

## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

<b>DOCKET</b>	
81-AFC-1C	
<b>DATE</b>	JUL 16 2008
<b>RECD.</b>	JUL 18 2008

**In the Matter of:****CALISTOGA GEOTHERMAL POWER  
PLANT NO. 1****GEYSERS POWER COMPANY, LLC**

) **Docket No. 81-AFC-1C**  
 )  
 ) **Order No. 08-716-3**  
 ) **ORDER APPROVING** a Petition to Modify  
 ) Biological Resources Condition of Certification 5-4  
 ) to allow the Compliance Project Manager to  
 ) determine when boron drift monitoring may be  
 ) discontinued.

**Geysers Power Company, LLC**, the owner/operators of Calistoga Geothermal Power Plant No. 1, has requested to modify Condition of Certification Biological Resources 5-4 to allow that the five-year boron drift monitoring continues until the CPM confirms in writing that boron drift is not having a significant adverse environmental impact on the vegetation surrounding the power plant and that the project owner is no longer required to conduct further monitoring. The modification, as written by staff, will allow the Project Owner to suspend boron drift monitoring with the written approval of the CPM.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Energy Commission staff reviewed the petition and finds that it complies with the requirements of Title 20, Section 1769(a) of the California Code of Regulations and recommends approval of the Geysers Power Company, LLC's petition to modify the Calistoga Geothermal Power Plant No. 1 and amend related Condition of Certification Biological Resources 5-4.

**ENERGY COMMISSION FINDINGS**

Based on staff's analysis, the Energy Commission concludes that the proposed changes will not result in any significant impact to public health and safety, or the environment. The Energy Commission finds that:

- The petition meets all the filing criteria of Title 20, section 1769(a) of the California Code of Regulations concerning post-certification project modifications;
- The modification will not change the findings in the Energy Commission's Final Decision pursuant to Title 20, section 1755;
- The project will remain in compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards, subject to the provisions of Public Resources Code section 25525;
- The Change will be beneficial to the project owner because they would not incur the time and expense of commissioning unnecessary boron monitoring.

- o There has been a substantial amount of data resulting from boron drift monitoring of the project from one year before operations through 2003, indicating no significant adverse environmental impacts.

## CONCLUSION AND ORDER

The California Energy Commission hereby adopts Staff's recommendations and approves the following changes to the Calistoga Geothermal Power Plant No. 1 Decision. New language is shown **double-underlined and bolded**, and deleted language is shown in ~~strikeout~~.

## CONDITION OF CERTIFICATION

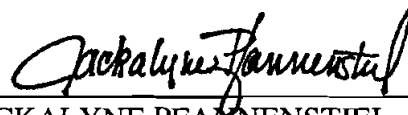
**5-4** ~~Occidental~~**The project owner** shall monitor drift effects on the vegetation surrounding the power plant. Monitoring shall be conducted for one year prior to operation, annually for the first three years of operation, and then at five-year intervals for the life of the power plant **or until the CEC Compliance Project Manager determines the monitoring can be suspended with possible re-initiation at a future date. Any future** ~~M~~monitoring shall include large-scale (not smaller than 1:3000) false color infrared photographs (one stereo pair), taken in June, coupled with ground sampling at permanent study plots. Ground sampling ~~will~~**shall** include examination by a qualified biologist for visible foliar injury and collection of foliar samples which ~~will~~**shall** be analyzed for boron content at a qualified laboratory.

**Verification:** ~~Occidental~~**The project owner** shall~~will~~**will** submit annual reports to the CEC in those years in which the monitoring takes place. These reports ~~shall~~**will** include copies of all laboratory analyses, field survey work, and a stereo pair (full color copy) of aerial photographs of the leasehold.

## IT IS SO ORDERED.

Date: July 16, 2008

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION



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JACKALYNE PFANNENSTIEL,  
Chairman