

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	00-AFC-01C
Project Title:	Contra Costa Power Plant Project Compliance
TN #:	205737
Document Title:	Notice of Determination
Description:	for Petition for Insignificant Change
Filer:	Joe Douglas
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Energy Commission
Submission Date:	8/14/2015 9:09:12 AM
Docketed Date:	8/14/2015

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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NOTICE OF DETERMINATION PETITION FOR INSIGNIFICANT PROJECT CHANGE TO THE PG&E GATEWAY GENERATING STATION (00-AFC-01C)

On May 20, 2015, Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) docketed a petition with the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) requesting to make an insignificant change to the Gateway Generating Station (GGS). The combined-cycle, natural gas-fired, 530-megawatt facility was certified by the Energy Commission in its Decision on May 30, 2001, and began commercial operation on January 4, 2009. The facility is located in the city of Antioch, in Contra Costa County, California.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

The modifications proposed in the petition would allow GGS to install additional grating-type decking on the east side of the steam turbine structure, and to relocate area lighting and associated electrical power supply wiring and conduits.

The Energy Commission's webpage for this facility, <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/gateway/>, has a link to the amendment petition on the right side of the webpage in the box labeled "Compliance Proceeding." Click on the "Documents for this Proceeding (Docket Log)" option.

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF REVIEW AND DETERMINATION

Pursuant to section 1769(a)(2) of Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Commission approval of a petition to amend is not required "(w)here staff determines that there is no possibility that the modifications may have a significant effect on the environment, and if the modifications will not result in a change or deletion of a condition adopted by the commission in the final decision or make changes that would cause the project not to comply with any applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards...."

Energy Commission staff has determined for this petition that approval by the full, five-member Commission is not required, and the proposed modifications meet the criteria for approval at the staff level because:

- The modifications will not have any significant effect on the environment;
- Existing conditions of certification are sufficient to cover the proposed modifications without changes to, or deletions of, any conditions of certification; and
- The project as modified will maintain full compliance with applicable LORS

Staff's conclusions for each technical or environmental area are summarized in the following table.

SUMMARY OF STAFF RESPONSES TO PETITION

TECHNICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS REVIEWED	STAFF RESPONSE			Revised Conditions of Certification Recommended
	Technical Area Not Affected	No Significant Environmental Impact or LORS Inconsistency*	Process As Amendment	
Air Quality		X	N/A	N/A
Biological Resources		X	N/A	N/A
Cultural Resources	X		N/A	N/A
Facility Design		X	N/A	N/A
Efficiency	X		N/A	N/A
Geological Resources	X		N/A	N/A
Hazardous Materials Management		X	N/A	N/A
Land Use		X	N/A	N/A
Noise & Vibration		X	N/A	N/A
Paleontological Resources	X		N/A	N/A
Public Health	X		N/A	N/A
Reliability	X		N/A	N/A
Socioeconomics		X	N/A	N/A
Soil & Water Resources	X		N/A	N/A
Traffic & Transportation		X	N/A	N/A
Transmission Line Safety & Nuisance	X		N/A	N/A
Transmission System Engineering	X		N/A	N/A
Visual Resources		X	N/A	N/A
Waste Management		X	N/A	N/A
Worker Safety & Fire Protection		X	N/A	N/A

*No Commission approval is necessary where staff determines there is no possibility that the proposed modifications would have a significant effect on the environment, and the modifications would not result in a change in or deletion of a condition adopted by the Commission in the Final Decision, or make changes that would cause project noncompliance with any applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1769 (a)(2)).

Energy Commission technical staff reviewed the petition for potential environmental effects and consistency with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS). Staff has determined that the technical or environmental areas of Cultural Resources, Efficiency, Geological Resources, Paleontological Resources, Public Health, Reliability, Soils and Water Resources, Transmission Line Safety and Nuisance, and Transmission System Engineering are not affected by the proposed changes.

For the technical areas of Air Quality, Biological Resources, Facility Design, Hazardous Materials Management, Land Use, Noise and Vibration Socioeconomics, Traffic and Transportation, Visual Resources, Waste Management, and Worker Safety and Fire Protection, staff has determined the project would continue to comply with applicable LORS and no changes to any conditions of certification are necessary to ensure that no significant impacts occur. Therefore staff is proposing to process the request as a Staff Approved Project Modification. Staff notes the following for these technical areas:

- **Air Quality.** The petition states the proposed decking will be treated with a standard industrial coating to mitigate environmental degradation. PG&E does not know if the application of the coating will be completed at the project site or if the decking addition will be pre-treated prior to arrival at the project site. Coating operations can be subject to both state and local air district regulations. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (district) has rules and regulations regarding coating operations. According to the district, this proposed action would most likely be considered maintenance and a separate permit would not be required since the expected emissions would be well below the permitting threshold. The Gateway Generation Station has a Title V permit with the district. The Title V permit includes general applicable requirements relating to surface coating operations. Any surface coating operation would have to comply with the district requirements. Additional information was provided via a phone call with PG&E on June 16, 2015. PG&E stated, if needed, the decking would be galvanized offsite but the decking may potentially be primed or coated onsite. PG&E is aware of the coating regulations and any potential coating would be performed in compliance with existing rules and regulations, and no permitting actions are expected. In addition, no changes to the project's Air Quality Conditions of Certification would be required for the proposed action. Staff has not identified any significant Air Quality impacts from the petition with the project's continued compliance with the established Air Quality Conditions of Certification. There would be no significant Air Quality impacts from the proposed amendment to any population within the project's six-mile radius, including any environmental justice population.
- **Biological Resources.** The proposed modifications would occur entirely on the GGS site, which is located within a developed, industrialized area. No special status plant or wildlife species, other than those adapted to developed areas (pigeons, sparrows, finches, etc.), would be expected to occur onsite. Implementation of Conditions of Certification **BIO-4** (Worker Environmental Awareness Program training) and **BIO-6, item#9** (lighting restrictions) will assure that there are no adverse effects to biological resources as a result of this minor amendment.
- **Facility Design.** Installation of the grating-type decking and electrical power supply wiring and conduits associated with relocation of the area lighting (if 110 Volts or higher) must comply with the California Building Code (CBC) and related engineering laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS). Implementation of the existing **Facility Design** conditions of certification would ensure this.

- **Hazardous Materials Management.** During the installation of the grating on the steam turbine deck and the relocation of area lighting, several hazardous materials will be used onsite. Similar to equipment maintenance activities, these materials would include solvents, gasoline, lubricants, and welding gases which are already included in the annual compliance report under Condition of Certification **HAZ-1**. No extremely hazardous or regulated hazardous materials will be used on site specifically for the installation of the grating on the steam turbine deck and the relocation of area lighting. Therefore, with continued compliance to existing conditions of certification, **HAZ-1** specifically, the proposed modification would not have a significant effect on the environment and would continue to comply with all applicable LORS.
- **Land Use.** The proposed decking is in compliance with the zoning regulations of the May 2015 Contra Costa Ordinance Code, Chapter 84-62 Heavy Industrial District (H-I). Chapter 84-62 Section .602 requires no height or side yard setbacks limitations in the H-I Land Use District.
- **Noise and Vibration.** Construction work associated with installation of the grating-type decking would occur during the daytime hours and it would be temporary. Any noise generated during these activities would result in a less-than-significant impact with implementation of the existing **Noise and Vibration** conditions of certification.
- **Socioeconomics.** Construction activities would involve a crew of between 6 and 10 workers and, therefore, the proposed construction would not result in significant adverse socioeconomic impacts related to a large influx of workers to a project area.
- **Traffic and Transportation.** Construction activities would involve a crew of between 6 and 10 workers and require an estimated one or two truck material deliveries per day to the site and, therefore, traffic impacts would be insignificant.
- **Visual Resources.** The proposed turbine decking would not be visible from sensitive viewing areas located offsite and, therefore, visual impacts would be insignificant. The relocated lighting shall meet the design requirements specified in Condition of Certification **VIS-3**.
- **Waste Management.** After analyzing the proposed modifications, staff believes that the addition of grating on the steam turbine deck, relocation of lighting and associated electrical power supply wiring and conduits would not result in any additional environmental impacts in terms of waste management in comparison with the original analysis for the approved project and the proposed petition, provided the project owner complies with **WASTE-1**. The proposed activities would not result in a change or deletion of a condition, or make changes that would cause the project to violate any applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards.
- **Worker Safety and Fire Protection.** The proposed modifications must comply with worker safety and fire safety measures contained in the existing health and safety plans implemented during construction of the GGS, per Condition of Certification **WORKER SAFETY-1**.

The data presented in the **Environmental Justice Population Figure (Attached)** shows the population in a six-mile radius of the GGS site constitutes an environmental justice population, as defined by *Environmental Justice: Guidance Under the National Environmental Policy Act*. Staff has determined that the proposed modifications would not cause any significant environmental impacts. Therefore, there are no significant impacts to any population within the GGS six-mile radius, including the environmental justice population.

This Notice of Determination has been mailed to the Energy Commission's mail list of interested parties and property owners adjacent to the GGS site. It has also been e-mailed to the facility listserv. The listserv is an automated Energy Commission e-mail system by which information about this facility is e-mailed to parties who have subscribed. To subscribe, go to the Commission's webpage for this facility, cited above, scroll down the right side of the project's webpage to the box labeled "Subscribe," and provide the requested contact information.

Any person may file an objection to staff's determination within 14 days of the date of this Notice on the grounds that the project modification does not meet the criteria set forth in section 1769(a)(2). Absent any relevant objections, the amendment petition will be approved 14 days after this Notice is docketed. To use the Energy Commission's electronic commenting feature to object to staff's determination, go to the Energy Commission's webpage for this facility, cited above, click on the "Submit e-Comment" link, and follow the instructions in the on-line form. Be sure to include the facility name in your comments. Once submitted, the Energy Commission Dockets Unit reviews and approves your comments, and you will receive an e-mail with a link to them.

Written comments may also be mailed or hand-delivered to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 00-AFC-1C
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All comments and materials filed with and approved by the Dockets Unit will be added to the facility Docket Log and be publicly accessible on the Energy Commission's webpage for the facility.

If you have questions about this Notice, please contact Joseph Douglas, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 653-4677, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at joseph.douglas@energy.ca.gov.

For information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the petition, please call the Public Adviser at (800) 822-6228 (toll-free in California) or send your e-mail to publicadviser@energy.ca.gov. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail to mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

Date: 8/14/15



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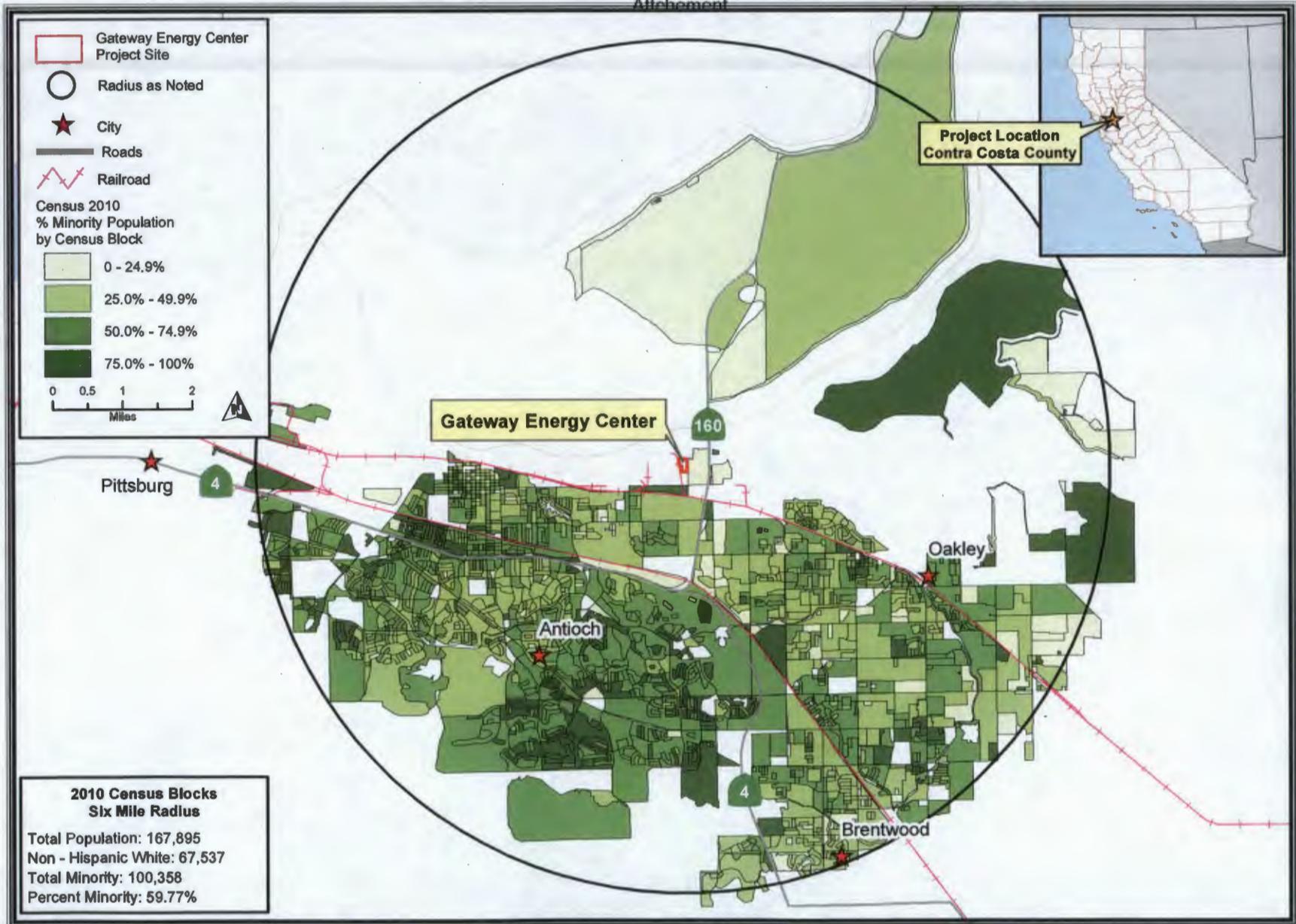
CC: Mail List 755
GATEWAY listserv

Attachment A

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE POPULATION FIGURE

Gateway Energy Center - Census 2010 Minority Population by Census Block - Six Mile Radius

Attachment



CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION, SITING, TRANSMISSION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

SOURCE: Census 2010 PL 94-171 Data