

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY****STAFF ASSESSMENT
FOR THE****Black Rock 1, 2, and 3 Geothermal Power Plant
(02-AFC-2C)****DOCKET****02-AFC-2C**DATE _____
RECD. DEC 09 2010

This notice is to inform you of the availability of the Staff Assessment (SA) for CE Obsidian Energy, LLC's proposed Amendment to the Black Rock 1, 2, and 3 Geothermal Power Plant (BR123) originally called the Salton Sea Unit #6 Geothermal Power Project (SSU6) (02-AFC-2C). The SA was published on December 03, 2010.

The SSU6 project was certified by the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) on December 17, 2003, as a 185 MW multi-flash geothermal power plant. An amendment was approved on May 11, 2005 to increase the generating capacity to 215 MWs. On August 3, 2009, the Energy Commission approved the name change of the project from SSU6 to BR123. The facility is located near the southern end of the Salton Sea, near the town of Calipatria in Imperial County. On March 13, 2009, the Energy Commission received a petition from CE Obsidian, LLC to amend the Energy Commission Decision for the BR123 (02-AFC-2C). This petition is available on http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/saltonsea_amendment/documents/applicant/afc/.

The SA contains the Energy Commission staff's evaluation of the following technical areas: air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; land use; noise and vibration; public health; socioeconomic resources; soil and water resources; traffic and transportation; transmission line safety and nuisance; visual resources; waste management; facility design; geology and paleontology; power plant efficiency; power plant reliability; and transmission system engineering.

The purpose of the Energy Commission's amendment review process in the SA is to assess the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of the amendment on the environment, public health and safety, and the electric transmission system. The SA presents the conclusions, recommendations, and proposed Conditions of Certification that staff believes are necessary to mitigate or avoid potential significant adverse environmental impacts and to satisfy laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS) that have changed since the original project was certified. The review process includes an evaluation of the consistency of the proposed changes with the Energy Commission's Decision and with current applicable LORS (Title 20, Calif. Code of Regulations, section 1769).

Agencies and members of the public are encouraged to participate in the SA review process. Written comments will be accepted until January 3, 2011.

This SA Notice of Availability is being sent to all parties who were on the mailing lists during the approval (certification) process.

Notice of Availability
November 2010

The SA is available for review at the following local libraries:

California State Library
Government Publication Section
914 Capitol Mall, Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814-4802

Humboldt Library
1313 3rd Street
Eureka, CA 95501-0553

Fresno County Free Library
Government Publications
2420 Mariposa Street
Fresno, CA 93721-2204

Los Angeles Public Library
Serials Division
630 W. Fifth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2002

San Diego Public Library
Science and Industry Division
820 E Street
San Diego, CA 92101-6416

San Francisco Public Library
Government Information Center
100 Larkin Street
San Francisco, CA 94102-4733

California Energy Commission
Energy Library
1516 Ninth Street, MS-10
Sacramento, CA 95814-5504

El Centro Public Library
539 State Street
El Centro, CA 92243-2973

The SA, and the petition to amend, are available on the Energy Commission's website at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/salttonsea_amendment/documents/index.html. If you would like to receive a hard copy or CD of the SA, please complete the enclosed Information Request Form and return it to the address shown.

Please provide any written comments to Christine Stora, Amendment Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 654-4745, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at: cstora@energy.state.ca.us by January 3, 2011.

Sincerely,

Date

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

Enclosure
Mailed to List 7156 – Property Owners

Please send me a paper copy / CD (circle one) of the California Energy Commission Staff Assessment for the Black Rock 1, 2 and 3 Geothermal Power Project Staff Assessment (02-AFC-2C).

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

FOLD HERE

California Energy Commission
Attention: Marci Errecart
1516 Ninth Street, MS-2000
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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