


CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
 www.energy.ca.gov

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor	
DOCKET	
07-AFC-1	
DATE	NOV 29 2007
RECD.	NOV 29 2007


NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

**PRELIMINARY STAFF ASSESSMENT
 FOR THE VICTORVILLE 2 HYBRID POWER PROJECT
 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION (07-AFC-1)**

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) for the Victorville 2 Hybrid Power Project (Victorville 2) Application for Certification (07-AFC-1). The PSA was published on November 21, 2007. The PSA contains the California Energy Commission staff's initial engineering and environmental evaluation of the Victorville 2 project.

Staff finds that the Victorville 2 project would comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards. Staff's preliminary conclusions are also that significant adverse direct, indirect or cumulative impacts are not likely to occur, although there are five technical areas in which staff is continuing its analysis, which are summarized as follows:

- **Air Quality** - Staff believes that the project emission impacts can be mitigated to a level of insignificance with the emission reduction and priority reserve credits defined by current rules, subject to the mitigation remaining available to the project as it undergoes legal challenges.
- **Biology** – Staff has tentatively determined that the project will meet all mitigation requirements, but is awaiting additional information that will be provided when the federal Biological Opinion is completed and issued by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This permit will address habitat compensation ratios related to desert tortoise and Mohave ground squirrel, the potential need for tortoise exclusion fencing, and the adequacy of proposed plant relocation areas and programs.
- **Cultural Resources** – The applicant will be providing, in early December 2007, additional cultural resource field surveys that have been conducted on a portion of Segment 3 of the transmission line and along the route of the proposed potable/backup process water pipeline. When the survey data is received, staff will be able to complete its review of the project, which based on information provided to date, indicates the project would not have a significant impact on known archaeological or ethnographic resources.
- **Soil and Water** – The applicant will be providing additional stormwater plans and calculations that are expected to resolve outstanding stormwater management issues. Staff will continue to explore its tentative conclusion that the project's use of reclaimed water will neither exacerbate the overdraft in the Mojave Groundwater Basin nor compromise the ability of Victor Valley Water Reclamation Authority to meet its obligations under the Memorandum of Understanding with CDFG for maintenance of flows in the Mojave River.

- **Traffic and Transportation** – Staff is further exploring two potential impacts to aviation traffic and safety that could affect operations at the Southern California Logistics Airport (SCLA). The first relates to the potential for glare from the solar collector thermal arrays to distract or cause temporary vision impairment to pilots. The second relates to the potential turbulence effect on U.S. Army helicopters from the project's turbine and cooling tower thermal plumes, if the arrival and departure traffic patterns to the north of the SCLA were to remain unaltered.

Agencies and members of the public are encouraged to participate in the PSA review process. Written comments would be appreciated by December 21, 2007. You may also present your views at the PSA workshop that will be held December 11, 2007, at the Southern California Logistics Airport and is being noticed separately.

The PSA is available for review at the following local libraries:

Victorville Branch Library
15011 Circle Drive
Victorville, CA 92395

Apple Valley, Newton T. Bass Branch Library
14901 Dale Evans Parkway
Apple Valley, CA 92307

San Bernardino County Library
104 West 4th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92415

Barstow Branch Library
305 E. Buena Vista St.
Barstow, CA 92311

Adelanto Branch Library
11497 Bartlett Ave.
Adelanto, CA 92301

Loma Linda Branch Library
25581 Barton Rd.
Loma Linda, CA 92354

The PSA is also available on the Internet (see below). However, if you would like a paper copy or CD of the PSA, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to California Energy Commission, Attention: April Esau, Siting Project Secretary, or contact April Esau at (916) 653-1640, or by e-mail at aesau@energy.state.ca.us.

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

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should be directed to John Kessler, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 654-4679 or at jkessler@energy.state.ca.us. The status of the project, an electronic copy of the Application for Certification, the PSA, copies of notices, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's web site at www.energy.ca.gov/siting_cases/victorville2/index.html.

If you need reasonable accommodation in terms of assistance, please contact Lourdes Quiroz of the Administrative Services Division at (916) 654-5146, or e-mail Lourdes at lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to Assistant Executive Director, Claudia Chandler, at (916) 654-4989.

Sincerely,



ROGER E. JOHNSON
Siting and Compliance Office Manager

11/29/07

Date

Enclosure
Mailed to lists:
7225 - General
7226 - Property Owners

Please send me a paper copy / CD (circle one) of the California Energy Commission staff's Preliminary Staff Assessment for the Victorville 2 Hybrid Power Project (Victorville 2) Application for Certification (07-AFC-1).

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

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

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