

# Memorandum

Date: June 1, 2009  
 Telephone: (916) 651-0966

To: Karen Douglas, Chairman and Presiding Member  
 Jeffrey D. Byron, Commissioner and Associate Member

From: California Energy Commission – Eric K. Solorio, Project Manager  
 1516 Ninth Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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| <b>DOCKET</b><br><b>08-AFC-2</b> |
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|------|-----------------|
| DATE | <u>06/01/09</u> |
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| RECD. | <u>06/02/09</u> |
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Subject: **Beacon Solar Energy Project (08-AFC-2) STATUS REPORT #8**

Pursuant to the Committee Scheduling Order dated June 18, 2008, the following is staff's Status Report #8 for the proposed Beacon Solar Energy Project (BSEP).

## Current Activities

Staff is developing the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) by incorporating additional information resulting from the PSA workshop, written comments received from the parties, agencies and the public, and additional information expected from applicant. Applicant plans to submit additional information related to the following items:

1. Engineering and design of applicant's proposal to reroute Pine Tree Creek (including a revegetation plan);
2. Evaporation pond(s) sizing and location, specific data on wastewater characterization, location and number of new monitoring wells;
3. Storm water detention facilities sizing and location, and re-routing drainage channels into the retention basin;
4. Updating the Drainage, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan/Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (DESCP/SWPPP) to address soil erosion and discharge runoff to adjacent properties;
5. The addition of an access/maintenance road on the northern project boundary extending east to Neuralia Road. The access/maintenance road will simultaneously provide a maintenance road for the existing Southern California Edison transmission line that applicant proposes to reroute around the project site, and a secondary access to the project site for fire/life/safety purposes;
6. Revising the site plan and facilities layout to account for the existing 55 foot wide county road right-of-way, along the southern and eastern project boundaries;
7. The addition of a zero-liquid discharge system;
8. Modifications to the solar field configuration resulting from the various modifications to the overall facilities;
9. Emission data for maintenance trucks that the applicant prefers to use in place of what staff has recommended in its analysis of impacts to air quality;
10. A relocation/translocation plan for the Desert Tortoise; and
11. Confirmation from the service provider that telecommunications infrastructure is at the site and off-site improvements are not necessary.

During the month of May, staff has been working with representatives and decision makers from the city of Rosamond to explore the possibility of the City providing the Beacon Solar Energy Project with tertiary treated wastewater for use in wet cooling. The City has stated they will have the capacity to deliver the necessary quantity and quality of reclaimed water to meet the needs of the BSEP, according to the BSEP's planned construction and operation schedule. The City supports the idea and is actively working with staff to develop a comprehensive proposal. The proposal will include identifying several potential routes for the reclaimed water pipeline, engineering and cost estimates for the pipeline facilities, water quality/quantity information, annual delivery costs and a Letter of Intent from the City to provide reclaimed water to the BSEP for a period of 30 years. Staff expects the proposal will be complete in approximately three weeks and therefore allow all parties to discuss this additional alternative source of water at a staff workshop which is tentatively scheduled for June 30, 2009, in California City.

### **Schedule**

The critical path item to publishing the FSA is receiving the outstanding information from applicant. As such, staff plans to hold its last workshop approximately one week after receiving the outstanding information. The purpose of the workshop will be to discuss and finalize mitigation measures related to impacts to water resources, cultural resources, biological resources, air quality, ambient noise, and visual resources. Staff's objective is to reach a mutual agreement with applicant on all mitigation measures. Staff plans to publish the FSA approximately 30 days after the workshop. Please see staff's proposed revised schedule on the following page.

**STAFF'S PROPOSED SCHEDULE  
 BEACON SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT (08-AFC-2)**

| <b>DATE</b> | <b>EVENT</b>   |
|-------------|--|
| 3/14/08     | Applicant files Application for Certification (AFC)  |
| 5/7/08      | Decision on Data Adequacy at the Business Meeting  |
| 6/11/08     | Informational Hearing and Site Visit   |
| 6/17/08     | Staff files 1st Round Data Requests  |
| 7/17/08     | Applicant provides Data Responses (round 1)  |
| 7/21/08     | Data Response and Issue Resolution Workshop (round 1)  |
| 8/8/08      | Status Report #1   |
| 8/15/08     | Staff files Data Requests (round 2, if necessary)  |
| 9/3/08      | Local, state and federal agency draft determinations, including PDOC from KCAPCD                       |
| 9/15/08     | Applicant provides Data Responses (round 2, if necessary)  |
| 9/25/08     | Data Response and Issue Resolution Workshop (round 2)  |
| 9/30/08     | Staff files Status Report #2   |
| 11/06/08    | Data Response and Issue Resolution Workshop (round 2)  |
| 11/21/08    | Staff files Status Report #3   |
| 12/29/08    | Staff files Status Report #4   |
| 2/11/09     | Staff files Status Report #5   |
| 3/05/09     | Local, state and federal agency final determinations, including FDOC from KCAPCD                       |
| 3/09/09     | Staff files Status Report #6   |
| 4/01/09     | Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) filed   |
| 4/14/09     | PSA workshop   |
| 4/21/09     | Staff files Status Report #7   |
| 6/01/09     | Staff files Status Report #8   |
| 6/30/09     | Staff Workshop to Discuss Mitigation Measures  |
| 7/30/09     | Final Staff Assessment filed (based upon applicant providing outstanding information by June 19, 2009) |
| TBD         | Pre-Hearing Conference   |

Proof of Service List  
 Docket



**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 4/28/09)*

**APPLICANT**

Scott Busa  
Kenneth Stein, J.D.,  
Meg Russell  
Duane McCloud  
Guillermo Narvaez, P.E.  
Nextera Energy Resources, LLC  
700 Universe Blvd.  
Juno Beach, FL 33408  
[Scott.Busa@Nexteraenergy.com](mailto:Scott.Busa@Nexteraenergy.com)  
[Kenneth.Stein@Nexteraenergy.com](mailto:Kenneth.Stein@Nexteraenergy.com)  
[Meg.Russell@Nexteraenergy.com](mailto:Meg.Russell@Nexteraenergy.com)  
[Duane.McCloud@Nexteraenergy.com](mailto:Duane.McCloud@Nexteraenergy.com)  
[Guillermo.Narvaez@Nexteraenergy.com](mailto:Guillermo.Narvaez@Nexteraenergy.com)

\*Diane Fellman  
Director West Region  
NextEra Energy Resources  
234 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
[Diane.fellman@nexteraenergy.com](mailto:Diane.fellman@nexteraenergy.com)

**APPLICANT'S CONSULTANTS**

Sara Head, Vice President  
AECOM Environment  
1220 Avenida Acaso  
Camarillo, CA 93012  
[sara.head@aecom.com](mailto:sara.head@aecom.com)

Bill Pietrucha, Project Manager  
Jared Foster, P.E.,  
Mechanical Engineer  
Worley Parsons  
2330 E. Bidwell Street, Suite 150  
Folsom, CA 95630  
[Bill.Pietrucha@worleyparsons.com](mailto:Bill.Pietrucha@worleyparsons.com)  
[Jared.Foster@worleyparsons.com](mailto:Jared.Foster@worleyparsons.com)

**COUNSEL FOR APPLICANT**

Jane Luckhardt, Attorney at Law  
Downey Brand Attorneys LLP  
621 Capital Mall, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[jluckhardt@downeybrand.com](mailto:jluckhardt@downeybrand.com)

**INTERESTED AGENCIES**

California ISO  
[e-recipient@caiso.com](mailto:e-recipient@caiso.com)

**INTERVENORS**

Tanya A. Gulesserian  
Marc D. Joseph  
Adams Broadwell  
Joseph & Cardozo  
601 Gateway Boulevard,  
Suite 1000  
South San Francisco, CA 94080  
E-mail Preferred  
[tgulesserian@adamsbroadwell.com](mailto:tgulesserian@adamsbroadwell.com)

**ENERGY COMMISSION**

KAREN DOUGLAS  
Chairman and Presiding Member  
[KLdougl@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:KLdougl@energy.state.ca.us)

JEFFREY D. BYRON  
Commissioner and Associate  
Member  
[Jbyron@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:Jbyron@energy.state.ca.us)

Kenneth Celli  
Hearing Officer  
[kcelli@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:kcelli@energy.state.ca.us)

Eric K. Solorio  
Project Manager  
[esolorio@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:esolorio@energy.state.ca.us)

Jared Babula  
Staff Counsel  
[jbabula@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:jbabula@energy.state.ca.us)

Public Adviser's Office  
[publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us)

**DECLARATION OF SERVICE**

I, Maria Santourdjian, declare that on June 2, 2009, I served and filed copies of the attached Beacon Solar Energy Project Status Report #4. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at:

**[[www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/beacon](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/beacon)]**. The document has been sent to both the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

**(Check all that Apply)**

**FOR SERVICE TO ALL OTHER PARTIES:**

  x   sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;

  x   by personal delivery or by depositing in the United States mail at \_\_\_\_\_ with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed as provided on the Proof of Service list above to those addresses **NOT** marked "email preferred."

**AND**

**FOR FILING WITH THE ENERGY COMMISSION:**

  x   sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed respectively, to the address below (***preferred method***);

**OR**

\_\_\_\_\_ depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:

**CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION**

Attn: Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

1516 Ninth Street, MS-4

Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

[docket@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:docket@energy.state.ca.us)

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

Original Signature in Dockets  
Maria Santourdjian