



CALIFORNIA
ENERGY
COMMISSION

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**ORDER ON GEOTHERMAL
RESOURCE AVAILABILITY DOCKET**

02-AFC-2

SALTON SEA GEOTHERMAL PROJECT
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
DOCKET NO. 02-AFC-2

DATE JAN 17 2003

RECD. JAN 17 2003

Discussion:

CE Obsidian Energy LLC filed an Application for Certification (AFC) on July 29, 2002, to construct a 185 megawatt geothermal power plant project near Calipatria in Imperial County. Public Resources Code section 25540.2 exempts the Applicant from the Notice of Intention process as a necessary precedent to the Application for Certification upon a demonstration that commercial quantities of geothermal resources are available for the project.

Following the Informational Hearing on November 19, 2002, the Committee conducted a hearing to determine whether there are commercial quantities of geothermal resources for the proposed power plant. Commercial quantities of a geothermal resource means "enough geothermal steam or hot water resources from a sufficient number of wells to support a reasonable conclusion that a proposed power plant will be able to achieve the applicant's estimated gross capacity over the life of the project." (Title 20, Calif. Code of Regs., section 1804(a).

Testimony consisted of the declarations of Dennis Kespereit from the Applicant, Steve Baker from the Energy Commission Staff, and Michael Woods from the Department of Conservation, Division of Oil and Gas. The unanimous, uncontroverted testimony of the witnesses was that there are commercial quantities of geothermal resources for the life of the project. (RT 11/19/02 pp. 77-78)

Finding & Order:

The Committee finds that there are commercial quantities of geothermal resources, within the meaning of Public Resources Code section 25540.2 and applicable regulations, for the operation of the project for its planned lifetime.

The Committee orders that the project is exempt from the Notice of Intention process and is eligible for processing as an Application for Certification.

Dated: January 17, 2003

**ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

WILLIAM J. KEESE
Chairman and Presiding Member
Salton Sea AFC Committee

ROBERT PERNELL
Commissioner and Associate Member
Salton Sea AFC Committee

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

In the Matter of:

Application for Certification of the
Salton Sea Geothermal Power Plant

Docket No. 02-AFC-2

PROOF OF SERVICE LIST
(Revised November 21, 2002)

I, SUZANNE McCLINTOCK, declare that on January 17, 2003, I deposited copies of the attached ORDER ON GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE AVAILABILITY in the United States mail at *Sacramento, CA* with first class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to the following:

DOCKET UNIT

Send the original signed document plus the required 12 copies to the address below:

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
DOCKET UNIT, MS-4
Attn: Docket No. 02-AFC-02
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
E-mail: docket@energy.state.ca.us**

* * * *

In addition to the documents sent to the Commission Docket Unit, also send individual copies of any documents to:

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.


[signature]

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**Revisions to POS List, i.e. updates, additions and/or deletions*