## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512



# NOTICE OF RECEIPT PG&E PETITION TO ALLOW USE OF ANHYDROUS AMMONIA AS A REFRIGERANT AT THE GATEWAY GENERATING STATION (00-AFC-1C)

On November 5, 2007, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) filed a petition with the California Energy Commission requesting Energy Commission approval of an amendment to allow the use of anhydrous ammonia as the refrigerant in the project's inlet chiller system for the Gateway Generating Station (formerly known as the Contra Costa Power Plant Unit 8).

The 530-megawatt project was certified by the Energy Commission on May 30, 2001. Construction of the facility started late in 2001 and was suspended in February of 2002 due to financial difficulties, with approximately seven percent of construction completed. On July 19, 2006, the Energy Commission approved the addition of PG&E as co-owner of the project with Mirant Delta, LLC. On January 3, 2007, the Energy Commission approved PG&E's petition to remove Mirant as a co-owner and change the name of the facility to the Gateway Generating Station. PG&E restarted construction in February of 2007 and project construction is currently 26 percent completed. The facility is located on Wilbur Avenue, east of the city of Antioch, in Contra Costa County.

## **DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION**

The proposed modification to use anhydrous ammonia as the refrigerant would increase the efficiency of the inlet chiller system. The chiller system will be initially charged with 6,800 gallons of anhydrous ammonia and is not expected to require subsequent recharges as the ammonia is not consumed and the chiller system is a closed system. Any potential offsite impacts associated with the release of ammonia from the chiller system will be mitigated by engineering controls. These controls include appropriate design of the chiller system, ammonia monitoring and alarms systems, integration of monitoring and control systems to reduce accidental releases of ammonia, employee training including strict lock-out/tag-out procedures, and preventative maintenance processes.

# **ENERGY COMMISSION REVIEW PROCEDURES**

The purpose of the Energy Commission's review process is to assess the impacts of this proposal on environmental quality, and public health and safety. The review process includes an evaluation of the consistency of the proposed changes with the Energy Commission's Decision and if the project, as changed, will remain in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (Title 20, Calif. Code of Regulations, section 1769). Energy Commission staff is currently analyzing the request and will publish a staff analysis. A public hearing for the purpose of approving or denying the amendment proposal will be held at a regularly scheduled Energy Commission business meeting.

The petition is available on the Energy Commission's website at <a href="https://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/compliance/index.html">www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/compliance/index.html</a> The staff analysis and recommendations, as well as the Energy Commission Order (if approved), will also be posted on the website. If you would like to receive a hard copy of the petition, staff analysis, or the Energy Commission Order if the changes are approved, please complete the enclosed Information Request Form and return it to the address shown.

If you have any comments or questions on the amendment, please contact Ron Yasny, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 651-1227, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at: <a href="mailto:ryasny@energy.state.ca.us">ryasny@energy.state.ca.us</a> within 15 days of the date of this notice.

This Notice of Receipt is being mailed to all interested parties and property owners adjacent to the project site who are on the post-certification mailing list and who may want to participate in the amendment process.

For further information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact, the Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:pao@energy.state.ca.us">pao@energy.state.ca.us</a>. If you require special accommodations, please contact Lourdes Quiroz at (916) 654-5146. News media inquiries should be directed to Assistant Director, Claudia Chandler, at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us">mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us</a>.

Date: 11/8/07

ROGER E. JOHNSON, Manager Siting and Compliance Office Energy Facilities Siting Division

**Enclosure: Information Request Form** 

Mail List #755

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Privacy Policy: You will receive only the information requested, and the Energy Commission will make no additional use of your personal information.

# INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

COMPLETE & MAIL TO: CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

COMPLIANCE UNIT

ATTN: RON YASNY

1516 NINTH STREET, MS-2000 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

**OR FAX TO:** (916) 654-3882

NAME AND/OR TITLE (AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON MAIL LABEL)

ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE)

STREET ADDRESS OR P.O. BOX

CITY

STATE ZIP CODE

PG&E PETITION TO USE ANHYDROUS AMMONIA AS THE REFRIGERANT IN THE INLET CHILLER SYSTEM AT THE GATEWAY **GENERATING STATION (00-AFC-1C)**  PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REMAIN ON THE MAILING LIST AND CIRCLE THE DOCUMENTS FOR THE CURRENT AMENDMENT YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE:

PETITION TO AMEND

( ) KEEP ME ON THE MAILING LIST

STAFF ANALYSIS

( ) REMOVE ME FROM THE MAILING LIST

PROJECT: Gateway Generating Station

ENERGY COMMISSION ORDER (IF APPROVED)

DOCKET NO: 00-AFC-1C

MAIL LIST NO: 755