

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 8

PLANNING AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE (MS 722)

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*Flex your power!
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February 09, 2010

Ms. Marie McLean
Planner II
California Energy Commission
Environmental Protection Office
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

Dear Ms. McLean:

Stirling Energy Systems (SES) Calico Solar Project (formerly known as Solar One)
08-SBd-40-PM 32.496/36.19

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has reviewed the Traffic and Transportation Section of the Application for Certification (AFC) for the proposed SES Calico Solar Project located on Interstate 40 (I-40) east of Barstow, near Hector Road. Please review the following comments for your consideration.

- The peak hour traffic volumes in Table 5.11-4 for Hector Road (north and south of I-40) and National Trails Highway (west of Hector Road) are not consistent with traffic counts in Appendix BB-1.
- The existing ADT volumes for the I-40 East of Hector Road do not conform to 2007 Traffic Volumes in Tables 5.11-4, 5.11-9, 5.11-10, 5.11-13, 5.11-14 and Figure 5.11-4. Please verify the ADT volumes.
- Average Delays shown in Tables 5.11-5, 5.11-11, 5.11-12, 5.11-15 and 5.11-16 are not consistent with the Level of Service (LOS) Analysis in Appendix BB-2. Please verify the numbers.
- In Table 5.11-7, the total of "Morning Peak Trips" and "Evening Peak Trips" for the vehicle type "Deliveries" do not equate to the "Peak Daily Round Trips."
- Topic 5.11.2.4, Future Baseline Traffic Projections, Year 2011 No Project Traffic Volumes should referenced Figure 5.11-6. Year 2014 No Project Traffic Volumes should referenced Figure 5.11-8.

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- It is Caltrans understanding that SES is no longer pursuing building a temporary westbound off and on ramps (interchange) east of said project sight on I-40. If, in the future, SES decides that a temporary interchange is required on I-40, we recommend that SES consults with Caltrans and approval of such temporary access is contingent to Encroachment Permits.

These comments are based upon a review of the materials provided for our evaluation. Please considered and addressed these comments and forward appropriate project information to this Office so that updated recommendations for impact mitigation may be provided.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer our comments concerning this project. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact David Lee at 909-383-6809 or me at 909-383-4557.

Sincerely,



DANIEL KOPULSKY
Office Chief
Community Planning/Local Development Review
Division of Planning

cc: Haissam Yahya, Operations B
Gary Green, Forecasting