



TETRA TECH EC, INC.

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED
11-AFC-3

TN # 68571

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November 19, 2012

Eric Solorio, Project Manager
California Energy Commission
Docket No. 11-AFC-3
1516 9th St.
Sacramento, CA 95814

Cogentrix Quail Brush Generation Project - Docket Number 11-AFC-3, Initial Response to Center for Biological Diversity and Preserve Wild Santee Intervenor Data Requests, 1 through 17

Docket Clerk:

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 20, California Code of Regulations, and on behalf of Quail Brush Genco, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cogentrix Energy, LLC, Tetra Tech hereby submits the Initial Response to Center for Biological Diversity and Preserve Wild Santee Intervenor Data Requests, 1 through 17 (11-AFC-3). The Quail Brush Generation Project is a 100 megawatt natural gas fired electric generation peaking facility to be located in the City of San Diego, California.

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Rick Neff at (704) 525-3800 or me at (303) 980-3653.

Sincerely,

Constance E. Farmer
Project Manager/Tetra Tech

cc: Lori Ziebart, Cogentrix
John Collins, Cogentrix
Rick Neff, Cogentrix
Proof of Service List



**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
QUAIL BRUSH GENERATION PROJECT***

**DOCKET NO. 11-AFC-03
PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 10/29/2012)**

APPLICANT

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INTERESTED AGENCIES

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*indicates change

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Constance Farmer, declare that on November 19, 2012, I served and filed copies of the attached Initial Response to Center for Biological Diversity and Preserve Wild Santee Intervenor Data Requests, 1 through 17, dated November 19, 2012. This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/quailbrush/index.html>.

The document has been sent to the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit or Chief Counsel, as appropriate, in the following manner:

(Check all that Apply)

For service to all other parties:

- Served electronically to all e-mail addresses on the Proof of Service list;
- Served by delivering on this date, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. 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 marked **"hard copy required"** or where no e-mail address is provided.

AND

For filing with the Docket Unit at the Energy Commission:

- by sending an electronic copy to the e-mail address below (preferred method); **OR**
- by depositing an original and 12 paper copies in the mail with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION – DOCKET UNIT
Attn: Docket No. 11-AFC-03
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.ca.gov

OR, if filing a Petition for Reconsideration of Decision or Order pursuant to Title 20, § 1720:

- Served by delivering on this date one electronic copy by e-mail, and an original paper copy to the Chief Counsel at the following address, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid:

California Energy Commission
Michael J. Levy, Chief Counsel
1516 Ninth Street MS-14
Sacramento, CA 95814
michael.levy@energy.ca.gov

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred proceeding.





Quail Brush Genco, LLC

A Project Company of Cogentrix Energy, LLC

9405 Arrowpoint Boulevard
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(704) 525-3800
(704) 525-9934 – Fax

November 19, 2012

Siting Committee
Raoul Renaud, Hearing Officer
Eric Solorio, Project Manager
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Quail Brush Generation Project (11-AFC-03)
Initial Response to Center for Biological Diversity and Preserve Wild Santee Intervenor Data
Requests, 1 through 17**

Dear Members of the Siting Committee and Mr. Solorio:

In response to the Center for Biological Diversity and Preserve Wild Santee (Intervenor) Data Requests, 1 through 17, dated October 29, 2012, Quail Brush Generation Project (Quail Brush) objects to or is requesting additional time to respond or explaining why Quail Brush is unable to respond to the following data requests pursuant to Section 1716(f) of the Commission's regulations: Requests 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 17. Each of these Data Requests are itemized below along with the objection thereto or a short description of the reasons for the inability to provide the information at this time.

General Objections to Data Requests

Section 1716 of the Commission's regulations permits any party to request "information reasonably available to Quail Brush which is relevant to the notice or application proceeding or reasonably necessary to make any decision on the notice or application." Quail Brush objects to the data requests below because they seek information that is not relevant to this proceeding, and that is not reasonably necessary for the Commission to render a decision as required by Section 1716(b) of the Commission's regulations.

In addition, some of Center for Biological Diversity and Preserve Wild Santee's data requests are vague or unclear. For these data requests, it was therefore difficult for Quail Brush to decipher the nature, form or content of the specific information sought. Lastly, Quail Brush objects to these data requests to the extent they request information that Quail Brush or another party has already entered into the public record for this proceeding.

Specific Data Requests and Objections Thereto or Reasons for Inability to Provide Responses

7. For the length of the proposed new natural gas pipeline, please locate on a map and describe with contours and impact types the diameter of the area that could be impacted with a leak and explosion. Please include the worst-case scenario and contour map of impact types with the impact zones. Consistent with the general objection above, Quail Brush objects to this data request because it seeks information that is not relevant to this proceeding and that is not reasonably necessary for the Commission to render a decision as required by Section 1716(b) of the Commission's regulations. Quail Brush additionally objects to this data request because it seeks information that is not reasonably available to Quail Brush. Quail Brush is not aware of any published data regarding impact types or impact zones related to a natural gas pipeline explosion.

The 8" diameter natural gas lateral (extending from the existing SDG&E system) to the facility will be designed and constructed by SDG&E in accordance with all Federal, State, and local regulations. SDG&E is a regulated public utility that provides safe and reliable energy service to customers in San Diego and southern Orange counties. SDG&E's gas distribution pipelines are also operated and maintained in accordance with or exceeding state and federal pipeline operation and maintenance safety regulations. Additionally, regulators routinely audit their program to ensure that they are in compliance with all safety regulations. SDG&E regularly performs rigorous pipeline safety tasks, including patrolling, testing, repairing and replacing pipelines.

Please note the existing SDG&E system includes approximately 20 miles of existing large (16" to 36") diameter high-pressure natural gas pipelines running under the heavily populated Santee/El Cajon/La Mesa/Lakeside areas. The half-mile 8" diameter natural gas lateral to the facility would be a short extension to the existing system under an unpopulated area.

8. What are the temperatures generated by combustion of Fuel Model 2 and Fuel Model 4 wildland fuels and how do those temperatures compare to the ignition points of flammable materials on the power plant site? Quail Brush is unable to provide the requested information at this time. A fuel model is currently being performed by an independent evaluator in conjunction with the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD). Results of the evaluation will be docketed on or about December 15, 2012.

9. What are the ignition points of the following potential Project elements. . . . Consistent with the general objection above, Quail Brush objects to this data request because it seeks information that is not relevant to this proceeding and that is not reasonably necessary for the Commission to render a decision as required by Section 1716(b) of the Commission's regulations. Quail Brush additionally objects to this data request because it seeks information that is not reasonably available to Quail Brush. Quail Brush is not aware of published "ignition points" regarding operational facility elements. Quail Brush additionally objects to this data request because it seeks information that is not reasonably available to Quail Brush. The entire facility, including the systems listed above, will be designed in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 850, the requirements of NFPA 37, and the LORS listed in the Application for Certification (AFC) Section 4.10, Table 4.10-6, docketed on August 25, 2011. Materials normally considered to be hazardous have been addressed in Section 4.9 of the AFC. As stated by the SDFD Fire Marshal and Commission staff at the October 19 workshop, electrical generating facilities have an excellent history of not being a fire hazard, largely due to compliance

with NFPA requirements and other applicable LORS. Please refer to the Webex recording of the October 19 workshop, posted to the docket on October 24, 2012.

10. What type of fires might originate from the site with potential to spread offsite? Consistent with the general objection above, Quail Brush objects to this data request because it seeks information that is not relevant to this proceeding and that is not reasonably necessary for the Commission to render a decision as required by Section 1716(b) of the Commission's regulations. Quail Brush also objects to this data request because it is vague and Quail Brush does not understand this speculative question. The facility will be constructed with the fire protection, worker safety, and hazardous materials handling best management practices, procedures and emergency action plans as described in Section 4.10 of the AFC and subsequent Supplements. As stated by the SDFD Fire Marshal and Commission Staff at the October 19 workshop, electrical generating facilities have an excellent history of not being a fire hazard, largely due to compliance with NFPA requirements and other applicable LORS. Please refer to the Webex recording of the October 19 workshop, posted to the docket on October 24, 2012.

11. What is the expected rate of spread with fuel models for climax fuels on and adjacent to the Project site during 60 mph Santa Ana wind driven fires? Quail Brush is unable to provide the requested information at this time. A fuel model is currently being performed by an independent evaluator in conjunction with the SDFD. Results of the evaluation will be docketed on or about December 15, 2012.

12. For the different types of fires with potential to originate onsite and to spread offsite, how much time would the closest homes/sensitive receptors have to evacuate an escaped fire under 60 mph Santa Ana wind conditions? Consistent with the general objection above, Quail Brush objects to this data request because it seeks information that is not relevant to this proceeding and that is not reasonably necessary for the Commission to render a decision as required by Section 1716(b) of the Commission's regulations. The facility will be constructed with the fire protection, worker safety, and hazardous materials handling best management practices, procedures and emergency action plans as described in Section 4.10 of the AFC and subsequent Supplements. As stated by the SDFD Fire Marshal and Commission Staff at the October 19 workshop, electrical generating facilities have an excellent history of not being a fire hazard, largely due to compliance with NFPA requirements and other applicable LORS. Please refer to the Webex recording of the October 19 workshop, posted to the docket on October 24, 2012.

17. Has a fire protection plan been prepared for the Project? If so, please provide the plan. Quail Brush is unable to provide the requested information at this time. As stated by the SDFD Fire Marshal and Commission Staff expert at the October 19 workshop, electrical generating facilities have an excellent history of not being a fire hazard, largely due to compliance with NFPA requirements and other applicable LORS. Please refer to the Webex recording of the October 19 workshop, posted to the docket on October 24, 2012. However, the Fire Marshal has also stated that any fire/emergency call-out will cause SDFD drawdown which may impact other areas. Due to this potential drawdown, the Fire Marshal and Commission have requested Quail Brush to conduct a third-party review of the facility's Fuel Modification Plan (to increase protections beyond what is required by code), and the Fire Protection Plan (to describe ways to minimize and mitigate potential for loss from fire). Quail Brush's intent is to incorporate the independent study findings into the facility's comprehensive fire protection plan thus reducing to the extent practicable the fire/emergency needs of the facility. The results of this independent review are expected to be docketed on or about December 15, 2012.

The facility will operate under a comprehensive fire protection plan which will be approved by the Fire Marshal with the goal of protecting human health, the electrical grid and the environment.

Quail Brush will respond to the remainder of Center for Biological Diversity and Preserve Wild Santee (Intervenor) Data Requests, 1 through 17, on November 28, 2012.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Richard Neff', written in a cursive style.

C. Richard Neff
Vice President