

Lessons Learned Public Workshop

March 2, 2012

10-SIT OII-1

Background/Reason for the Workshop

On December 1, 2010, the California Energy Commission adopted an Order Instituting an Informational (OII) Proceeding on issues that are critical to the licensing of power plants. Commission staff has been assessing the Energy Commission's siting processes and examining critical issues common among solar-thermal and conventional power plants. The Commission staff will use the information gathered during this proceeding to prepare a report which will describe the topics examined, issues identified, the significance of the issues in the licensing process, prioritization of issues, and actions needed to avoid or address any problems identified. Based upon the outcome of the OII Proceeding, the Commission may recommend changes to the siting process including changes to regulations.

One part of this examination includes an examination of the Energy Commission's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) equivalent process.

Goals of Today's Workshop

As part of this review, the Energy Commission is interested in ways it can improve and/or change its CEQA analysis. This includes improving coordination with local, state, and federal agencies.

Towards this end, the California Energy Commission is interested in hearing how county and state agencies conduct their CEQA reviews. The Energy Commission also wants to hear how federal agencies coordinate and work together with local and state agencies when completing their environmental analysis.

The following agencies will be participating in the Workshop:

- Imperial County
- Inyo County
- Kern County
- Los Angeles County
- Riverside County
- San Bernardino County
- Office of the Governor
- Governor's Office of Planning and Research
- California Natural Resources Agency
- California Department of Fish and Game
- California ISO
- California Public Utilities Commission
- California State Lands Commission
- US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
- US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor

Agenda

Time	Item
8:30 – 8:45	Welcome and Purpose, Karen Douglas, Energy Commission
8:45 – 10:00	Renewable energy challenges and successes
10:00 – 12:00	Process topics (Energy Commission Staff Moderator): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Pre-filing process ➤ Determining completeness of the initial application ➤ Requesting additional information from the applicant ➤ Scoping and receiving information from the public ➤ Dealing with project changes ➤ Developing and monitoring mitigation measures ➤ Cost Recovery
12:00 - 12:30	Lunch
12:30 – 1:00	CEQA/NEPA coordination (US Department of the Interior & the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research co-presenter)
1:00 – 2:00	Multi-Agency Environmental Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Antelope Valley Solar Project - Kern County and Los Angeles County ➤ Desert Sunlight – Riverside County, PUC, BLM ➤ Abengoa – San Bernardino County and Energy Commission
2:00 – 3:00	Renewable Energy Planning
3:00 – 3:45	Questions from the floor/Public comments
3:45 – 4:00	Next Steps, Karen Douglas, Energy Commission