the data for which CNE is requesting confidentiality. Specifically, in the original submission in Paragraph 1 of the Application under “Information to be held confidential” I requested all data to be held confidential for years 2013-2020. The time span should be 2014-2018 to conform to the correct request in Paragraph 2 of the Application.

Please feel free to contact me at (916) 447-2166 should you or Staff have any questions or require additional information regarding this Application. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Andrew B. Brown
Ellison, Schneider & Harris, LLP
Attorneys for Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.

Submitted via Confidential e-filing.

APPLICATION FOR CONFIDENTIAL DESIGNATION
Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.
Electricity Demand Forecasts
April 15, 2015

Docket No. 15-IEPR-03

1. *Specifically indicate those parts of the record which should be kept confidential.*

CNE requests that the following information remain confidential:

Form	Information to be held confidential
2015 IEPR FORM 7.1: ESP Report of Loads and Resources under Contract	All data (as highlighted), disaggregated by utility distribution area, for annual metered retail sales, annual peak demand and customer counts, for years 2014-2018.*
* CNE was previously granted its request for a three year confidentiality period. (See Attachment A, May 10, 2013, Letter from CEC Executive Director granting confidentiality for IEPR Electricity Demand Forecast Submission.) As such, 2012-2016 information continues to be confidential through December 31, 2015.	

To further assist in the identification of information for which CNE requests confidential treatment, CNE has shaded all cells containing this data yellow.

2. *State the length of time the record should be kept confidential, and provide justification for the length of time.*

Because (1) the information is not otherwise publicly available or readily discoverable in the form or detail provided, (2) the information is market sensitive and constitutes trade secrets in terms of supply portfolio development and risk management, and (3) the release of this information will result in loss of competitive advantage in the wholesale and retail marketplaces relative to CNE's ability to negotiate future contracts for the purchase or resale of energy and/or capacity at wholesale, or negotiation of contracts with retail customers, CNE asks that the identified data be held in confidence for a period of at least three (3) years from the time of production to the Commission. Specifically, and to simplify administration, CNE requests that the 2014 through 2018 data be protected through December 31, 2017. This requested period of time is appropriate as the detailed data is expected to retain validity and market value over that period insofar as it can be used with other data to discern CNE's market strategies, including risk management efforts or expectations of future market activities, and because any lesser period would undermine existing protection of the same or substantially similar data by other entities, including the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") and the California Independent System Operator ("CAISO"). This period of time is also consistent with the confidentiality previously approved by the Commission for CNE's 2013 submission of this information. (See Attachment A, hereto.) As such, CNE continues to assert confidentiality through December 31, 2015 for the demand forecast information provided for 2012 to 2016. Under CNE's requested three year confidentiality

window, CNE requests that the data provided in today's submission for years 2014 through 2018 be protected through December 31, 2017.

CNE has also fashioned this request to reflect the scope of protection provided to energy service provider ("ESP") data in CPUC Rulemaking 05-06-040, and, in particular, Decision ("D.") 06-06-066, Appendix B ("ESP Matrix") and related modifications made in D.08-04-023.¹ The public release of the specified information, particularly to competitors and potential customers, would result in a loss of competitive advantage for CNE in the wholesale and retail markets, and may result in a loss in the ability to secure a favorable margin or return.

3. *Cite and discuss (i) the provisions of the Public Records Act or other law which allow the commission to keep the record confidential and (ii) the public interest in nondisclosure of the record.*

CNE submits the information and data sets described above in accordance with the Forms and Instructions adopted by the Commission in support of the 2015 Integrated Energy Policy Report (*Forms and Instructions for Submitting Electricity Demand Forecasts*, CEC-200-2014-006-SF.).

Under Public Resources Code Section 25322, the Commission is required to grant a request for confidential designation of information collected pursuant to Pub. Res. Code Section 25301(a) if:

- (a) the information is exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code §§ 6250 et seq.);
- (b) the information meets the confidentiality requirements set forth in the Commission's regulations; or
- (c) on the facts of the particular case, the public interest served by not disclosing the information outweighs the public interest served by disclosure.

The Public Records Act exempts "trade secrets" from public disclosure, including "any formula, plan,...production data, or compilation of information..., which is known only to certain individuals within a commercial concern who are using it to fabricate, produce, or compound an article of trade or a service...and which gives its user an opportunity to obtain a business advantage over competitors who do not know or use it." (Govt. Code § 6254.7(d).)

The Commission's regulations provide for information to be designated as confidential if it "contains a trade secret or its disclosure would otherwise cause a loss of a competitive advantage." (20 CCR § 2505(a)(1)(D).)

The information identified above, and any supporting data submitted by CNE, contain trade secrets or otherwise commercially sensitive data the disclosure of which would cause loss of a

¹ While CNE understands and acknowledges that the confidentiality rules granted by the California Public Utilities Commission and the California Energy Commission are different in some respects, CNE seeks to maintain consistency in the data it makes publically available. Consistency also prevents CNE from inadvertent disclosures of confidential information.

competitive advantage. As an entity operating in the competitive and dynamic retail energy markets, as well as a net purchaser in the competitive wholesale markets, CNE closely holds information on its retail and wholesale market positions in confidence. The materials identified above should be subject to a three-year confidentiality protection because the information is commercially sensitive and not publicly available and/or constitutes trade secrets the public disclosure of which would harm CNE. Moreover, this information can be used to determine, directly or indirectly, CNE's market position or business plans or procurement strategies, to the detriment of CNE and its customers. Accordingly, CNE requests that all of the information and data sets contained in those documents more specifically described in section 1 above, and any related, supporting data that may be provided pursuant to a subsequent Staff request, be designated as confidential.

CNE believes that the public interest in having an open, public debate on key energy issues facing the state can be satisfied by disclosure of information submitted by CNE and the other ESPs collectively aggregated on a state-wide basis. Any greater granularity in the data released, including disclosure of any CNE-specific data that is not aggregated with other ESPs, could expose CNE's market position to its competitors, including other ESPs and the investor-owned utilities ("IOUs"). In addition, CNE's information for a customer class should be aggregated with the information of one or more other classes where only a small number of customers in the class are served by ESPs.

CNE requests that the identified information also be deemed confidential for the following additional reasons: The information is commercially sensitive and constitutes a trade secret and is therefore exempt from disclosure. Evidence Code §1060, Civil Code §3426.1(d). Moreover, the public interest in nondisclosure clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure insofar as release of this economic information may directly harm CNE's existing and future commercial opportunities and its ability to secure a return in the marketplace, and disclosure may also harm CNE's electric customers by foreclosing favorable commercial opportunities. Gov't Code § 6255.

4. *State whether the information may be disclosed if it is aggregated with other information or masked to conceal certain portions, and if so the degree of aggregation or masking required.*

CNE has considered whether it would be possible to aggregate or mask the identified information. CNE can support the aggregation of CNE-specific information with similar information from all other ESPs and solely disclosed on a *statewide aggregated basis*. CNE believes that disclosure of CNE-specific data of the types collected here, even if aggregated on a statewide basis but specific to CNE, could lead to the disclosure of CNE's wholesale and retail market positions and thereby result in harm to CNE. Given the degree of competition between ESPs, and between ESPs and the IOUs, CNE asserts that any ESP-specific listing of data by utility territory would result in disclosure of confidential data.

5. *State whether and how the information is kept confidential by the applicant and whether it has ever been disclosed to a person other than an employee of the applicant, and if so under what circumstances.*

CNE has not disclosed any of the subject information to anyone other than their employees, attorneys and consultants working with CNE, or government agency employees or employees of the CAISO subject to confidentiality protection. CNE routinely keeps information of commercial value, like the subject information identified herein, confidential. In fact, all CNE employees, officers and directors are required to maintain the confidentiality of information entrusted to them by the company or its customers, suppliers, business partners or others in the course of conducting business with the company, except when disclosure is authorized or legally mandated.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information contained in this application for confidential designation is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also certify that I am authorized to make the application and certification on behalf of Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.



Dated: April 15, 2015

Andrew B. Brown

Ellison, Schneider and Harris LLP
Attorneys for Constellation NewEnergy, Inc.

ATTACHMENT A

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION MAY 10, 2013 LETTER GRANTING
CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY, INC.'S APPLICATION FOR CONFIDENTIALITY OF
SPECIFIED DATA REPORTED IN 2013 IEPR ELECTRICITY DEMAND FORECAST SUBMISSION
(DOCKET NO. 13-IEP-1C)

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512



May 10, 2013



Mr. Andrew B. Brown
Ellison, Schneider & Harris LLP
2600 Capitol Avenue, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95816-5905

RE: Constellation NewEnergy, Inc's Application for Confidentiality for the 2013
Integrated Energy Policy Report Electricity Demand Forecast Submission
Docket No. 13-IEP-1C

Dear Mr. Brown:

On April 15, 2013, the California Energy Commission received from Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. (CNE) an application for confidentiality in the above-captioned Docket. The application seeks confidentiality for information contained in:

FORM 7: ESP Demand Forecast – All data, disaggregated by utility distribution area, for annual metered retail sales, annual peak demand and customer counts, for years 2012-2016.

CNE requests that this information should be designated confidential because:

(1) the information is not otherwise publicly available or readily discoverable in the form or detail provided, (2) the information is market sensitive and constitutes trade secrets in terms of supply portfolio development and risk management, and (3) the release of this information will result in loss of competitive advantage in the wholesale and retail marketplaces relative to CNE's ability to negotiate future contracts for the purchase or resale of energy and/or capacity at wholesale, or negotiation of contracts with retail customers, . . .

Data in the above-named forms for the years 2007-2011 was previously granted confidentiality through December 31, 2014. CNE is asking that the 2012-2016 data be granted confidentiality through December 31, 2015.

A properly filed application for confidentiality shall be granted under California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Section 2505(a)(3)(A), "if the applicant makes a reasonable claim that the California Public Records Act or other provision of law authorizes the [Energy] Commission to keep the record confidential."

CNE's confidentiality application makes a reasonable claim to grant confidentiality for the data identified above in its entirety. The information contained in Form 7 constitutes a trade secret and could place CNE at a competitive disadvantage if disclosed.

The Energy Commission will aggregate the information submitted by CNE as follows:

1. For individual ESPs, data aggregated at the statewide level by major customer sector.
2. For the sum of all ESPs, data aggregated at the service area, planning area, or statewide levels by major customer sector.

The identified confidential information contained on Form 7 will be kept confidential until December 31, 2015.

Persons may petition to inspect or copy records that I have designated as confidential. The procedures and criteria for filing, reviewing, and acting upon such petitions are set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Section 2506. Be advised that an appeal of this decision must be filed within 14 days from the date of this decision. The procedures and criteria for appealing any part of this decision are set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 20, Section 2505. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Kerry Willis, Senior Staff Counsel, at (916) 654-3967.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. P. Oglesby', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert P. Oglesby
Executive Director

cc: Docket Unit
Sylvia Bender

ATTACHMENT B

CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY, INC.'S
APRIL 13, 2015
CONFIDENTIAL IEPR ELECTRICITY DEMAND FORECAST SUBMISSION,
FORM 7.1
(DOCKET NO. 15-IEPR-03)

*See MS Excel file “CNE 2015 IEPR Demand Forecast Form 7.1 (13Apr2015)”
submitted concurrently herewith*