

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	21-AFC-01
Project Title:	Pecho Energy Storage Center
TN #:	252533
Document Title:	Pecho Order Terminating Proceeding
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Kristine Banaag
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	10/6/2023 4:58:37 PM
Docketed Date:	10/6/2023

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

715 P Street
Sacramento, California 95814

energy.ca.gov

CEC-70 (Revised 07/2022)



IN THE MATTER OF:

PECHO ENERGY STORAGE CENTER

Docket No. 21-AFC-01

En español: <https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/EFiling/GetFile.aspx?tn=252524&DocumentContentId=87601>

ORDER TERMINATING PROCEEDING**BACKGROUND**

On November 23, 2021, Pecho LD Energy Storage, LLC (Applicant) filed an Application for Certification (AFC) with the California Energy Commission (CEC) to construct and operate the Pecho Energy Storage Center (Pecho), a nominal 400-megawatt advanced compressed air energy storage facility.¹ On January 27, 2022, the CEC ruled that the Pecho application was deficient in the information CEC regulations require for an AFC,² reserving a determination about whether the Pecho application was properly filed as an AFC that is exempt from the Notice of Intention (NOI) process.³ On June 8, 2022, the CEC ruled that the Pecho application qualifies for an exemption from the NOI process, and thus may proceed as an AFC.⁴

On August 30, 2023, Applicant filed a Motion to Suspend the AFC Proceeding through December 31, 2024 (Motion to Suspend) to allow the Applicant to explore options to develop a modified energy storage resource while addressing stakeholder feedback, including consideration of alternative sites located outside California's Coastal Zone.⁵

¹ Application and all filed documents related to the Pecho proceeding are available via the "Docket Log (21-AFC-01)" link on the [Pecho proceeding's web page](https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/caes/pecho-energy-storage-center) at <https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/caes/pecho-energy-storage-center>. The Application comprises many separate documents filed in the docket beginning November 23, 2021, e.g., the introduction is TN 240712-1.

² Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, Ch. 5, Art. 6, Appen. B; see Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1704(c).

³ TN 241290.

⁴ TN 243542.

⁵ TN 252041.

On September 13, 2023, CEC staff (Staff) timely filed a response to Applicant’s Motion to Suspend, objecting to Applicant’s request for suspension, and moving to terminate the proceeding instead (Motion to Terminate).⁶

On September 27, 2023, Applicant filed a notice withdrawing its AFC (Notice of Withdrawal), which notes among other things, that the current project location is non-optimal for an advanced compressed air energy storage facility, particularly with regard to general pre-development data collection restrictions applied within the Coastal Zone.⁷

DISCUSSION AND ORDER

Applicant’s Notice of Withdrawal was properly dated and signed under penalty of perjury in compliance with sections 1707 and 1709.8 of Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations. Section 1709.8(b) requires the Presiding Member of the Committee assigned to conduct proceedings on the AFC⁸ to terminate the proceeding and close the docket upon receipt of a properly executed notice of withdrawal. Applicant’s Notice of Withdrawal moots Applicant’s Motion to Suspend and Staff’s Motion to Terminate.

Thus, the Presiding Member hereby **ORDERS** that the AFC proceeding for Pecho is **TERMINATED**. Docket 21-AFC-01 shall be closed. The records and documents of the proceeding shall continue to be maintained by the Docket Unit. No further action will be taken on Applicant’s Motion to Suspend and Staff’s Motion to Terminate.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: October 3, 2023

APPROVED BY:

Andrew McAllister
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Pecho Energy Storage Center Committee

Mailed to: List Number: 7543

⁶ TN 252233.

⁷ TN 252426.

⁸ Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1211.5; see Cal. Code Regs., tit. 20, § 1203(c). On March 10, 2023, the CEC amended the appointed Committee to consist of Andrew McAllister, Commissioner and Presiding Member, and Noemí Gallardo, Commissioner and Associate Member, to preside over any proceedings arising from the Application for Certification. TN 249086.