

Memorandum

Date: March 22, 2005
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DOCKET 99-AFC-80
DATE MAR 22 2005
RECD. MAR 22 2005

To: John L. Geesman, Presiding Member

From: California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Zileen Allen FOR JACK CASWELL
Jack W. Caswell, Project Manager

Subject: **CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE BLYTHE ENERGY PROJECT TRANSMISSION LINE STATUS REPORT #3**

Energy Commission Staff received comments on the Blythe Energy Project Transmission Line (BEPTL) Status Report #3 from the California Independent System Operator (CA ISO) on March 4, 2005.

The CA ISO noted that the statement, "However, a significant delay has occurred due to the CA ISO requirement for a revised Facility Study with additional scoping requirements" does not accurately describe the review process that the CA ISO, Energy Commission Staff, Southern California Edison (SCE) and BEPTL have undertaken. In an attempt to clarify any confusion that has occurred because of the above statement, staff is submitting the following information:

Amended System Impact Studies (SISs) have been requested by both the CA ISO and Staff from the BEPTL petitioner and SCE. The following transmission related sequence of events was established at the February 17, 2005 PSA workshop and must be completed before the Final Staff Assessment/ Environmental Assessment can be completed. However, the dates provided in Status Report #3 and reflected below were contingent on receipt of the amended SISs by March 1, 2005. These dates were not met and therefore a day for day slip in the schedule will occur until receipt of the SISs. A revised schedule will be provided upon receipt of the SISs.

1. On April 1, 2005 the CA ISO will complete their review of the amended SISs and provide a concurrence letter to SCE on the completeness of the studies (if applicable).
2. On April 4, 2005 SCE will start a 90-day process preparing the required Facility Study for each of the two transmission line plans as requested in the petition application from Blythe Energy.
3. On July 5, 2005 SCE will provide the Facility Studies to the CA ISO.
4. On August 5, 2005 the CA ISO will complete their 30-day review of the Facility Studies and provide an approval letter to SCE (if applicable) regarding the completeness of the studies on connecting the proposed transmission line projects to the grid. A final approval will be granted if the Studies are determined to be adequate. If the Facility Studies are determined to be inadequate, the Applicant would be required to provide modifications for re-submittal to the CA ISO. The timing required to process the modifications would depend on their complexity.