



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

***BLYTHE SOLAR POWER
PROJECT AMENDMENT***

Docket No. 09-AFC-6C

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED
09-AFC-6C**

TN 70826

MAY 15 2013

COMMITTEE SCHEDULING ORDER

Background

Palo Verde Solar I, LLC submitted an Application for Certification for the Blythe Solar Power Project to the Energy Commission on August 24, 2009 (09-AFC-6). The Commission issued its Final Decision on September 15, 2010. The U.S. Bureau of Land Management published the Plan Amendment/Record of Decision on October 22, 2010 and issued the right-of-way grant on November 4, 2010. The Commission Decision permitted the construction and operation of a 1,000 MW solar thermal trough system utilizing heat transfer fluid to generate steam and drive steam turbine generators. The project footprint was 6,831 acres (the Approved Project).

Project ownership has changed, and the current owner, NextEra Blythe Solar Energy Center LLC, seeks to amend the Final Decision. The amendment includes replacing the parabolic trough solar collection system and associated heat transfer fluid and steam generating equipment with photovoltaic technology. Project output would be reduced to 485 MW, and its footprint would be reduced to 4,070 acres, entirely within the site of the Approved Project.

The Energy Commission has assigned a committee of two commissioners to conduct proceedings on the amendment. Section 25500.1 of the Warren-Alquist Act provides for an amendment which seeks to convert a facility from solar thermal technology to photovoltaic technology to be processed by the Energy Commission under section 1769 of commission regulations (Title 20, California Code of Regulations). Section 1769 provides for the appointment of a committee to conduct proceedings. Once the committee has concluded its proceedings, its findings concerning the amendment are to be submitted to the full commission for consideration.

The Committee has adopted the attached schedule for the review of the amendment. It contains a list of events that must occur in order to complete the review process. The Committee encourages the parties to consider this schedule an outer boundary and make their best efforts to complete the milestones ahead of these dates. Some

deadlines may be contingent upon reviews to be conducted by federal, state, and local agencies. The Applicant must provide sufficient review time for the responsible agencies to meet the deadlines specified in the schedule.

Status Reports and Status Conferences

The attached schedule requires status reports to be submitted by all parties. Status reports shall inform the Committee whether or not case development is progressing satisfactorily, and bring potential schedule delays and other relevant matters to the Committee's attention.

The reports shall be received by the other parties and the Commission's Docket Unit, 1516 Ninth Street, MS-4, Sacramento, California 95814-5512, **and must be filed no later than 3:00 p.m.**, on the due date. Status reports must contain "Docket No. 09-AFC-6C" in the caption or heading.

A status conference may be held by the Committee, at a date, time and place to be determined. The Committee will provide notice of any status conferences to all parties and the public.

Public Adviser and Public Participation

The Energy Commission invites members of the public and other interested parties to participate either on an informal basis or by intervening in the proceeding. Both types of participation allow written and oral comments. At the informal participation level, written and oral public comments are considered by the commissioners and are part of the record, but are not part of the formal evidentiary record. Intervenors have the right to introduce evidence into the evidentiary record and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses.

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office is available to provide the public with an understanding of a proceeding and to make recommendations for meaningful participation. For assistance, contact Blake Roberts, the Assistant Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or 800-822-6228 or e-mail: publicadviser@energy.ca.gov.

Information

Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Raoul Renaud, the Hearing Adviser, at (916) 651-2020, or e-mail: raoul.renaud@energy.ca.gov.

Technical questions concerning the project should be addressed to Mary Dyas, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 651-8891 or e-mail: mary.dyas@energy.ca.gov.

Media inquiries should be directed to the Office of Media and Public Communications at (916) 654-4989 or e-mail: mediaoffice@energy.ca.gov.

Information concerning the status of the project, as well as notices and other relevant documents, may be viewed on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/blythe_solar/compliance/.

Dated: May 15, 2013, at Sacramento, California.

Original Signed By:

KAREN DOUGLAS
Commissioner and Presiding Member
Blythe Solar Power Project
Amendment Committee

Original Signed By:

DAVID HOCHSCHILD
Commissioner and Associate Member
Blythe Solar Power Project
Amendment Committee

COMMITTEE SCHEDULE
Blythe Solar Power Project Amendment (09-AFC-6C)

ACTIVITY	DATE
Applicant files Petition For Amendment	06/29/12
Applicant files Revised Petition For Amendment	04/12/13
Staff files Data Requests	05/24/13
Applicant files responses to Data Requests; Parties file Status Reports	06/17/13
Staff Assessment filed	07/15/13
Staff Assessment Comment Period Closes; Parties file Status Reports	08/13/13
Staff Assessment Workshop	08/21/13*
Supplemental Staff Assessment (if necessary)	09/13/13
Committee Hearing on the Staff Assessment	10/07/13*
Proposed Decision	11/08/13
Final Decision Adoption Hearing	First Business Meeting in December

*estimated dates; separate written notice will be provided



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***BLYTHE SOLAR POWER
PROJECT AMENDMENT***

Docket No. 09-AFC-6C

**PROOF OF SERVICE
(EST. 5/09/2013)**

SERVICE LIST:

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**INTERVENOR FROM PREVIOUS
PROCEEDING (09-AFC-06)**

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ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF

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PUBLIC ADVISER**

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COMMISSION DOCKET UNIT

California Energy Commission
- Docket Unit
Attn: Docket No. 09-AFC-6C
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.ca.gov

OTHER ENERGY COMMISSION
PARTICIPANTS (LISTED FOR
CONVENIENCE ONLY):

*After docketing, the Docket Unit will
provide a copy to the persons listed
below. Do not send copies of
documents to these persons unless
specifically directed to do so.*

KAREN DOUGLAS
Commissioner and Presiding Member

*DAVID HOCHSCHILD
Commissioner and Associate Member

Raoul Renaud
Hearing Adviser

Galen Lemei
Adviser to Presiding Member

Jennifer Nelson
Adviser to Presiding Member

*Kelly Foley
Adviser to Associate Member

Eileen Allen
Commissioners' Technical
Adviser for Facility Siting

DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Maggie Read, declare that on May 15, 2013, I served and filed copies of the attached Committee Scheduling Order dated May 15, 2013. This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service, which I copied from the web page for this project at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/blythe_solar/.

The document has been sent to the other persons on the Service List above in the following manner:

(Check one)

For service to all other parties and filing with the Docket Unit at the Energy Commission:

 x I e-mailed the document to all e-mail addresses on the Service List above and personally delivered it or deposited it in the U.S. mail with first class postage to those persons noted above as "hard copy required";
OR

 Instead of e-mailing the document, I personally delivered it or deposited it in the U.S. mail with first class postage to all of the persons on the Service List for whom a mailing address is given.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that I am over the age of 18 years.

Dated: May 15, 2013

Original Signed By:

Maggie Read
Hearing Adviser's Office