California Energy Commission

STAFF REPORT

LOCALIZED HEALTH IMPACTS REPORT

Addendum 4 for a Selected Project With Location Changes Awarded Funding Through the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Under Solicitation PON-11-602 – Alternative Fuels Infrastructure: Electric, Natural Gas, Propane, E85, and Diesel Substitutes Terminals

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ADDENDUM

The *Localized Health Impacts Report Addendum for Selected Projects Awarded Funding Through the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Program Under Solicitation PON-11-602 – Alternative Fuels Infrastructure: Electric, Natural Gas, Propane, E85, and Diesel Substitutes Terminals* was originally posted September 21, 2012, and the public comment period ended October 31, 2012. The September Addendum addressed the projects recommended for funding under the Notice of Proposed Awards (NOPA) – Round 2.

Sixty-four projects were funded under Round 2, and 24 projects were funded under Round 1 of this solicitation. Since the revised NOPA was posted, a project has changed its location for a compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station. The original project proposed to install the CNG fueling station at 20041 SW Birch Street, Newport Beach, CA 92660; however, based on recent developments and further assessment, this station will be located at 24201 El Toro Rd, Lake Forest, CA 92630.

This addendum to the localized health impacts report assesses and reports on the potential localized health impacts of this new infrastructure projects recommended for funding.

The project does not include stations that require a full assessment for potential health impacts on low-income communities highly affected by air pollution. Table 1 identifies the station and its surrounding community.

Table 1: Community Status and Project Overview

Project	At-Risk Community	CEQA Completed	Air District Permit Status	Attainment Status for Ozone, PM (2.5), PM (10)
Lake Forest	No	Complete	In Process	Nonattainment (PM [10])

Source: Energy Commission staff analysis

The following overview includes a project description that includes impacts, benefits, outreach efforts, and a discussion of the potential health impacts related to air pollutants explicitly identified in the project. In addition, demographic data for the planned project location is provided in Table 3.

Staff reviewed results from the Environmental Justice Screening Method (EJSM) to identify projects that are in areas with social vulnerability indicators (for example, race/ethnicity, income, proximity to sensitive land use, and exposure to air pollution) and the greatest exposure to air pollution and associated health risks. For communities not yet assessed in the EJSM, the Energy Commission identified high-risk areas as those in nonattainment air basins for ozone, particulate matter (PM) (2.5) and PM (10) that have high poverty and high minority rates, as well as a high percentage of sensitive populations.

Project Descriptions

Project Name

FirstCNG
Lake Forest El Toro Rd, Unmanned Public CNG Station

Project Description

FirstCNG will build and operate an unmanned compressed natural gas (CNG) dispensing facility. The facility will have four 3600-pounds-per-square-inch dispenser hoses. The compression system will be capable of delivering at least 600 standard cubic feet per minute of natural gas. Primary facility users will be area taxi and shuttle fleets, and general public work vans, pickups, and commuter vehicles.

Project Impacts and Benefits

Preparation of the site will require the use of some heavy machinery, including a crane. No toxic emissions are expected during site development. The site will require a new natural gas service to be put in place. It is possible that during the service installation some natural gas may escape into the environment. During normal operations, very small quantities of natural gas may escape into the environment when hoses are removed from vehicles after the fueling process.

No negative local area health impacts are expected from the development of CNG fueling stations. The fuel is expected to reduce particulate, oxides of nitrogen (NOx), carbon monoxide (CO), and carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions as compared with diesel and gasoline. This will, in turn, improve the regional air quality.

Some of the notable benefits from the installation of this project include the increased use of cleaner alternative fuels which will replace higher emitting vehicles like gasoline vehicles. This project will provide fuel availability to growing alternative fuel demand. The projects funded through the infrastructure solicitation and agreements are anticipated to improve the environment and result in socioeconomic benefits by generating jobs and revenue for local communities that would otherwise not be available.

Outreach Efforts

FirstCNG relies on national programs such as CNGNow and the America's Natural Gas Alliance outreach efforts to inform people of natural gas fueling options. FirstCNG plans to conduct an initial outreach advertising effort to inform the local community of the new site. This will likely involve placing an ad in the local newspaper, issuing flyers to area drivers, and directly contacting area natural gas vehicle fleet operators (such as taxis and shuttle vans), as well as targeted Web-based advertising.

Location Analysis and Community Impacts

Based on the above assessment, and considered with the other projects funded under the solicitation, the community is not disproportionately affected by this project. None of the Environmental Justice indicators are present in this city, and the above analysis indicates that there will be no net increase in criteria and toxic air pollutants as a result of the installation of the equipment and increased throughput at each facility.

Lake Forest has no EJ indicators (that is, no indication of a minority population, poverty level, unemployment rate, or age).

This station is not in a community that is highly impacted by air pollution with low-income neighborhoods, and it is not anticipated that there will be any adverse health effects in high-risk communities as a result of the upgrades and installation of these stations. This station is not located close to, or in, any low-income communities that would be highly impacted by air pollution, and the station is not expected to result in any adverse health effects in the adjacent communities as a result of the installation and use of the equipment.

The last table in this addendum provides city-level data for the city project location to give additional insight on the community demographics where the project will be located.

Table 3: Demographic Data
(Percentage of total population)

City	Lake Forest
Below poverty level	5.5
Ethnicity	
Black	1.7
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.5
Asian or Pacific Islander	13.1
Hispanic	24.6
White	70.3
Age	
< 5 years	6.3
> 65 years	9.2
Unemployment rate	5.3

Source: Unemployment Information, EDD Labor Market Information Division; Age/ethnicity demographics, U.S. Census http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/index.html and http://www.city-data.com/city/Lake-Forest-California.html