

INLAND EMPIRE ENERGY CENTER (01-AFC-17C)

Petition to Modify the California Energy Commission Air Quality Conditions of Certification for consistency with the SCAQMD RECLAIM/Title V permit for the Inland Empire Energy Center Project.

CPM: DALE RUNDQUIST
November 10, 2010 SITING COMMITTEE MEETING
December 15, 2010 BUSINESS MEETING

BACKGROUND

- 800 MW natural-gas fired combined-cycle power plant in the City of Menifee in southern Riverside County
- Owned and operated by Inland Empire Energy Center, LLC
- Certified December 2003
- Unit 1 operational since June 29, 2009, Unit 2 operational since May 5, 2010

SUMMARY OF PETITION

The current amendment request would modify several Air Quality Conditions of Certification to reflect the changes that have been made to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) permit since the last California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) amendment was approved on April 11, 2007:

- On September 21, 2007, the SCAQMD issued a minor revision to the RECLAIM/Title V facility permit related to a change in the specifications for the auxiliary boiler.
- On April 4, 2008, the SCAQMD issued a minor revision to the RECLAIM/Title V facility permit related to permit condition changes needed to allow commissioning of the auxiliary boiler.
- On October 17, 2008, the SCAQMD issued a minor revision to the RECLAIM/Title V facility permit related to the auxiliary boiler's burner model designation, storage capacity for on-site aqueous ammonia storage tanks, and emission limits applicable to the auxiliary boiler during boiler startups / shutdowns.
- On June 3, 2009, the SCAQMD issued a minor revision to the RECLAIM/Title V facility permit related to allowable hours of operations for the emergency generators at the site.
- On August 25, 2009, the SCAQMD issued a minor revision to the RECLAIM/Title V facility permit related to allowable Carbon Monoxide (CO) emissions from the combined cycle units during startups and shutdowns.

Staff notes that the project has already been modified (i.e., the proposed conditions have already been approved by the SCAQMD) and the current amendment request addresses the differences between the Energy Commission's most recent decision

and the current SCAQMD RECLAIM/Title V permit. Staff evaluated any potential non-compliance issues related to the Energy Commission Decision and any effect on air quality.

STAFF ANALYSIS

- The requested project changes would conform to applicable federal, state, and SCAQMD air quality laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS).
- The amended project would not cause significant air quality impacts provided that the amended conditions of certification (COC) are included.
- Staff recommends that the revised COCs be approved.

PUBLIC PROCESS

- Petition to modify project filed/docketed December 14, 2009.
- Notice of Receipt mailed to the post-certification mailing list and affected public agencies December 14, 2009, posted to the Energy Commission Website, and docketed.
- Revised staff analysis mailed to interested parties, docketed, and posted to the Energy Commission Website on October 27, 2010.
- There were no public comments received.
- The SCAQMD has approved the modification.

FINDINGS

- The petition meets all the filing criteria of Section 1769(a) concerning post-certification project modifications.
- The modification will not change the findings in the Energy Commission's Final Decision pursuant to Section 1755.
- The project will remain in compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards, subject to the provisions of Public Resources Code section 25525;
- The proposed conditions have been approved by the SCAQMD and there will be no significant adverse environmental impacts associated with this amendment.
- The purpose of the proposed amendment is to adjust the Energy Commission Air Quality Conditions of Certification for consistency with the current SCAQMD RECLAIM/Title V permit for the IEEC project.

RECOMMENDATION

- Staff recommends that the Energy Commission approve the project modifications and associated revisions to the air quality conditions of certification.