

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814Main website: www.energy.ca.gov**DOCKET****09-AFC-10**

DATE MAY 20 2010

RECD. MAY 20 2010



Notice of Staff Site Visit to Discuss Historical Resources for the Rice Solar Energy Project (09-AFC-10)

The staff of the California Energy Commission with the participation of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Western Area Power Administration (Western) will conduct a site visit in coordination with the applicant for the proposed Rice Solar Energy Project (RSEP). The workshop will allow an opportunity to discuss historical significance and mitigation treatment approaches of remaining features of Rice Army Airfield. The workshop will be held:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010**12:00 Noon Until Completed****At the Proposed Rice Solar Energy Project Site****State Route 62, 1 mile east of the junction of Blythe-Midland Road, California**

(the nearest community is Vidal Junction at the intersection of State Route 62 and Highway 95, approximately 15 miles north-east of the Rice project site

(Not Wheelchair Accessible)

(Map Attached)

Purpose

The purpose of the workshop is to allow staff, the applicant, interested agencies, and the public to discuss data requests and data responses and work towards resolving project issues. The topic area that is planned to be discussed at this workshop is primarily Cultural Resources, and other topic areas may be discussed as needed. The RSEP is currently being analyzed by BLM, Western and Energy Commission staff, and the results of the workshop discussions will be reflected in the Staff Assessment/Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SA/DEIS). The SA/DEIS is scheduled to be completed and published for public comment in late July.

Background

On October 21, 2009, Rice Solar Energy, LLC (applicant) submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to construct and operate the Rice Solar Energy Project (RSEP). RSEP would be a 150-megawatt solar thermal power plant located on private land with a generation tie line crossing public lands managed by BLM and interconnected to a transmission line managed by Western. Review of this proposed project is currently in the analysis phase of a joint state and federal agency environmental and engineering review proceeding.

Project Description

The proposed RSEP project is a solar electric generating facility to be located on approximately 1,410 acres in eastern Riverside County, California, immediately south of State Route (SR) 62, about 1 mile east of the junction with Blythe-Midland Road. The RSEP site is within the boundaries of land previously used as Rice Army Airfield and is adjacent to land that was previously used for Camp Rice. Both Rice Army Airfield and Camp Rice were

PROOF OF SERVICE (REVISED 3/4/10) FILED WITH
ORIGINAL MAILED FROM SACRAMENTO ON 05-20-10

TKG

components of the Desert Training Center/California-Arizona Maneuver Area (DTC/CAMA). Established by General George S. Patton, the mission at DTC/CAMA was to train U.S. Army troops for war in a desert environment. The DTC/CAMA operated from 1942–1944 and consisted of divisional camps, depots, airfields, ranges, bivouacs, maneuver areas, and hospitals spread over 18,000 acres in the Mojave Desert.

RSEP would be a 150-megawatt (MW) concentrating solar thermal power project with a central receiver tower, sun-tracking heliostat field and an integral thermal storage system using liquid salt as the heat transfer and storage medium. When electricity is to be produced, the heated salt would be routed to a steam generation system, which supplies steam for use in a high-efficiency reheat steam turbine-generator. With thermal storage, RSEP would produce power according to periods of peak demands including hours when there is no collection of energy from the sun.

Public Participation

The site visit will be conducted outdoors during a time when air temperatures are typically quite hot. Please bring appropriate clothing, food, water, and hats or umbrellas for shade if desired. The Energy Commission's Public Adviser provides the public with assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by email at PublicAdviser@energy.state.ca.us. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance of the workshop.

Questions and Access to Information

General information and documents on the proposed project are available on the Energy Commission's website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/ricesolar/index.html>. Please direct all news media inquiries to the office of Media and Public Communications, at (916) 654-4989 or by email at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us. You can subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers>.

For general or technical questions, please contact John Kessler, Project Manager, at (916) 654-4679 or by email at jkessler@energy.state.ca.us. If you are unable to attend the workshop, written comments may be sent to the staff's project manager electronically or to the Energy Commission's street address shown on the letterhead of this Notice.

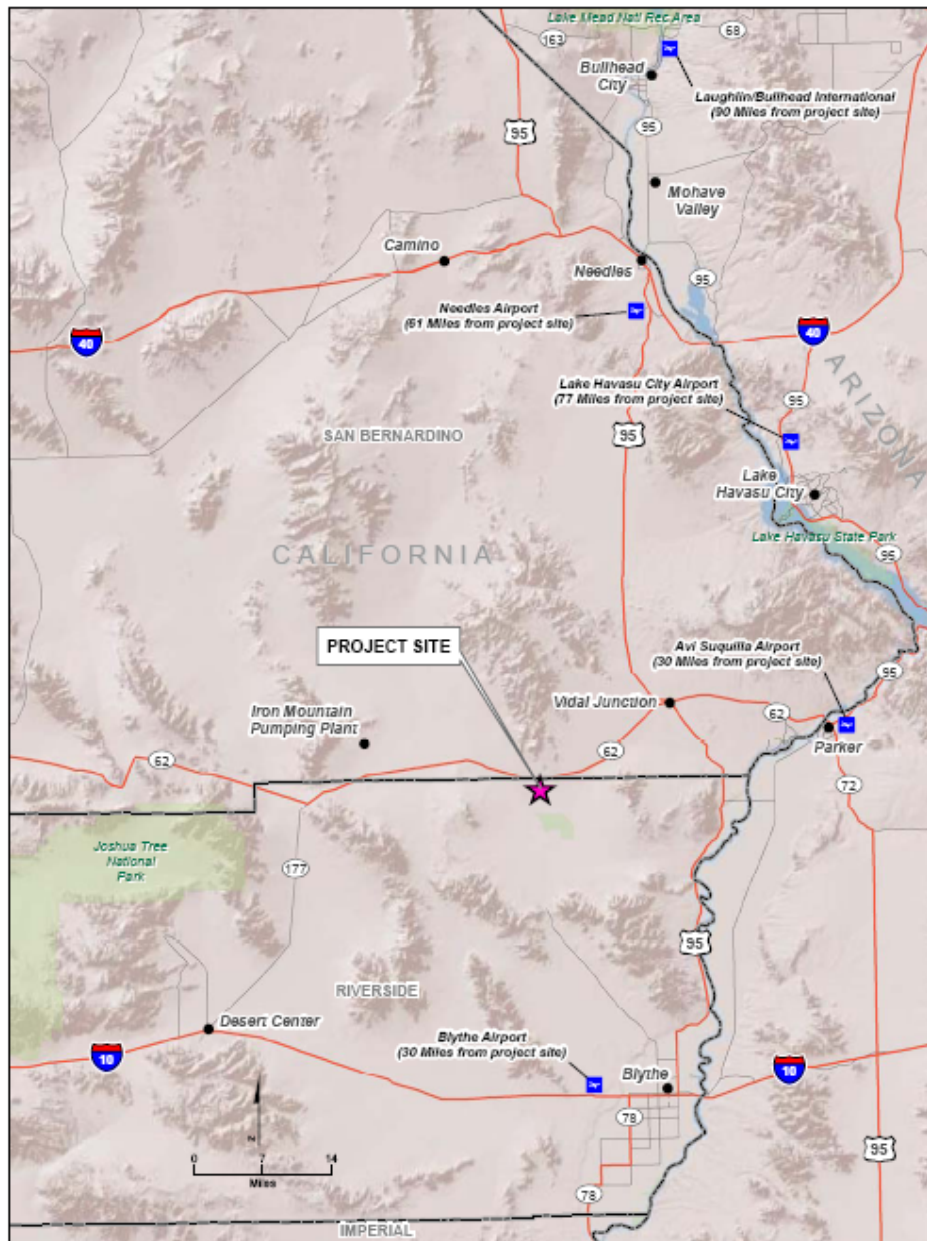
Date: May 20, 2010

TERRENCE O'BRIEN, Deputy Director
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division

Staff Site Visit to Discuss Historical Resources for the Rice Solar Energy Project (09-AFC-10)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2, 2010
12:00 Noon Until Completed

**At the Proposed Rice Solar Energy Project Site
State Route 62, 1 mile east of the junction of Blythe-Midland Road, California
(Not Wheelchair Accessible)**





**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 *RICE SOLAR ENERGY POWER
PLANT PROJECT***

Docket No. 09-AFC-10

***PROOF OF SERVICE*
(Revised 3/4/2010)**

APPLICANT

Jeffrey Benoit
Project Manager
Solar Reserve
2425 Olympic Boulevard, Ste. 500 East
Santa Monica, CA 90404
Jeffrey.Benoit@solarreserve.com

Allison Shaffer
Bureau of Land Management
Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office
1201 Bird Center Drive
Palm Springs, Ca 92262
allison_shaffer@blm.gov

APPLICANT'S CONSULTANTS

Andrea Grenier
Grenier and Associates
1420 East Roseville Parkway, Ste. 140-377
Roseville, CA 95661
andrea@agrenier.com

INTERVENORS

ENERGY COMMISSION

ROBERT WEISENMILLER
Commissioner and Presiding Member
rweisenm@energy.state.ca.us

Douglas Davy
CH2MHILL
2485 Natomas Park Drive, Ste. 600
Sacramento, CA 95833
ddavy@ch2m.com

KAREN DOUGLAS
Chairman and Associate Member
kldougla@energy.state.ca.us

COUNSEL FOR APPLICANT

Scott Galati
Galati & Blek, LLP
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 350
Sacramento, CA 95814
sgalati@gb-llp.com

Kourtney Vaccaro
Hearing Officer
kvaccaro@energy.state.ca.us

INTERESTED AGENCIES

California ISO
E-mail Preferred
e-recipient@caiso.com

John Kessler
Siting Project Manager
jkessler@energy.state.ca.us

Liana Reilly
Western Area Power Administration
PO Box 281213
Lakewood CO 80228-8213
reilly@wapa.gov

Deborah Dyer
Staff Counsel
ddyer@energy.state.ca.us

Jennifer Jennings
Public Adviser's Office
publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Teraja` Golston , declare that on, May 20, 2010, I served and filed copies of the attached, Rice Solar Energy (09-AFC-10) - Notice of Staff Site Visit to Discuss Historical Resources. 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/ricesolar>].

The documents have 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;
- X by delivering on this date, for mailing with the United States Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date 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. 09-AFC-10
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, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the proceeding.

Original Signature in Dockets
Teraja` Golston