



**FPL Energy**

**An FPL Group Company**

March 13, 2008

<b>DOCKET</b> 08-AEG-2	
<b>DATE</b>	MAR 13 2008
<b>RECD.</b>	MAR 14 2008

Ms. Melissa Jones  
Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Beacon Solar Energy Project Application for Certification

Dear Ms. Jones:

On behalf of FPL Energy's wholly owned subsidiary, Beacon Solar, LLC, and in accordance with Title 20, California Code of Regulations, I am pleased to submit the enclosed Application for Certification for the Beacon Solar Energy Project ("Project"). Beacon Solar intends to develop, construct, own and operate the proposed new facility on land owned by the company. The Project site is located adjacent to California State Highway 14 in eastern Kern County just north of the community of California City.

As more fully described within the enclosed application, the Project will have a nominal electrical output of 250 megawatts and is projected to commence commercial operation in the third quarter of 2011, subject to obtaining regulatory approvals within a reasonable timeframe. In order to meet this objective, we are seeking your agency's approval of our application by April 30, 2009, such that we can commence the twenty-five month construction period shortly thereafter. The facility will consist of concentrating solar thermal trough technology using parabolic mirrors similar to the SEGS facilities owned and operated by FPL Energy affiliated subsidiaries.

Beacon Solar intends to interconnect the proposed facility to the 230 kilovolt electric transmission system owned and operated by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in the vicinity of the Project site. A request to interconnect the proposed facility to the LADWP transmission system has been filed with LADWP. A System Impact Study for the interconnection request is pending. Two different route options are described for interconnecting the Project to the LADWP transmission system. A new 17.6 mile long natural gas line connecting the facility to the existing Southern California Gas Company local gas distribution system is also included as part of the Project.

The objectives of the proposed Project are to serve the growing requirements for renewable electric generation in California consistent with the provisions of the State's Renewable Portfolio Standards, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, and other local renewable energy procurement mandates adopted by the state's municipal electric utilities. Because of the excellent solar resource available at the Project site, the Project will complement the peak-hour renewable power requirements of potential utility customers in an efficient manner.

The Project's capital cost is estimated to approach \$1 billion. An average of 477 construction workers is anticipated to be employed at the Project site over the two-year construction period. Peak construction employment is expected to reach close to 1,000 personnel. Upon completion, the Project may employ up to 66 full-time employees over its production lifetime.

In preparing this application, the Project team has held discussions on various aspects of the proposed Project with representatives of Kern County, California City, the United States military branches with operations in the Project area, and other state and federal agencies. Where appropriate, reference to specific correspondence and guidance received as a result of these discussions is provided within the application.

As an officer of FPL Energy, LLC, I hereby attest, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of my knowledge, the contents of this application are truthful and accurate. Please contact Gary Palo, Director - Solar Development at (949-721-1554) or by email at [gary\\_1\\_palo@fpl.com](mailto:gary_1_palo@fpl.com), if you have any questions regarding the enclosed application.

Respectfully Submitted,

On behalf of Beacon Solar, LLC



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cc: Eileen Allen, Siting and Compliance Office Manager  
California Energy Commission

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