

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

<b>DOCKET</b>	
<b>08-AFC-7</b>	
DATE	<u>NOV 03 2009</u>
REC'D	<u>NOV 03 2009</u>



November 3, 2009

**Notice of Availability of the  
 Final Staff Assessment for the Proposed  
 GWF Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant (08-AFC-7)**

TO: AGENCY DISTRIBUTION LIST

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the Final Staff Assessment (FSA) for the proposed GWF Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant (GWF Tracy) Application for Certification (08-AFC-7). The FSA was published on October 30, 2009. The FSA contains the California Energy Commission staff's final engineering, public health, and environmental evaluation of the proposed plant.

The FSA will serve as staff's testimony during evidentiary hearings. The Energy Commission Committee assigned to the GWF Tracy proceedings will consider and weigh the testimony or comments or recommendations of all interested parties, including Energy Commission staff, the applicant, intervenors, public, and other local, state, and federal agencies, before issuing the Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD) for consideration by the full Energy Commission. The public, intervenors, local, state and federal agencies are encouraged to participate in these hearings. The Energy Commission will issue notices at least ten days prior to any scheduled hearings.

**Energy Commission Licensing Authority**

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all applications for construction and operation of thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, proposed for construction 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 such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines. The Energy Commission is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and because the regulatory program has been certified by the Natural Resources Agency pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.5, produces several environmental and decision documents rather than an Environmental Impact Report.

**Summary of the California Energy Commission Staff's Conclusions**

The California Energy Commission staff concludes that the proposed GWF Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant in San Joaquin County can be permitted and constructed in a manner that would allow it to comply with environmental laws and state policies –

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with the adoption of staff's recommended mitigation measures.

**Agency Participation**

The California Energy Commission encourages public agency participation in the review of the GWF Tracy Application for Certification and staff's FSA. We request that you review the enclosed FSA for the areas for which your agency would normally be responsible except for the Energy Commission's in lieu permitting authority. Written comments on the FSA should be provided to Alan Solomon, Project Manager, no later than 5:00 p.m., November 29, 2009 at the address on this letterhead or by email to [asolomon@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:asolomon@energy.state.ca.us). Technical or project schedule questions should also be directed to Alan Solomon at (916) 653-8236 or by email.

Sincerely,

Date: 11/3/09

Original signed by:  
EILEEN ALLEN, Office Manager  
Siting, Transmission and Environmental  
Protection Division

Enclosure

Mailed to lists:  
7314 - Agency