

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



DOCKET	
08-AFC-7	
DATE	NOV 03 2009
REC'D	NOV 03 2009

November 3, 2009

Dear Librarian:

DOCUMENT HANDLING FOR THE FINAL STAFF ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED GWF TRACY COMBINED CYCLE POWER PLANT (08-AFC-7)

The enclosed Final Staff Assessment (FSA) contains the California Energy Commission staff's final engineering and environmental evaluation of the proposed GWF Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant to be located near the City of Tracy. Please make this FSA available for those who may wish to be informed about the project. We request that you not allow the FSA or any of its contents to 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. Please retain the enclosed letter to the public behind the front cover of the FSA.

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 Commission distributes copies of staff documents such as the FSA to public libraries in communities near the proposed project, and in major cities throughout the state. As such, please retain a copy of the enclosed Notice of Availability behind the front cover of the FSA and also post a copy of the Public Notice in a place conspicuous and accessible to those members of the general public who visit the library.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Alan Solomon, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 653-8236, or by email at asolomon@energy.state.ca.us, or April Albright, Project Secretary, at (916) 653-1640, or by e-mail at aalbrigh@energy.state.ca.us.

Sincerely,

Original signed by: _____

EILEEN ALLEN

Siting and Docket Office Manager

Enclosure

Mailed to list: 7315 - Library

PROOF OF SERVICE (REVISED 2/25/09) FILED WITH
ORIGINAL MAILED FROM SACRAMENTO ON 11/03/09

AA

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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



November 3, 2009

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

TO: MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

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 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.

The California Energy Commission encourages public participation in the review of the GWF Tracy Application for Certification and staff's FSA. 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. Technical or project schedule questions should also be directed to Alan Solomon at (916) 653-8236 or by email.

Background

On July 18, 2008, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from GWF Energy, LLC for the GWF Tracy Combined Cycle Power Plant (GWF Tracy). GWF Energy, LLC proposes to modify the existing Tracy Peaker Plant (TPP) (01-AFC-16), a nominal 169-megawatt (MW) simple-cycle power plant by converting the facility into a combined-cycle power plant with a new nominal generating capacity of 314 MW. On September 5, 2008, GWF Energy, LLC provided a supplement to the AFC to satisfy the Energy Commission's informational requirements. On September 10, 2008, the Energy Commission accepted the AFC with the supplemental information as complete, beginning staff's analysis of the project.

GWF Energy, LLC's objectives are to convert the TPP to a combined cycle plant in order to address the future electricity needs of California, construct and operate an electrical generating facility on an existing brown-field site, and provide additional electrical capacity in the San Joaquin County and City of Tracy area. The proposed project would utilize existing TPP infrastructure to reduce environmental impacts and costs, and enhance the reliability of the state's electrical system by providing power generation near the centers of electrical demand.

Project Description

The proposed project site consists of 16.38 acres within a 40-acre parcel in San Joaquin County, and is located within an industrial and agricultural area which includes the existing TPP. The property is bounded by the Delta-Mendota Canal to the southwest, agricultural property to the south, and east, and the Union Pacific Railroad to the north. The San Joaquin County General Plan designates the proposed project site as General Agriculture and the County Zoning Designation is G-40, which allows electrical generation.

The project would include the addition of two heat recovery steam generators, a steam turbine generator, an auxiliary boiler, an air-cooled dry condenser unit, and a 115-kilovolt (kV) electrical switchyard. The proposed project would use existing TPP infrastructure, including the existing natural gas pipeline, water supply pipeline, and electric transmission line. Three short segments of the PG&E's 115 kV transmission system (totaling approximately 3 miles) would require reconductoring (upgraded wires to accommodate the added generating capacity). The reconductoring segments would be a 0.7 mile long transmission line adjacent to the proposed project site, and two segments, approximately 1.6 miles and 0.7 mile long, respectively, near the intersection of Interstate 5 and Interstate 205, near the PG&E Kasson Substation. Process water would be supplied via the existing TPP pipeline from the Delta-Mendota Canal by the Byron Bethany Irrigation District.

If approved, project construction would begin in the fall of 2010, with commercial operation commencing in June 2012.

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.

November 3, 2009

Page 3 of 3

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 – with the adoption of staff's recommended mitigation measures.

Public Resources, Contact Information and Additional Sources for Information

If you desire information on how to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the proposed project, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by email at:

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 or by telephone (916) 654-5146. For those persons with limited English knowledge, request interpreter services by contacting the Project Manager, Alan Solomon, at (916) 653-8236.

The status of the project, an electronic copy of the FSA, copies of notices, and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's web site at:

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tracyexpansion/index.html>. You can also

subscribe to receive email notification of all notices at

<http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers>.

News media inquiries should be directed to Assistant Director, Susanne Garfield, at (916) 654-4989, or by email at: mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

If you would like a paper copy or CD of the FSA, please contact April Albright, Project Assistant, at (916) 653-1640, or by email at aalbirgh@energy.state.ca.us.

Sincerely,

Date: 11/3/09

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

Enclosure



**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 *GWF TRACY COMBINED CYCLE
POWER PLANT PROJECT***

**Docket No. 08-AFC-7
PROOF OF SERVICE**

(Revised 2/25/2009)

APPLICANT

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, April Albright, declare that on November 3, 2009, I served and filed copies of the attached Notice of Availability of the Final Staff Assessment; Agency Letter for the Final Staff Assessment; and Library Letter for the Final Staff Assessment. 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: **[<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tracyexpansion/index.html>]**. 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:

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

by personal delivery or by depositing in the United States mail at Sacramento, California 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:

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. 08-AFC-7
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

docket@energy.state.ca.us

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

Original signed by: _____
April Albright