

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

ARNO LD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor	
DOCKET	
06-AFC-10	
DATE	JUL 27 2007
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**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT
FOR THE STARWOOD POWER PROJECT**

The California Energy Commission staff has prepared a Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) that contains staff's initial engineering and environmental evaluation of the Starwood Power Project (SPP).

In summary this PSA finds that:

- The project is in conformance with all Laws, Ordinances, Regulations and Standards (LORS) with the exception of land use consistency with the Fresno County General Plan and zoning.
- Staff is unable to conclude that the proposed project is consistent with the Fresno County General Plan for industrial uses on a parcel that is zoned Exclusive Agriculture AE-20. Staff will continue to work with the Fresno County Planning staff to resolve this issue.
- With the proposed conditions of certification included in the various technical areas, the project's construction and operation impacts can be mitigated to a level less than significant.

On November 17, 2006, Starwood Power-Midway, LLC, submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to construct and operate a nominal 120 megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired simple-cycle (peaking) power plant, the Starwood Power Project (SPP), in western Fresno County at 43627 West Panoche Road. The Energy Commission determined the application to be complete on January 3, 2007.

The proposed power plant licensing process is under the Energy Commission's siting authority. The power plant certification process examines engineering, environmental, public health, and safety aspects of power plant proposals and contains analyses pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). When issuing a license, the Energy Commission is the lead state agency under CEQA, and its process is functionally equivalent to the preparation of an EIR. After a 30-day public comment period on the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and receipt of a Final Determination of Compliance from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, staff will prepare its testimony in the form of the Final Staff Assessment (FSA).

The PSA contains the Energy Commission staff's draft environmental and engineering evaluation of the project. Staff will conduct a public workshop on the PSA on August 16, 2007. This workshop will be separately noticed. The public, local, State, and federal agencies are encouraged to participate. Based on the workshop, comments received on the PSA, and additional information that will be gathered, staff will issue an FSA. Please provide any written comments to Che McFarlin, Siting Project Manager by **Monday, August 27, 2007**.

The Preliminary Staff Assessment and other relevant documents are available on the Energy Commission's website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/starwood> and in printed format upon request. If you would like a copy of the PSA, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the California Energy Commission, Attention: Angela Hockaday, 1516

Ninth Street, MS-15, Sacramento, CA 95814-5512, phone at (916) 654-3925 or email to email at ahockada@energy.state.ca.us.

For more information on how to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228.

Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to Che McFarlin, Siting Project Manager, at (916) 651-0965 or by email at cmcfarli@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to Assistant Director, Claudia Chandler, at (916) 654-4989 or by email at: mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

DATE: 7/27/07



Roger E. Johnson
Siting and Compliance Office Manager

Please send me a copy of the California Energy Commission staff's Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Starwood Power Project, Application for Certification (06-AFC-10).

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

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California Energy Commission
Attention: Angela Hockaday
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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