

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT
PETITION TO AMEND
TO MODIFY PALOMAR ENERGY CENTER PROJECT
(01-AFC-24C)**

DOCKET**01-AFC-24C**

DATE NOV 01 2010

RECD. NOV 02 2010

On August 13, 2010, the San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E) filed a petition with the California Energy Commission requesting to modify the Palomar Energy Center Project. The 550-megawatt project was certified by the Energy Commission on August 6, 2003, and began commercial operation on April 1, 2006. The facility is located in the City of Escondido in San Diego County.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E or "the applicant") is proposing to make improvements to the reliability of the plant and install an additional Load Commutator Inverter (LCI) and associated switchgear. The LCI converts grid supplied electricity to a voltage and frequency that allows the plant's electrical generator to be used as a motor to start the combustion turbine. The LCI and transformer are very long lead time items. Failure of these components could lead to plant outages lasting many months while new parts are manufactured, delivered and installed. Adding a second LCI will significantly reduce this risk.

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF REVIEW AND DETERMINATION

Pursuant to section 1769(a)(2), Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Energy Commission approval of the project modification is not required if Energy Commission staff determines that:

- There is no possibility that the modification may have a significant effect on the environment, and
- The modification will not result in a change to or deletion of a condition of certification, or make changes that would cause the project not to comply with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, or standards (LORS).

Energy Commission staff has determined that the proposed modification meets the criteria for staff approval because:

- The modification will not have any significant effect on the environment;
- Existing conditions of certification are sufficient to cover the proposed modification without changes to, or deletions of, any conditions of certification; and
- The project as modified will maintain full compliance with applicable LORS.

Any person may file a written objection to staff's determination within 14 days of the date of this notice on the grounds that the project modification does not meet the criteria set forth in Section 1769(a)(2). All objections must be in writing and must be sent either by U.S. mail, e-mail, or other document delivery service to Dale Rundquist, Compliance Project Manager, at the address shown below:

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California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street, MS 2000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Comments may be submitted by fax to (916) 654-3882, or by e-mail at drundqui@energy.state.ca.us. If no substantive objection is received in writing by 5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2010, the requested project modifications will be deemed approved, and a description of the change will be placed in the project file.

For further information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

If you have questions about this notice, please contact Dale Rundquist at (916) 651-2072, or by fax or e-mail using the above information.

Date

CHRISTOPHER J. MARXEN, Manager
Compliance and Dockets Office
Siting, Transmission & Environmental
Protection Division

Mail List # 7152