DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	15-AFC-01
Project Title:	Puente Power Project
TN #:	213920
Document Title:	Memorandum - Puente Power Project FSA Schedule Status Report
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Marichka Haws
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	10/6/2016 4:46:31 PM
Docketed Date:	10/6/2016

Memorandum

Date:October 6, 2016Telephone:(916) 654-4026

To: Janea A. Scott, Commissioner and Presiding Member Karen Douglas, Commissioner and Associate Member

From: California Energy Commission – Shawn Pittard 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: PUENTE POWER PROJECT FSA SCHEDULE STATUS REPORT

At the September 27, 2016 Committee Conference, staff was asked to submit a revised proposed schedule for the publication of its Final Staff Assessment (FSA) by Friday, October 7, 2016.

Background

In its September 23, 2016 Preconference Statement, staff identified three documents it would need in order to complete its FSA: the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District's (Air District) Final Determination of Compliance (FDOC), the applicant's design changes pertaining to the outfall, and California Department of Fish & Wildlife's (CDFW) comments on the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA).

<u>Update</u>

Staff anticipates that the Air District will publish its FDOC on or around October 13, 2016.

On September 26, 2016, the applicant filed a document titled "Project Enhancement – Outfall Removal and Beach Enhancement" with the docket. Staff has reviewed these changes to the project design and is preparing data requests in the subject areas of Biology, Cultural Resources, and Soil & Water Resources.

On September 28, 2016, staff met with CDFW staff on the proposed project site. Staff is working closely with CDFW staff to ensure timely comments.

In addition, staff is preparing data requests related to the applicant's August 26, 2016 filing, "Refinement to Transmission Interconnection." This change to the project results in a new first point of interconnection to the grid. Staff is preparing a Project Description data request and associated requests in the subject areas of Cultural Resources and Traffic & Transportation and, potentially, Transmission System Engineering.

Schedule

Staff proposes to publish its FSA on November 18, 2016. This date provides a minimum of 30 days for staff to complete its analysis after it receives the FDOC and allows for an exchange of data requests and responses relating to the changes in project design. It assumes timely filing of the FDOC, timeliness and completeness of data responses, and timely receipt of comments from CDFW. The proposed November 18, 2016 FSA publication date will allow staff to incorporate into the FSA detailed responses to the

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over 1,000 pages of comments received on the PSA, in an effort to provide as complete a record as possible for the Committee and parties going forward. If any of these assumptions are not met, and the project schedule will be impacted, staff will inform the Committee.