

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814Main website: [www.energy.ca.gov](http://www.energy.ca.gov)**08-AFC-2**DATE OCT 26 2008RECD. OCT 27 2008

**Notice of Staff Data Response & Issue Resolution  
Workshop for the  
Beacon Solar Energy Project  
(08-AFC-2)**

The California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) staff will be conducting a Data Response and Issue Resolution Workshop for the Beacon Solar Energy Project (Beacon). The purpose of the workshop is to discuss the applicant's responses to staff's data requests and to resolve identified issues. All interested agencies and members of the public are invited to participate. A telephone call-in number is provided for those unable to attend in person. The time and location are:

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2008  
9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Lunch Break: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

**California City  
Council Chambers – City Hall (Wheelchair Accessible)  
21000 Hacienda Blvd.  
California City, CA 93505  
(Map Attached)**

**To participate in the meeting by telephone, please call 1-866-203-6896.  
Conference ID: 2824463**

(Calls should be received at least 2 minutes prior to the start of the meeting)

The Energy Commission staff is currently analyzing the Beacon Application For Certification (AFC) for the proposed development of the Beacon Solar Energy Project. Staff sent data requests to the applicant on September 12, 2008, for the following technical areas: Biology, Cultural Resources, Socioeconomics, Soils, and Water Resources. The staff workshop will focus on the Beacon applicant's data responses, received on October 14, 2008, and issue resolution. The issues include potential impacts related to the proposed evaporation ponds, the proposed rerouting of Pine Tree Creek, mitigation plans and compensation ratios for special status species and associated habitat, water usage, potential impacts to groundwater, and evaluation of locations within the site and transmission line boundaries that may be eligible for listing on the California Register of Historic Resources. Following the workshop, staff will consider the comments and information received in preparing the Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA). The PSA contains staff's initial analysis of the project's environmental impacts, including recommendations for mitigation and conditions of certification.

### **Background**

On March 14, 2008, the California Energy Commission received an AFC from Beacon Solar, LLC, a subsidiary of Florida Power and Light Energy. The proposed project is a concentrated solar electric generating facility proposed on an approximately 2,012-acre site in eastern Kern County, California. The project would use parabolic trough solar thermal technology to

produce electrical power from a steam turbine generator, fed from a solar steam generator. The solar steam generator receives heated transfer fluid from solar thermal equipment comprised of arrays of parabolic mirrors that collect energy from the sun.

Previously staff held public Data Response and Issue Resolution Workshops on July 22, 2008, in California City, CA., and on August 25, 2008, at the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service office in Ventura, CA, where unresolved issues regarding mitigation and compensation ratios for sensitive species and associated habitat were discussed. In response to these workshops, the applicant submitted a draft Raven Monitoring, Mitigation, and Control Plan (RMMC Plan) to the Energy Commission on July 17, 2008, and a revised draft RMMC Plan on October 22, 2008.

However, substantive issues regarding potential impacts and mitigation are still being addressed and additional questions have developed during the course of staff's project analysis. These were identified in the second round of Data Requests that were submitted to the applicant on September 12, 2008. The applicant's responses to these requests were submitted to the Energy Commission on October 14, 2008, and will be the primary focus of the November 6, 2008, workshop.

### **Public Participation**

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office is available to assist in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in the Beacon Solar Generating project proceeding, please contact the Public Adviser, Elena Miller, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at [publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us). To request special accommodations for those persons with disabilities, please contact Lourdes Quiroz, the Energy Commission's Equal Employment Opportunity Officer at [lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us) or by telephone (916) 654-5146. For anyone needing interpreter services please contact Shaelyn Strattan, Project, Manager, at (916) 651-0966, or by email at [mstratta@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:mstratta@energy.state.ca.us) at least five days in advance of the workshop.

### **Questions**

General information and documents on the proposed project are available on the Energy Commission's website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/beacon/index.html>. Please direct your technical or project schedule questions to Shaelyn Strattan, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 651-0966, or by email at [mstratta@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:mstratta@energy.state.ca.us). News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission's Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by email at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us). You can also subscribe to receive email notification at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html>.

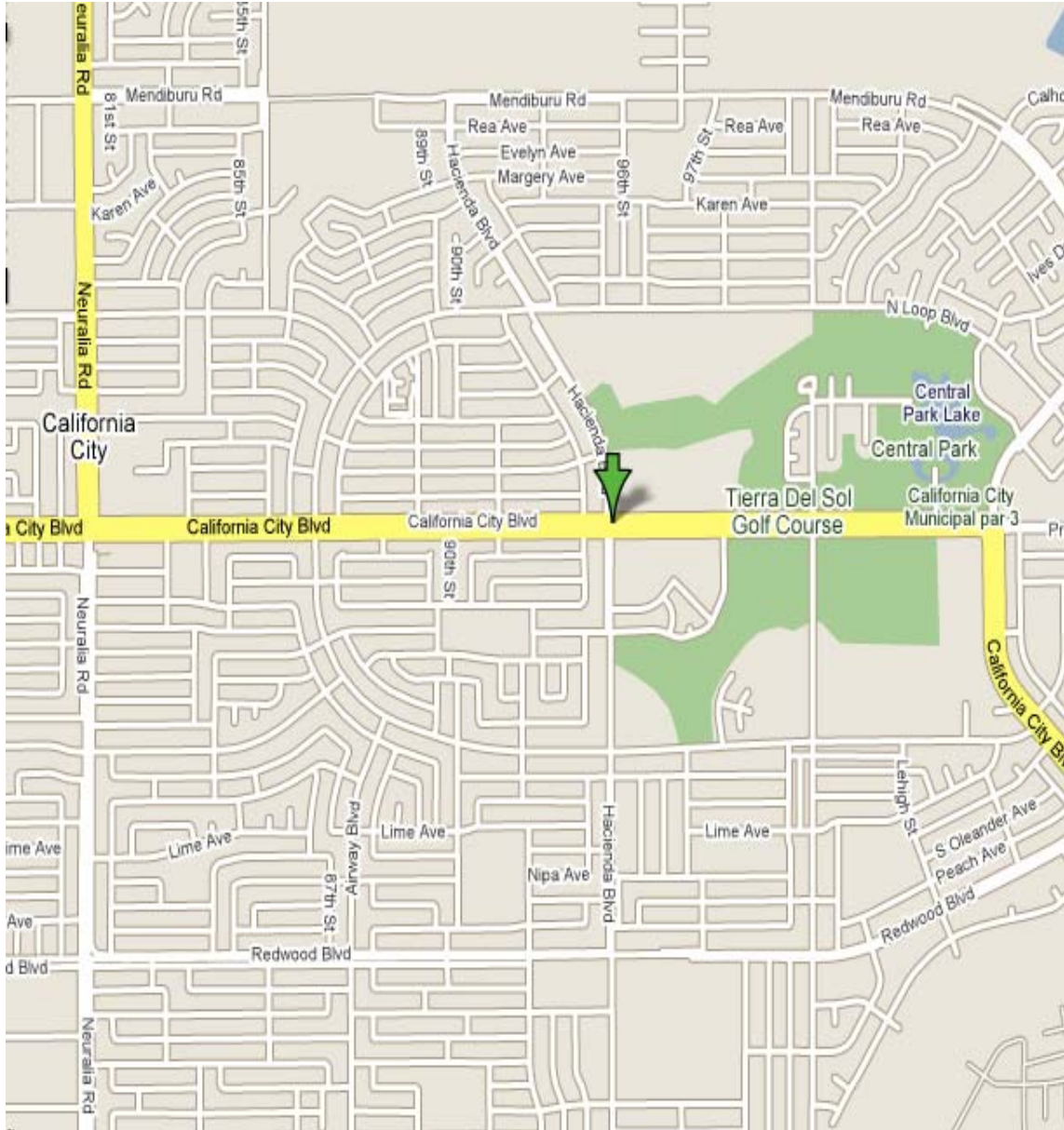
Date: 10/26/08

Original signature in Dockets  
Terrence O'Brien, Deputy Director  
Siting, Transmission, and Environmental Protection Division

#### Proof of Service List

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Agencies - 7232  
Libraries - 7233

**California City  
Council Chambers – City Hall  
21000 Hacienda Blvd.  
California City, CA 93505  
(Wheelchair Accessible)**





BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
1-800-822-6228 – WWW.ENERGY.CA.GOV

**APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION**  
**For the *BEACON SOLAR ENERGY***  
***PROJECT***

**Docket No. 08-AFC-2**

**PROOF OF SERVICE**  
***(Revised 8/18/08)***

**INSTRUCTIONS:** All parties shall either (1) send an original signed document plus 12 copies or (2) mail one original signed copy AND e-mail the document to the address for the Docket as shown below, AND (3) all parties shall also send a printed or electronic copy of the document, which includes a proof of service declaration to each of the individuals on the proof of service list shown below:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION  
Attn: Docket No. 07-AFC-9  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512  
[docket@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:docket@energy.state.ca.us)

**APPLICANT**

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**INTERESTED AGENCIES**

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**DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

I, April Albright, declare that on October 27, 2008, I deposited copies of the attached Notice of Staff Data Response & Issue Resolution Workshop for the Beacon Solar Energy Project (08-AFC-2) in the United States mail at Sacramento, CA with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to those identified on the Proof of Service list above.

Transmission via electronic mail was consistent with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 20, sections 1209, 1209.5, and 1210. All electronic copies were sent to all those identified on the Proof of Service list above.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Original signature in Dockets  
**April Albright**