

DATE JUN 11 2010

RECD. JUN 21 2010

The following are responses to questions submitted in e-mail dated 6/11/10:

**Q. Impacts of construction of the 220 kV gen-tie structure and the fiber optic cable.**

The figure recently submitted by AECOM “*Blythe Solar Power Project Utilities Corridors – Preliminary*” depicts the location of the gen-tie and fiber optic cable, as well as Black Rock Road and the BSPP telecom line. We need information as to how the features shown on this figure will impact biological resources. Specifically, we need a figure and table showing temporary and permanent construction impacts to habitat types, including waters of the state and sand dunes. We also need to know the location of these features to the sensitive biological resources (including many sensitive plant species) that the Applicant found during their Spring 2010 surveys, particularly for the many rare plant occurrences along these linear features. For all impact information we need the Applicant to separate acreage impacts so it is clear which impacts are a result of their Project from construction within the:

- facility footprint
- linears
- substation
- road work/temporary construction work

A. Survey data was included in Responses to Questions from the April 28, 29, and May 7, 2010 CEC Workshops Preliminary Biological Survey Results – Spring 2010 submitted on May 14, 2010 and maps of the survey data are in the 2010 BSPP Biological Resources Technical Report (BRTR) submitted June 16, 2010.

The delineation of acres is as follows:

- a. Project Site – 6,840 acres
- b. Linears – 185 acres
- c. SCE CRSS – 89 acres

Impacts to special status plants (actual observations) are in the Preliminary Data and the BRTR. There were no listed plant species (Federal or State) within the combined survey area. Table 2 and Figure 2 of the May 14 preliminary data and Table 9 and Figure 10 of the BRTR present the rare plant population counts observed during spring 2010 surveys.

**Q. Clarification on SCE Construction v. Applicant Construction.** Staff also needs clarification as to which of the components of the gen-tie and telecommunications lines will be built by SCE and which by the Applicant, and a detailed project description of everything the Applicant will be doing on these project components. The Applicant submitted documents in their “*Responses to Questions from the April 28, 29 and May 7, 2010 CEC Workshops Southern California Edison Colorado River Substation – Project Description Technical Areas: Transmission System Engineering*” describing these constructions of these components, but we are still uncertain as to what the Applicant will be constructing. For example, page 3 states: “*The first structures constructed by the Developer and located just north of Colorado River Substation would be dead end structures; SCE would work with the Developer to integrate final design. SCE would*

*construct, own, operate, and maintain the final spans of the circuits from the substation dead end structure to the tower connection at the first Project structure(s)."*

- A. The Colorado River Substation will have a security barrier, either a fence or wall depending upon the final design, surrounding the facility. Applicant will build the generator tie line and redundant telecom lines from the BSPP up to and terminating just outside the northern substation security barrier (see attached figure). The final transmission generator tie line span from this last pole that crosses the security barrier and terminates in the substation will be built by SCE. Likewise, SCE will provide the fiber optic buried conduit and cabling from the substation to an interconnection point directly outside the substation security barrier. From this interconnection point, the Applicant will build the redundant telecom lines up to the BSPP substation. SCE will make the final telecom interconnections within the BSPP substation.

**Q. Temporary Construction Power Line** On page 14 of the Applicant's April 14<sup>th</sup> Initial Comments on the SA/DEIS they note that the temporary construction power line corridor is outside the area surveyed for biological resources in 2009, and that full protocol-level biological surveys of the alignment are currently underway. I understand based on my conversations with you that this will also be the route for the proposed secondary fire access road. I need confirmation for the proposed route, and as much information as possible on the potential impacts of constructing these features. It sounds like surveys should already be complete, since they were being conducted in April 2010.

We need a detailed figure depicting the location of these proposed project features in relation to habitat types and biological resources, and an impact analysis. Ideally we would have this information on a vegetation map that depicted the location of the proposed project components and two 1,000-foot buffer areas extending outward on either side of this route. At a minimum we need all the same information as described above (i.e., a figure and table showing temporary and permanent construction impacts to habitat types from construction and operation of the project, the location of these features to the sensitive biological resources, and any information available on potential direct and indirect impacts).

- A. Survey data submitted on May 14, 2010 included data for the temporary construction power line and maps of the same survey data are in the 2010 BSPP Biological Resources Technical Report (BRTR) submitted June 16, 2010.

After careful consideration, PVSI is willing to provide the secondary fire department access to the site if required by RCFD. Details of the design of secondary fire department access will be further discussed and detailed with appropriate parties. The design of the secondary fire department access will be submitted for approval as the design of the facility evolves further. PVSI is not requesting that the CEC grant the secondary access road as part of the CEC License at this time

**Q. Concrete Batch Plant.** Since this facility will operate at night, noise and night-lighting impacts may occur to wildlife species. We need the night-time decibel range and hours of operation that the facility will generate and design measures that will be implemented to mitigate the temporary noise and lighting impacts from operating the concrete plant during construction. We also need a more detailed plan of the concrete batch plant than that shown in the Preliminary Site Plan Exhibit. Show the exact dimensions of the proposed batch plant in relation to the entire facility footprint.

A. Night operation of the batch plant will vary by season due to temperature requirements for concrete to set. In the summer, concrete needs to be produced and poured at night. While in the winter, concrete must be produced and poured during the day. The batch plant will operate 10 hours per day. Summer operation of the batch plant will occur in the range of 10pm-10am. Winter operation of the batch plant will occur between 4am-6pm.

As noted in the Engineering Changes document filed with the SA/DEIS Comments on April 19, 2010, noise from the batch plant when it is operating is expected to be 90 dB at a distance of 50 feet from the batch plant. The Engineering Changes document also indicated five temporary locations for the mobile batch plant within the site. Of these five temporary locations, #2 is the closest to any fenceline, at a distance of 1,100 feet. Based on that distance, the noise from the batch plant at the fenceline would be approximately 64 dB, below the normally applied threshold of 65 dB. The batch plant would only be in this location during the construction of the northwestern solar field (Unit #2). At the other four temporary batch plant locations will generate noise levels at the fenceline at a range between 54 and 64 dB.

Copies of standard batch plant design/specifications that will be used for BSPP are attached.

**Q. Fire Station.** I understand that the applicant has been coordinating with Riverside County on the need for a fire access road and a fire station. If a fire station is a likely requirement, then any information that the applicant could provide on this subject would be welcome, particularly some potential locations for the station.

A. We do not know where the possible fire station would be located. PVSI is not requesting the CEC permit the fire station as it is beyond the CEC's jurisdiction. Because the location of any fire station, if required, is beyond the control of PVSI any location or analysis would be speculative at this time.

**Q. 2010 Survey Results:** We also would like to have a report describing the results of the golden eagle surveys conducted this spring, as well as the follow up final reports for the preliminary data we received on the Spring 2010 surveys. The Applicant indicated during the May workshop that a Botanical Survey Report for the spring 2010 surveys would be submitted, and prepared according to agency protocols for botanical assessments. We need the report to clearly distinguish, and quantify, the impacts of the substation from the impacts of the Project. We also need the report to elaborate on the

reasons for the earlier misidentification of the Coachella Valley milk-vetch, which appeared on an earlier submittal of preliminary survey results in the vicinity of the substation. We need the report to include GPS data and CNDDDB field survey forms for all occurrences.

A. All reports have been submitted and docketed. Please refer to the following:

- Responses to Questions from the April 28, 29, and May 7, 2010 CEC Workshops Preliminary Biological Survey Results – Spring 2010 submitted on May 14, 2010
- BSPP Golden Eagle Survey Results, docketed on June 16, 2010
- BSPP Biological Resources Technical Report, docketed on June 16, 2011
- Colorado River Substation Biological Resources Survey Results and Impact Calculations, docketed on June 14, 2010

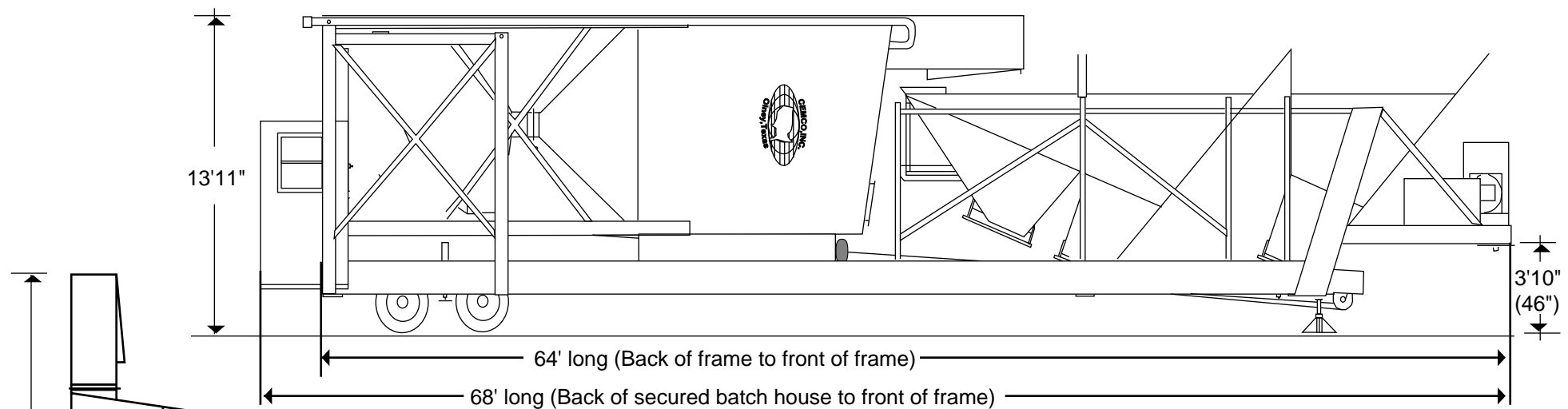


### **CONCRETE PLANT FEATURES**

- Batch control system included in pricing; installed and configured at factory
- Small footprint; dimensions: 12' wide x 55' long
- 10 cubic yard (7.5 cubic meter) single batch discharge capacity
- 150 cubic yard (112 cubic meter) hourly capacity without feeder conveyors
- 220 cubic yard (165 cubic meter) hourly capacity with feeder conveyors
- Available in 2, 3 and 4 bin configurations



[www.cemcoinc.com](http://www.cemcoinc.com)



## Cemco, Inc. 3 Bin Batch Plant

(Beginning 2010)

The drawings are not in proportion,  
and the measurements are approximate.  
It is always best to measure the specific plant.

[68' long x 11'11" wide x 13'11" tall  
(with 5th wheel at 46", travel height varies  
due to the truck pulling the equipment.)  
10" ground clearance, 55,000 lbs (estimated weight)]

Ranges:

☆ Jack Pads range in height from 1'6" to 2'3"

Discharge point with Jack Pad at Lowest setting: 11'6"

Discharge point with Jack Pad at Highest Setting: 13'

