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| Project Title: | High Desert Power Plant |
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| Document Title: | Past Participation of Certain Committee Advisers in Previous High Desert Proceedings |
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Memorandum

To: All Parties and Persons Interested in the High Desert Power Plant Amendments Proceeding (97-AFC-01C) **Date:** June 1, 2016

From: Susan Cochran, Hearing Officer
High Desert Amendments Committee
(916) 654-3965

Subject: Past Participation of Certain Committee Advisers in Previous High Desert Proceedings

The High Desert Amendments Committee hereby notifies the parties and persons interested in this proceeding that the Committee has consulted, and will continue to consult with various individuals for technical and other assistance in understanding and identifying the issues presented by the amendment petition. When this occurs in Energy Commission proceedings we do not as a matter of course identify those persons. Here, however, several had a previous advocacy role in one or more past proceedings related to the High Desert Power Plant (HDPP).

Staff Counsel Caryn Holmes served as the Commission staff's representative in the original Application for Certification proceeding from 1997 to 2000. As such she was privy to both the evidence presented in that proceeding and other information obtained by staff.

Linda Bond, currently employed by the California Department of Water Resources, is consulting in an independent professional capacity. She is a co-author, with Tim Durbin, of the FEMFLOW 3D code, which was published by USGS in 1998 and subsequently used by Mr. Durbin to develop the HDPP model referred to in Condition of Certification Soil & Water-5. She was a contract consultant to Commission staff during the original AFC proceeding and was privy to both the evidence presented in that proceeding and other information obtained by staff. Once HDPP began operation, Ms. Bond used the HDPP model to conduct annual assessments of the balance of water available in the water bank for HDPP's use. Her last assessment was made in 2007.

Assistant Chief Counsel Paul Kramer, head of the Chief Counsel's Hearing Unit (formerly the Hearing Office) and Hearing Officer Susan Cochran's direct supervisor, was the Staff Counsel assigned to represent the Commission Staff regarding the complaint of Gary Ledford filed in October 2001 alleging that HDPP violated or intended to violate certain Conditions of Certification related to its water plan. That complaint was ultimately dismissed without a hearing. Mr. Kramer prepared staff's case for the hearings and was privy to staff's views about the sources of water and water banking for the HDPP and the information then obtained by staff.

In consulting with these and other individuals the Committee is mindful of its obligation to disclose any information upon which it bases a decision which is not otherwise in the record of this proceeding.

Any party or interested person having a concern about the participation of the identified individuals is invited to file those concerns in the Docket (in the case of a party) or as a public comment (non-parties). Comments may also be submitted electronically by visiting the website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/highdesert> and clicking on the "Submit e-Comment" link in the

“2015 Amendment Proceeding” box. Otherwise, written comments may be submitted by e-mailing them to docket@energy.ca.gov, or by U.S. Mail to:

California Energy Commission
Docket Unit
Docket number: 97-AFC-01C
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95614

For all comments, please include the docket number and proceeding name, “**Docket No. 97-AFC-01C, High Desert Power Plant Project,**” in the subject line and on the cover page.

PLEASE NOTE: Your written and oral comments, attachments, and associated contact information (e.g., your address, phone, e-mail, etc.) become part of the viewable public record. Additionally, this information may become available via Google, Yahoo, and other search engines.