

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

NOTICE OF RECEIPT
PETITION TO AMEND
THE ENERGY COMMISSION DECISION for the
BOTTLE ROCK GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT PROJECT (79-AFC-4C)

On September 30, 2009, Bottle Rock Power, LLC (BRP) filed a petition to amend the Bottle Rock Geothermal Power Plant (BRGPP) Project license with the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission). The 55-megawatt project was certified by the Energy Commission on November 5, 1980. The power plant facility is located near the town of Cobb, in Lake County. The BRGPP began operation in February, 1985. The original owner, the Department of Water Resources (DWR), was unaware at the time of plant construction that additional geothermal wells would be needed to meet the intended electrical generation output. Steam field supply became a critical problem for BRGPP due to the reduced output of that geothermal steam field resource. Operations were suspended in November 1990 by DWR, and plant operations were shut down. In 2001, ownership was transferred from DWR to the Bottle Rock Power Corporation. A petition to re-power the project was submitted by the owner on August 2, 2006, and the Energy Commission issued an order approving the necessary changes to the project on December 13, 2006.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION

This petition seeks to amend the 2006 Commission Decision for BRGPP. The proposed project changes would increase the power output of the plant to approximately 55 MW, from the current 17 MW with minimal physical changes to BRGPP facility site and no changes to the existing electrical transmission infrastructure. The project will increase the power output of BRGPP through development of a new steam field on the existing BRP geological resource lease.

ENERGY COMMISSION AMENDMENT REVIEW PROCEDURES

The Energy Commission has jurisdiction over the licensing of the Bottle Rock plant site. However, the production and injection wells and associated infrastructure, including pipelines and access roads, are exempt from the Energy Commission's process and instead fall under the jurisdiction of Lake County and Bureau of Land Management (BLM). An amendment is required to the existing BLM geothermal well permit due to the fact that the new steam field is on private land with BLM federal mineral rights. Both the Energy Commission and Lake County with BLM will issue separate notices for this project to meet all agency obligations under the Warren-Alquist Act, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Lake County, BLM and the Energy Commission will coordinate their review processes and document development for this amendment petition.

The following power plant resource changes are being considered in this amendment.

- two injection wells,
- a maximum of 22 production wells,
- a steam pipeline (approximately two miles long),

DOCKET
79-AFC-4C

DATE OCT 26 2009

RECD. OCT 27 2009

- a condensate injection pipeline (approximately two miles long),
- an access road (approximately 2,000 feet long), and
- reconfiguration of the power plant site geothermal connections.

The purpose of the Energy Commission's review process is to assess the impacts of this proposal on environmental quality, public health and safety. The review process includes an evaluation of the consistency of the proposed changes with the Energy Commission's Decision and if the project, as modified, will remain in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (Title 20, Calif. Code of Regulations, section 1769). Energy Commission staff is currently analyzing the request and will publish an analysis in the near future. A public hearing for the purpose of approving or denying the amendment proposal will subsequently be held at a regularly scheduled Energy Commission business meeting.

This Notice of Receipt is being mailed to interested parties and property owners adjacent to the project site who may want to participate in the amendment process.

The petition is available on the Energy Commission's website at [http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/bottlerock/documents/applicant/2009-09-30 Petition to Amend Final Decision TN-53499.PDF](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/bottlerock/documents/applicant/2009-09-30%20Petition%20to%20Amend%20Final%20Decision%20TN-53499.PDF). The staff analysis (when published), will also be posted on the website. If you would like to receive a hard copy or CD of the petition and/or staff's analysis, please complete the enclosed Information Request Form and return it to the address shown.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Dale Rundquist, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 651-2072, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at: drundqui@energy.state.ca.us within 14 days of the date of this notice.

For further information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

Date: 10/26/09



EILEEN ALLEN, Manager
Siting and Compliance Office
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection
Division

Enclosure: Information Request Form

Mail List # 771

INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

COMPLETE & MAIL TO: CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
COMPLIANCE UNIT
ATTN: DALE RUNDQUIST
1516 NINTH STREET, MS-2000
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OR FAX TO: (916) 654-3882

NAME AND/OR TITLE (AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON MAIL LABEL)

ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE)

STREET ADDRESS OR P.O. BOX

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE COMMISSION DECISION TO INCREASE STEAM PRODUCTION AT BOTTLE ROCK GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT.

PLEASE CHECK THE DOCUMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE:

- PETITION TO AMEND/ HARD COPY OR CD
- STAFF ANALYSIS
- COMMISSION ORDER

PROJECT: BOTTLE ROCK GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT
DOCKET NO: 79-AFC-4C
MAIL LIST NO: 771

PLEASE REMOVE MY NAME FROM THE BOTTLE ROCK GEOTHERMAL POWER PLANT PROJECT MAILING LIST