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# BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE: PUENTE POWER PROJECT

Docket No. 15-AFC-01

#### REVISED COMMITTEE SCHEDULING ORDER

### **Background**

On April 15, 2015, NRG Oxnard Energy Center, LLC (Applicant) submitted an Application for Certification to the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) seeking permission to construct and operate a 262-megawatt (MW) natural-gas-fired power generation facility, the Puente Power Project (P3 or Project). The Project would be located at 393 North Harbor Boulevard in the city of Oxnard, on the site of the existing Mandalay Generating Station (MGS), an operating power plant.

On November 1, 2016, Energy Commission staff (Staff) filed its status report. In the report, Staff proposes changing the filing date for the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) from November 18, 2016, the date established in the current scheduling order, to December 8, 2016, citing the need to conduct further cultural resources research and to analyze yet-to-be received data responses, as well as the Thanksgiving holiday, as justifications. Applicant objects to the staff proposal, and suggests that if Staff is unable to file a complete FSA on November 18, 2016, it should file a partial FSA and provide the remaining material as soon as possible.

Intervenor City of Oxnard proposes that regardless of when the FSA is issued, the Committee should establish a schedule which would result in Evidentiary Hearings being held 14 weeks after issuance of the FSA<sup>2</sup>. If the FSA was published on the currently scheduled date of November 18, 2016 that would mean Evidentiary Hearings would be held during the week of February 27, 2017. The current schedule calls for Evidentiary Hearings to be held during the week of February 6, 2017.

Intervenor Robert Sarvey voices concern that Staff's resources are being spread too thin due to activities in other siting cases.<sup>3</sup>

Intervenor California Environmental Justice Alliance voices agreement with the Staff proposal.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TN 214335.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> TN 214456.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> TN 214473.

#### **Revised Scheduling Order**

The Committee<sup>5</sup> has considered the various proposals and hereby issues the attached revised scheduling order. This revised schedule directs Staff to publish a complete FSA on December 8, 2016. It also calls for staff to hold an FSA workshop during the first week of 2017. Staff has indicated that one of the main purposes of this workshop will be for Staff to highlight those parts of the FSA that differ from the PSA. The Committee also requests that all parties use the workshop to discuss areas of agreement and disagreement, and to prepare for the Evidentiary Hearings. The time to file opening testimony is extended to January 13, 2017 and the Prehearing Conference date is changed to January 31, 2017. The Evidentiary Hearings are still scheduled for the week of February 6, 2017.

The Committee may modify the schedule at any time upon either its own motion or that of a party.<sup>6</sup>

#### **Status Reports**

The Committee hereby orders the parties to continue to file status reports on the first business day of each month. The status reports should include information that will enable the Committee to determine whether there are any obstacles to following the schedule attached hereto.

#### **Public Adviser and Public Participation**

The Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office is available to assist the public in participating in the application review process. For information on how to participate, contact Alana Mathews, Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or (800) 822-6228, or e-mail at publicadviser@energy.ca.gov.

#### **Contact Information**

Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Paul Kramer, Hearing Officer, at (916) 654-5103, or e-mail at <a href="mailto:paul.kramer@energy.ca.gov">paul.kramer@energy.ca.gov</a>.

Technical questions concerning the project should be addressed to Shawn Pittard, Staff Project Manager, at: (916) 654-3936, or e-mail: <a href="mailto:shawn.pittard@energy.ca.gov">shawn.pittard@energy.ca.gov</a>.

Media inquiries should be directed to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or e-mail at <a href="mailto:mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov">mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov</a>.

<sup>4</sup> TN 214467

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Committee consists of Commissioner Janea Scott, Presiding Member, and Commissioner Karen Douglas, Associate Member. The full Energy Commission made this Committee assignment at an Energy Commission Business Meeting on June 10, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1203, subd. (c).

Information concerning the status of the project, as well as notices and other relevant documents, may be viewed on the Energy Commission's web page at <a href="http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/puente/">http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/puente/</a>.

Dated: November 18, 2016, at Sacramento, California.

Original signed by
JANEA A. SCOTT
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Puente Power Project Committee

Original signed by
KAREN DOUGLAS
Commissioner and Associate Member
Puente Power Project Committee

## **PUENTE POWER PROJECT REVISED COMMITTEE SCHEDULE**

## 15-AFC-01 **November 2016**

ACTIVITY	DATE
Staff Publishes Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA)	June 17, 2016
Applicant Filed "Refinement to Transmission	August 26, 2016
Interconnection" <sup>7</sup>	
Last Day to File Comments on the PSA	September 15, 2016
Applicant Filed "Project Enhancement – Outfall Removal and Beach Restoration"	September 26, 2016
VCAPCD Issues Final Determination of Compliance (FDOC)	October 14, 2016
Last Day to File Data Requests on the "Project Enhancement – Outfall Removal and Beach Restoration" and the "Refinement to Transmission Interconnection"	October 19, 2016
Applicant Files Data Responses on the Removal of the Outfall Structure and the "Refinement to Transmission Interconnection"	October 31, 2016
Last day to File Petition to Intervene <sup>10</sup>	November 4, 2016
Staff Publishes Final Staff Assessment (FSA)	December 8, 2016
Staff FSA Workshop (held at staff's discretion)	Week of January 2, 2017
All Parties File Opening Testimony	January 13, 2017
All Parties File Rebuttal Testimony	January 20, 2017
All Parties File Prehearing Conference Statements, Exhibit Lists	January 25, 2017
Prehearing Conference (PHC)	January 31, 2017
Evidentiary Hearings (EH)	Week of February 6, 2017
Committee Files Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD)	Mid-March 2017
Committee Conference on PMPD	Mid-April 2017
Close of Public Comment Period on PMPD	30 days after publication of the PMPD
Committee Files Errata or Revised PMPD (if necessary)	Late April 2017
Energy Commission Final Decision	May 2017

<sup>7</sup> TN 213000. <sup>8</sup> TN 213802.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Discovery is re-opened only with respect to the topics raised in the "Refinement to Transmission Interconnection" (TN 213000) and "Project Enhancement—Outfall Removal and Beach Enhancement"

<sup>(</sup>TN 213802).

10 Per the October 14, 2016 Revised Committee Schedule (TN 214018), the deadline to Petition to Intervene was November 4, 2016.