

BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
COMMUNITY POWER PROJECT
BY THE *KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT*

DOCKET No. 07-AFC-7

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SITE VISIT AND INFORMATIONAL HEARING

On September 27, 2007, Kings River Conservation District submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to the California Energy Commission to construct and operate a base-load combined-cycle power plant, the Community Power Project (CPP), in an unincorporated area of southern Fresno County near the City of Parlier. The proposed project would be a nominal 565 megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired combined-cycle generating facility using two natural gas-fired combustion turbine generators (CTGs). Additional equipment would include two heat recovery steam generators (HRSGs) and one steam turbine generator. The proposed CPP site is a 32.25-acre parcel near the City of Parlier, Fresno County, California. The project proposes to supply additional reliable and inexpensive local gas-fired generation to help meet the expected electrical demand growth in the greater Fresno area. The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) has identified this local area as deficient in generation resources.

The California Energy Commission has exclusive jurisdiction to license this project and is considering the proposal under a twelve-month review process established by Public Resources Code section 25540.6.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Energy Commission has designated a Committee of two commissioners to conduct proceedings on the application. The Committee has scheduled a public Site Visit and Informational Hearing to discuss the proposed project as described below:

MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008

Site Visit begins at 12:30 p.m., Public Informational Hearing begins at 1:45 p.m.

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
KEARNEY RESEARCH AND EXTENSION CENTER
9240 South Riverbend Avenue
Parlier, CA 93648**

**Wheelchair Accessible
(Map Attached)**

Prior to the Informational Hearing, members of the public are invited to join the Committee on a tour of the proposed site. The Applicant will provide transportation to the project site from the U.C. Kearney Research and Extension Center and back. For reservations, please contact the Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or 1-800-822-6228 or e-mail at: [\[pao@energy.state.ca.us\]](mailto:pao@energy.state.ca.us). Please make your reservation on or before January 7, 2008, so that we can assure you a space.

Background

On December 5, 2007, the Energy Commission accepted the CCP as data adequate and began its formal review of the proposed project. The review process will take approximately twelve months. During the review period, the Energy Commission will determine whether the proposed project complies with applicable laws related to public health and safety, environmental impacts, and engineering requirements. The Informational Hearing scheduled by this Notice is sponsored by the Energy Commission to inform the public about the project and to invite public participation in the review process.

Project Description

The proposed CPP site is a 32.25-acre parcel in unincorporated Fresno County near the City of Parlier, California (Assessor's Parcel Number 358-032-41). The site is located adjacent to and east of South Bethel Avenue, between East Manning and East Dinuba Avenues, in an area currently zoned for agriculture. Access to the site will be provided via South Bethel Avenue on the west side of the parcel.

The main project features will consist of the 32.25-acre power plant site, a 15-acre construction laydown area located within a 40-acre parcel to the immediate south of the project; approximately 5 miles of new transmission lines to the McCall substation on Leonard Avenue; and 26 miles of new natural gas pipeline that will connect to the Southern California Gas Company system near the City of Visalia. The generation facility will include either Siemens SGT6-5000F or GE 7FA CTG units equipped with foggers or evaporative coolers, a mechanical-draft cooling tower, step up transformers, an overhead electric transmission line, air emissions control equipment, and an aqueous ammonia storage tank. The facility will also have up to four wells north of the project site (near the Parlier waste water treatment ponds), an onsite groundwater well to supply potable water, a tertiary water treatment plant, water storage tanks, a zero liquid discharge (ZLD) system, a storm water retention pond, and a sewer connection for disposal of domestic wastewater. The site is situated within a mile of the City of Parlier.

The proposed power plant site is zoned AE-20 (Exclusive Agriculture – 20 acre minimum parcel size) that is currently being used predominately for agricultural purposes (vineyards). Existing structures on the project site include a vacant rural dwelling, detached garage, and barn. The proposed project site is currently under a

Williamson Act Contract for agricultural land preservation for which the Applicant plans to file a petition for non-renewal with Fresno County. Other land uses in the area include agriculture to the west, south, and north/northwest. To the east of the site is the County of Fresno Southeast Regional Disposal Site, a Class III landfill that was closed in 1998. Just north of the proposed site is the City of Parlier's Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). The nearest residence is located approximately 1,800 feet to the north of the project site.

The CPP will connect to the electrical transmission system via a new 5-mile double circuit 230-kilovolt (kV) radial transmission line that connects to the existing Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) McCall Substation west of the project site.

Fuel will be supplied to the Community Power Project by a 26-mile long extension of a 20 inch-diameter natural gas line extending from the Southern California Gas Company system near the City of Visalia in Tulare County. The proposed alignment of this gas pipeline closely follows existing road right-of-way corridors. The natural gas will be compressed and filtered at the CPP plant site. Five construction staging areas have also been identified for use during construction of the gas pipeline, each with an approximate size of 200 feet by 200 feet.

The primary source of process water for the CPP will be secondarily treated reclaimed water delivered by new underground pipeline interconnections to the Parlier Waste Water Treatment Plant and the Sanger Waste Water Treatment Plant effluent percolation and evaporation ponds located on Lincoln Avenue. Approximately 3,485 acre-feet per year will be required for power plant cooling and other uses. Up to four new shallow wells and associated monitoring wells will provide a back-up cooling water supply for recovering percolated effluent. Lesser water demands for fire protection, plant service water, and domestic water will be provided by a new onsite potable water well drilled into the local groundwater aquifer.

Reclaimed domestic wastewater will also be utilized for cooling the CPP. The cooling tower reject water will be concentrated and the water reclaimed onsite using a zero liquid discharge (ZLD) system. Solids generated by the ZLD process will be removed from the site to landfills. Domestic wastewater will be discharged to the Parlier WWTP by a new sewer interconnection at the northern boundary of the project site. Storm water runoff will be directed to an onsite retention basin.

Assuming CPP receives a certificate from the Energy Commission, the Applicant has proposed that construction of the project will start in the second quarter of 2009. Pre-operational testing of the power plant could begin in the first quarter of 2011 and full commercial operation would be expected to begin in the second quarter of the same year.

Air emissions from the proposed facility will be controlled using best available control technology applied to each engine's exhaust. Certification by the Energy Commission will reflect conformance with rules and regulations of the San Joaquin Valley Air

Pollution Control District and include the issuance of a Determination of Compliance from the District.

The engineering and environmental details of the proposed project are contained in the AFC. Copies of the AFC are available at the local public agencies that are involved in the review process and at the following libraries: Fresno County Central Library, Parlier Branch Library, Reedley Branch Library, Sanger Branch Library, Kingsbury Branch Library, Dinuba Branch Library, Selma Branch Library, and Fowler Branch Public Library.

Copies are also available at the Energy Commission's Library in Sacramento, the California State Library in Sacramento, and at public libraries in Eureka, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. In addition, copies will be distributed to those public agencies that would normally have jurisdiction except for the Energy Commission's exclusive authority to certify sites and related facilities.

Purpose of the Informational Hearing

The power plant licensing process, which incorporates requirements equivalent to the environmental impact report process of the California Environmental Quality Act, considers all relevant engineering and environmental aspects of the proposed project. The licensing review provides a public forum allowing the Applicant, Commission staff, governmental agencies, adjacent landowners, and members of the general public to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the project, and to propose changes, mitigation measures, and alternatives as necessary.

The Informational Hearing scheduled in this Notice provides an opportunity for members of the community in the project vicinity to obtain information, to offer comments, and to view the project site. The Applicant will explain plans for developing the project and the related facilities. Energy Commission staff will explain the administrative licensing process and Staff's role in reviewing the application.

Proposed Schedule and Issue Identification Report

To assist participants in understanding the project, Applicant and Staff shall each file a proposed schedule for conducting the certification process, and Staff shall file an Issue Identification Report ("Report") summarizing any potential issues. The proposed schedules and Staff's Report shall be filed no later than 3 p.m., January 7, 2008. At the Informational Hearing, the parties shall indicate whether anticipated data responses would resolve issues of concern which may be raised in Staff's Report.

Copies of these documents will be posted on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: [<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/communitypower/index.html>].

Public Adviser and Public Participation

Members of the public may participate in all aspects of the review process in a variety of ways. The Commission Public Adviser's Office is available to assist the public in participating in the licensing process. This office may be reached at 916-654-4489 or 800-822-6228 or email: **[pao@energy.state.ca.us]**.

If you have a disability and need assistance to participate in this event, contact Lourdes Quiroz well in advance of the hearing at 916-654-5146 or e-mail: **[lquiroz@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Information

Technical questions concerning the project should be addressed to Che McFarlin, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 651-0965, or by e-mail at **[cmcfarli@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Questions of a legal or procedural nature should be directed to Kenneth Celli, the Hearing Officer, at (916) 651-8893, or e-mail: **[kcelli@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Media inquiries should be directed to Claudia Chandler, Assistant Executive Director for Media and Public Communications at (916) 654-4989 or e-mail at: **[mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us]**.

Information concerning the status of the project, as well as notices and other relevant documents, may be viewed on the Energy Commission's Internet web page at: **[<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/communitypower/index.html>]**.

Dated: December 10, 2007, at Sacramento, California.

Signed

JACKALYNE PFANNENSTIEL
Chairman and Presiding Member
Community Power Plant AFC Committee

Signed

JOHN GEESMAN
Commissioner and Associate Member
Community Power Plant AFC Committee

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