



COUNTY OF LAKE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Courthouse - 255 N. Forbes Street
Lakeport, California 95453
Telephone 707/263-2221 FAX 707/263-2225

DOCKET

79-AFC-4C

DATE May 22 2009

RECD. May 28 2009

May 22, 2009

Brian Harms
General Manager
Bottle Rock Power, LLC
PO Box 326
Cobb, CA 95426

RE: power plant noise complaint

Dear Mr. Harms,

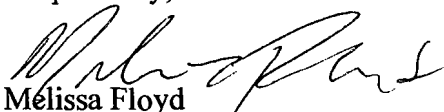
On March 3, 2009, Community Development Department (CDD) staff responded to a neighbor complaint regarding noise from the power plant. Pursuant to Section 41.11 of the Lake County Zoning Ordinance as well as Condition 16-1 of CEC Certification 79-AFC-4C for the plant, maximum one-hour equivalent sound pressure levels at residential receiving properties are 55dBA from 7AM-10PM and 45dBA from 10PM - 7AM. Preliminary readings taken during this daytime site visit revealed that sound levels were in the 52-54dBA range. While the plant appears to be operating within allowable noise limits during the day, it is likely that maximum levels are exceeded at night.

Staff proposes two possible options that you may pursue to achieve compliance with noise requirements in order to avoid the issuance of a Notice of Violation:

- 1) Within 30 days of the date of this letter, a formal noise survey, conducted by a licensed acoustical engineer, be conducted at the facility property line nearest the complaining receptor over a period of at least 72 hours. The survey shall be reported to the CDD in terms of Leq and Lz at levels x=10, 50, and 90. Should the survey determine that the plant operates outside of allowable noise limits, mitigation measures shall be proposed and installed with approval from CDD. Or,
- 2) Within 30 days of the date of this letter, mitigation measures to further minimize noise output at the power plant be proposed to the CDD and shall be installed upon approval. Once installed, CDD staff shall take additional noise readings. Should preliminary levels continue to indicate noise levels above the allowable limits, the procedure detailed in #1 above shall be followed.

Please feel free to contact me at any time for assistance or with any questions.

Respectfully,


Melissa Floyd
Geothermal Coordinator
mlbanks@yahoo.com

Cc: Dale Renquist, CEC
David Coleman