

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov

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August 5, 2009

Dear Librarian:

DOCUMENT HANDLING FOR THE CONTRA COSTA GENERATING STATION PROJECT (09-AFC-04)

On June 30, 2009, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from the Contra Costa Generating Station, LLC to construct and operate the Contra Costa Generating Station (CCGS). The proposed CCGS would be a 624-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired electrical generating facility . located on a 21.95 acre parcel in an industrial zoned area in the City of Oakley, in Contra Costa County.

If approved, construction of the generating facility, from site preparation and grading to commercial operation, is expected to take place from the first quarter of 2011 to the fourth quarter of 2013 (33 months total). It is currently anticipated that, if approved, the project will be in commercial service by the fourth quarter of 2013.

The project is under the Energy Commission's siting authority. The power plant certification process examines engineering, public health and safety, and environmental aspects of power plant proposals and provides analyses pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). When issuing a certificate, the Energy Commission is the lead state agency under CEQA, and its process is functionally equivalent to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.

The Energy Commission's siting process is open to the public and incorporates the input of the public as well as local, state, and federal agencies. To facilitate public participation in our review process, the Energy Commission has sent copies of the AFC to libraries in the project area, and to libraries in Eureka, San Francisco, Sacramento, Fresno, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Please make the enclosed AFC available for those who may wish to be informed about the project. We request that you not allow the AFC or any of its contents be removed from the library. To increase accessibility of the document, we ask, if possible, that you cross reference it as a general reference work under the title and author categories, as well as under such subjects as "Energy Commission," "electricity," "energy/generation," "power plant siting," or any other relevant subject.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Joseph Douglas, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-4677, or by email at jdouglas@energy.state.ca.us or Maria Santourdjian, Project Secretary, at (916) 651-9410, or by email at MSergoya@energy.state.ca.us

Sincerely,

Eileen Allen, Manager
Energy Facilities Siting and Compliance Office

Enclosure

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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August 5, 2009

To: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE REVIEW OF THE CONTRA COSTA GENERATING STATION PROJECT, DISTRIBUTION OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION (09-AFC-04)

On June 30, 2009, Contra Costa Generating Station, LLC submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to construct and operate the Contra Costa Generating Station, in the City of Oakley, in Contra Costa County.

Project Location

The proposed project is located in Oakley, eastern Contra Costa County, California at 6000 Bridgehead Road. The 21.95-acre project site is zoned as heavy industrial, and is part of a larger 500-acre DuPont property. The project site is bounded to the west by the PG&E Antioch Terminal, a large natural gas transmission hub, to the north by the DuPont industrial zoned property, to the east by DuPont's titanium dioxide landfill area, and to the south by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad.

Project Description

The Contra Costa Generating Station (CCGS) would be a natural gas-fired, combined-cycle electrical generating facility rated at a nominal generating capacity of 624 megawatts (MW). Principal components of the proposed project include:

- two General Electric (GE) Frame 7FA combustion turbine-generators (CTGs) with a nominal rating of 213 MW each, equipped with metallurgical enhancements to improve efficiency,
- a single condensing steam turbine generator (STG), heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs), producing a net 218 MW,
- an air-cooled condenser to provide process cooling.

The emission reduction system will include a selective catalytic reduction (SCR) unit to control oxides of nitrogen and an oxidation catalyst to control carbon monoxide and volatile organic compounds in the exhaust gas emissions. Particulate emissions would be controlled by the use of best combustion practices which include the use of low-sulfur natural gas as the sole fuel for the CTGs and auxiliary boiler, and high-efficiency CTG inlet air filtration.

A new 2.4-mile-long, single-circuit, 230-kV transmission line would connect the project site with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) Contra Costa Substation. Natural gas will be supplied by a 140-foot long direct connection with the adjacent PG&E Antioch natural gas terminal.

The CCGS proposes to use potable water provided by the Diablo Water District for process and potable uses. Water would be provided through an onsite connection to an existing 27-inch-diameter distribution pipeline that runs through the CCGS site. Process and sanitary wastewater from the CCGS would be discharged to an existing onsite Ironhouse Sanitary District (ISD) sewer line.

Energy Commission's Facility Certification Process

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications to construct and operate thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, in California. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering aspects of proposed power plants and all related facilities, including electric transmission lines, natural gas and water pipelines. The Energy Commission is the Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), but through its certified regulatory program produces several environmental and decision documents rather than an Environmental Impact Report. The issuance of a certificate by the Energy Commission is in lieu of any local, state or federal permit (to the extent permitted by federal law).

As part of our review process, the staff of the Energy Commission works closely with local, state and federal agencies to ensure that all laws, ordinances, regulations and standards are addressed in the Energy Commission's final decision. The first step in the review process is for the Energy Commission staff to determine whether or not the AFC contains all the information required by our regulations. When the AFC is deemed data adequate, staff will begin the discovery and issue analysis phases. At that time a detailed examination of the issues will occur.

Public Participation

Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings to determine whether and under what conditions the proposed project should be approved for construction and operation. The workshops will provide the public as well as local, state and federal agencies the opportunity to participate in reviewing the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least ten days prior to the meeting. If you are not currently receiving these notices and wish to be placed on the mailing list, please contact Maria Santourdjian, Project Secretary, at (916) 651-9410, or by email at MSergoya@energy.state.ca.us

If you desire information about participating in the Energy Commission's review of the proposed project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser by phone at (916) 654-4701 or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by email at pao@energy.state.ca.us. Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to Joseph Douglas, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-4677, or by email at jdouglas@energy.state.ca.us

Note: Please retain this letter behind the front cover of the AFC. Thank You.