DOCKETED	
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Project Title:	Huntington Beach Energy Project - Compliance
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Document Title:	California Energy Commission Executive Director's Letter to the Honorable Todd Spitzer, Chairman, Orange County Supervisor
Description:	Huntington Beach Energy Project Petition to Amend 12-AFC-02C
Filer:	Cathy Hickman
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CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION 1516 NINTH STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512 www.energy.ca.gov

November 10, 2015

The Honorable Todd Spitzer Chairman, Orange County Supervisor 333 W. Santa Ana Blvd. Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: HUNTINGTON BEACH ENERGY PROJECT PETITION TO AMEND

Dear Chairman Spitzer:

On June 27, 2012, AES Southland, LLC, submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) for the Huntington Beach Energy Project (HBEP). On October 29, 2014, the Energy Commission approved the AFC with a Final Decision for a 939-megawatt (MW) power plant.

On September 14, 2015, AES Southland, LLC, submitted a petition to amend (PTA) to the Energy Commission to modify the Final Decision for HBEP (12-AFC-02). The amended project is proposed to be developed on 28.6 acres of an approximately 30-acre parcel, located in an industrial area of Huntington Beach, California at 21730 Newland Street, just north of the intersection of the Pacific Coast Highway (Highway 1) and Newland Street.

The proposed amendment to the HBEP is the result of the selection by Southern California Edison (SCE) of the revised AES project in the 2013 Local Capacity Requirements Request for Offers (LCR RFO) to provide 644-MW of nominal capacity, with different technology than that permitted in the HBEP Final Decision.

HBEP, as amended, would be constructed in two phases with a combined total of 844-MW. Phase 1 would be a natural gas-fired, combined-cycle, air-cooled, 644-MW electrical generating facility. Phase 2 would be two 100-MW simple-cycle gas turbines. No new offsite linear facilities are proposed as part of this project.

The Energy Commission is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and because the siting process is a certified regulatory program, the Energy Commission produces several environmental and decision documents rather than an Environmental Impact Report. The issuance of a certificate by the Energy Commission is in lieu of any local or state permit, and federal permit to the extent permitted by federal law.

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Over the coming months, Energy Commission staff will conduct workshops that will provide the public and local, state, and federal agencies the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed amended project. After Energy Commission staff develops its analysis and recommendations regarding the project, the Energy Commission will conduct hearings to determine whether to approve the amended HBEP for construction and operation, and what conditions would apply if the project is approved. Public notices will be issued for all workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to each meeting.

We are available to brief you and your staff on the California Energy Commission's power plant review process and the specifics of the HBEP amended application. If you would like to schedule a briefing, please contact Barry Steinhart, Legislative Director for the Energy Commission's Office of Governmental Affairs, at (916) 654-4942. If your staff has technical questions on the proposed project, please contact the Energy Commission's Project Manager, John Heiser, at (916) 653-8236 or by email at John.Heiser@energy.ca.gov. If your constituents would like to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the project, they can contact Alana Mathews of the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office at (916) 653-5898, toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or via email at publicadviser@energy.ca.gov.

The status of the project, copies of notices, an electronic version of the petition to amend, and other relevant documents are available on the California Energy Commission's Internet web site at:

<u>http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/huntington_beach_energy/index.html</u>. You can also subscribe to receive e-mail notification of notices and availability of documents at <u>http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html</u>.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Oglesby Executive Director