

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	15-AFC-02
Project Title:	Mission Rock Energy Center
TN #:	210270
Document Title:	Notice of Receipt of an Application for Certification for the Mission Rock Energy Center
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Cenne Jackson
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	2/11/2016 1:18:26 PM
Docketed Date:	2/11/2016

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF AN
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
MISSION ROCK ENERGY CENTER (15-AFC-02)**

On December 30, 2015 Mission Rock Energy Center, LLC (Applicant), filed an Application for Certification (AFC) to construct and operate an electrical generating facility in Ventura County, California, approximately 2 miles west of Santa Paula, near State Highway 126. The facility, Mission Rock Energy Center (Mission Rock), would be a natural gas-fired, simple-cycle power plant comprising five combustion turbine generators (CTGs), with a nominal generating capacity of 255 megawatts (MW). Additionally, Mission Rock would house twenty (20) on-site ion battery units for the storage of electricity, providing an additional 25 MW/100 MWh (25 MW for up to 4 hours) of nominal capacity. The plant would also be fitted with a clutch system enabling synchronized condenser operation to provide voltage (VAR) support to the grid.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The five GE LM6000 CTGs would be equipped with selective catalytic reduction, (SCR) air emissions control equipment, and associated support equipment for Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x) and carbon monoxide (CO) control. Mission Rock will have a nominal generation rating of 255 MW with each CTG capable of generating approximately 57 MW (gross) at base load. Mission Rock is expected to have an overall annual availability of 92 to 98 percent, including scheduled and forced outages.

The main project elements, including linear facilities and construction laydown areas, are as follows:

- Five GE Energy LM6000 PG (*or equivalent*) CTGs equipped with selective catalytic reduction (SCR) air emissions control technology and associated support equipment for nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and carbon monoxide (CO) control.
- Lithium-ion (*and/or flow*) batteries housed in enclosed systems that could be operated in conjunction with the power plant, or separately. Twenty separate enclosures would house the batteries, inverters, step-up transformers and site controller. The nominal 25 MW of energy production on a capacity of 100 megawatt hours (MWh)(25 MW for a four-hour period) would be used for ancillary, peak shaving, and other services.
- Interconnection of the five CTG's and battery array to the regional electrical grid would occur through Southern California Edison's (SCE) Santa Clara Substation via a new, 6.6-mile 230-kV transmission line.
- Natural gas pipeline connection via a new 2.4 mile, 16-inch-diameter, pipeline that would run southwest from the Mission Rock site along Shell Road and the Southern Pacific Railroad right-of-way to interconnect with Southern California Gas Company's (SoCal Gas) existing high-pressure natural gas transmission pipeline (Line 404/406).

- Process water for Mission Rock will be supplied by local agribusiness conglomerate, Limoneira Company. Limoneira will provide recycled lemon wash and sanitary sewer wastewater from their packing house and worker housing to supply Mission Rock. Limoneira's wastewater treatment facility produces its recycled water, which will then be delivered to the Mission Rock site via a new 1.7-mile-long pipeline.
- The recycled water pipeline could deliver a maximum amount of 170-acre feet/ of Limoneira recycled water per year.
- Demineralizer equipment, mounted on portable skids and proposed for location in the northeastern quadrant of the new facility, would purify recycled Limoneira water for plant requirements, including steam production. Following filtration, purified water would be stored in an adjacent 54' tall, 892,000 gallon storage tank, sufficient for 32 hours of operation at full capacity.
- Industrial wastewater from cooling tower blow-down and other power plant processes would be discharged to an existing pipeline located along Shell Road, immediately adjacent to the Mission Rock site.
- Temporary construction laydown/parking facilities would include a 2.89-acre worker parking and laydown area immediately north of the western edge of the Mission Rock site.

PROJECT OPERATION

As a peaking power plant, Mission Rock is expected to operate during periods of increased need on the grid, such as: times of high electrical load, during periods when intermittent, renewable source generation fluctuates, when baseload plants are not operating or being brought on-line, or during emergency conditions. The facility would be licensed and permitted to operate up to 28.5 percent of the time. With 150 start and stop cycles, the project would have black start capability utilizing the battery storage array.

Mission Rock would provide a resource to balance the variability of renewable resources and satisfy peak energy and capacity needs during high load events. It would also support local electrical grid reliability and provide energy storage technology to meet the need for new and/or replacement local capacity in the Moorpark Subarea of the Big Creek/Ventura local reliability area of Southern California Edison's (SCE's) service territory.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Construction of Mission Rock is expected to begin in the 4th quarter of 2018, based on the assumption that the project receives Commission approval in the 1st quarter of 2017. Following construction, pre-operational testing of the power plant is expected to begin in the 2nd quarter of 2020, with full-scale commercial operation expected by the 3rd quarter, 2020.

ENERGY COMMISSION'S SITE CERTIFICATION PROCESS

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications to construct and operate thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, in California¹. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of proposed power plants and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines. 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 permits, and federal permits to the extent permitted by federal law.

Under its certified regulatory program, the Energy Commission staff prepares and publishes both a Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and a Final Staff Assessment (FSA). After allowing for a public comment period on the PSA, staff will prepare and publish the FSA which will address comments received on the PSA, and serve as staff's expert testimony in evidentiary hearings to be held by the Energy Commission Committee assigned to hear this case. At the evidentiary hearings the Committee will consider the testimony and information presented by staff, applicant, intervenors, government agencies, and the public, prior to proposing its decision. In the last step, the full Energy Commission will issue the final decision.

As part of the review process, the staff of the Energy Commission endeavors to work closely with local, state, and federal agencies to ensure that all laws, ordinances, regulations and standards are met and incorporated into the final decision of the Energy Commission.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings to determine whether the proposed project should be approved for construction and operation and, if so, under what set of conditions. These workshops and hearings will provide the public, as well as local, state, and federal agencies, the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least 10 days prior to each meeting.

¹ <http://www.energyalmanac.ca.gov/powerplants/>

This notice of receipt has been mailed to all parties that requested placement on the mailing list and to property owners located within 1000 feet of the proposed project site or 500 feet of project linear features (e.g. pipelines). If you want to continue to receive notices of all project-related activities and when documents related to the proposed project's evaluation are available for review, you must sign up on the e-mail list serve at www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/. If you are unable to receive future notices by e-mail and would like them to be sent to you in the mail, you must mail back the attached reply form or contact Cenne Jackson, Project Assistant, at (916) 651-9106, or by e-mail at cenne.jackson@energy.ca.gov.

You can find a copy of the AFC and information about the project and proceedings on the project website: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/missionrock/>. Please direct your technical or project schedule questions to Mike Monasmith, Project Manager, 1516 9th Street, MS-15, Sacramento, CA 95814, or call him at 916-654-4894 or by email: mike.monasmith@energy.ca.gov. You can also contact Associate Project Manager Mike Battles at mike.battles.energy.ca.gov or by phone at 916-654-4063.

Members of the public who wish to provide written comments on the project to the Energy Commission are asked to submit their comments using the Energy Commission's e-commenting feature by going to the Energy Commission's Mission Rock Energy Center webpage <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/missionrock/> and clicking on the "Submit e-Comment" link. A full name, e-mail address, comment title, and either a comment or an attached document (in the .doc, docx, or .pdf format) is mandatory. After entering a response to the test used by the system to ensure that responses are generated by a human user and not a computer, click on the "*Agree & Submit Your Comment*" button to submit the comment to the Energy Commission Dockets Unit. Written comments may also be mailed or hand delivered to:

California Energy Commission
Dockets Unit, MS-4
Docket No. 15-AFC-02
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

All written comments and materials filed with the Dockets Unit will become part of the public record of the proceeding. Additionally, comments will be posted on the website. If you desire information on participating in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228. The Public Adviser's Office can also be contacted via email at publicadviser@energy.ca.gov.

AVAILABILITY OF THE AFC DOCUMENT

Copies of the AFC will be available for public inspection at the following public libraries:

Saticoy Library 1292 Los Angeles Avenue Ventura, CA 93004	Blanchard Community Library 119 N. 8 th Street Santa Paula, CA 93060
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Copies of the AFC are also available at the Energy Commission's Library in Sacramento, the California State Library in Sacramento, and at California public libraries in Eureka, Fresno, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. In addition, copies will be distributed to those public agencies that would normally have jurisdiction except for the Energy Commission's exclusive authority to certify sites and related facilities.

Sincerely,

Date: February 11, 2016


Chris Davis, Siting Office Manager

Mailed to:
General and Property Owners List 7511

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California Energy Commission
Attention: Cenne Jackson
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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