

## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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July 31, 2015

Mr. Jedediah Gibson  
Ellison, Schneider & Harris L.L.P.  
2600 Capitol Ave, Suite 400  
Sacramento, CA 95816

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED****00-SB-1305**

TN # 76229

JUL 31 2015

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED****14-OIR-01**

TN 76081

JUL 31 2015

**RE: Application for Designation of Confidential Records relating to Liberty Power Holdings' Power Source Disclosure Annual Report**  
**Docket Number 14-OIR-1**

Dear Mr. Gibson:

Liberty Power Holdings (Applicant) filed an application for confidentiality in the above-captioned docket. The application requests confidential designation for specific power source disclosure data related to energy purchases and retail sales. Specifically, Applicant requests confidential designation for the purchase and sales information contained in the following Excel worksheet cells:

- PSDP Schedule 1
- Generic Purchases data in cells P10 and R10;
  - Total Net Purchases in cell Q24;
  - Total Retail Sales information in cell Q27.
- PSDP Schedule 2
- Net Purchases in cells C27 (Unspecified Power) and C29 (Total);
  - Pro-Rata Net Purchases based on Retail Sales in cells D27 (Unspecified Power) and D29 (Total);
  - Total Retail Sales in cell C31.

The application states that the energy purchase and retail sales information contained in the cells are confidential trade secrets and commercially sensitive data. Disclosure of such data would cause loss of competitive advantage. The application notes that as a net purchaser in the competitive wholesale markets, the Applicant closely holds information on retail and wholesale market positions in confidence.

A properly filed application for confidentiality shall be granted under the California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(3)(A), "If the applicant makes a reasonable claim that the Public Records Act or other provision of law authorizes the Energy Commission to keep the record confidential." The California Public Records Act allows for the non-disclosure of trade secrets. (Gov. Code, § 6254(k); Evid. Code, § 1060.)

The California courts have traditionally used the following definition of trade secret:

A trade secret may consist of any formula, pattern, device or compilation of information which is used in one's business, and which gives him an opportunity to obtain an advantage over competitors who do not know or use it. . . .

(*Uribe v. Howe* (1971) 19 Cal.App.3d 194, 207-208, from the Restatement of Torts, vol. 4, § 757, comments b, p.5.)

California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2505(a)(1)(D) states that if the applicant for confidential designation believes that the record should not be disclosed because it contains trade secrets, or its disclosure would otherwise cause loss of a competitive advantage, the application shall state: 1) the specific nature of the advantage; 2) how the advantage would be lost; 3) the value of the information to the applicant; and 4) the ease or difficulty with which the information could be legitimately acquired or duplicated by others.

The application states the information identified contains trade secrets or otherwise commercially sensitive data the disclosure of which would cause loss of a competitive advantage. As an entity operating in the competitive and dynamic retail energy markets, as well as a net purchaser in the competitive wholesale markets, the Applicant closely holds information on its retail and wholesale market positions in confidence. The materials identified above should be protected for the requested period because the information is commercially sensitive and not publicly available and/or constitutes trade secrets the public disclosure of which would harm the Applicant. Moreover, this information can be used to directly or indirectly determine the Applicant's market position to the detriment of the Applicant and its customers.

Applicant has made a reasonable claim that the law allows the Energy Commission to keep the above listed energy purchase and retail sales information confidential on the grounds that they contain trade secrets and/or proprietary information. The information has been developed exclusively by Applicant, contains information that is not public, and has the potential for economic advantage.

Applicant requests that the energy purchase and retail sales information be kept confidential until December 31, 2015. The Applicant notes that the confidential data can be disclosed to the public if aggregated with other energy service provider data to a state wide level.

For the above reasons, your request for confidential designation for the data listed above is granted. The data will remain confidential until December 31, 2015, but can be disclosed prior to that date if aggregated with other data to a state wide or higher level.

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In the future, information submitted to the Energy Commission can be deemed confidential without the need for a new application under California Code of Regulations, title 20, sections 2505(a)(1)(G) and 2505(a)(4) if you file a certification under penalty of perjury that the new information is substantially similar to the information previously granted confidentiality.

Be advised that persons may petition to inspect or copy records that I have designated as confidential. The procedures and criteria for filing, reviewing, and acting upon such petitions are set forth in the California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 2506. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Jared Babula, Staff Counsel, at (916) 651-1462.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Oglesby', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert P. Oglesby  
Executive Director

cc: Docket Unit  
Kevin Chou, Renewable Energy Office