

Memorandum

Date : April 28, 1999
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To : William Keese, Chairman and Presiding Member

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From : California Energy Commission - Paul Richins, Jr
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Subject : **Subject: DELTA ENERGY CENTER STATUS REPORT #1—APRIL 28, 1999**

Since the March 22, 1999 Delta Energy Center (DEC) Informational Hearing, staff has conducted two data response workshops in Pittsburg. The workshops provided an opportunity to address the March 1 and March 24, 1999, data requests submitted to Calpine/Bechtel. We discussed their responses to these questions and a variety of topics including--hazardous materials handling, noise, visual resources, transmission system engineering, alternative transmission routes, land use, air quality and public health. Many of these issues also require close coordination with the City of Pittsburg and the proposed Pittsburg District Energy Facility (PDEF). Coordination was a major theme that ran throughout the workshop discussions. (To ensure consistency in the review of the PDEF and the DEC, many of the same Energy Commission staff are assigned to both of these projects.)

The workshops were held in Pittsburg in which we conducted a day session and two evening sessions. In addition to Energy Commission staff and representatives of Calpine/Bechtel, the workshops were well-attended by representatives of the City of Antioch, City of Pittsburg, Delta Diablo Sanitation District, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and several interested citizens. During the discussions at the workshops, additional clarifying information was requested and Calpine/Bechtel agreed to provide the needed material. Calpine/Bechtel indicated that they will provide the requested information in a few weeks. Below is a summary of the significant issues currently being addressed by the public, local, state, federal agencies, Calpine/Bechtel and Energy Commission staff.

Coordination with PDEF and the City of Pittsburg—There are continuing efforts by Calpine/Bechtel and Energy Commission staff to coordinate various aspects of the DEC and the PDEF with the City of Pittsburg. The area of transmission line routes is receiving much attention at the present. Transmission line routes, both the above ground portion and the below ground portion, that ensure minimal impacts to the community are being explored.

Transmission System Engineering: Energy Commission staff is continuing to work with the California Independent System Operator (Cal-ISO) on the timely review of the Detailed Facilities Study. The Cal-ISO anticipates completing its review in a few weeks.

Air Quality: At the workshop on April 27, 1999, we had an extensive and productive discussion on the various data responses and issues—availability of emission offsets, banking of unbanked offsets, emission rates, emission caps, manufacture warranties, monitoring stations and the like. A second air quality workshop will be scheduled in May. At the workshop, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District indicated that the Preliminary Determination of Compliance is on schedule for completion by June 21, 1999.

Biological Resources: Calpine/Bechtel has initiated the wetlands delineation process with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and will be filing an application with the Department of Fish and Game for the streambed alteration permit.

Visual Resources: We had a productive discussion with Calpine/Bechtel at the workshop on various visual resource issues regarding alternative transmission line routes, transmission towers, visible vapor plume and the project structure. Additional clarifying information is being provided by Calpine/Betchel.

Water Resources: Calpine/Bechtel has filed its application with the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board for the NPDES Permit.

Project Changes: Calpine/Bechtel has proposed a number of changes to the project including: 1) use of the Dow outfall; 2) adjustment in the route of the underground transmission line route near the west end; 3) removal of a portion of the Posco/PG&E 115 kV line; 4) new locations for the transition station and electrical line pump station; and 5) a new location of interconnection with PG&E's gas line. They have explained these changes to staff informally and will be providing this information to all the parties and the public in writing in a few weeks. Providing that the supplemental information is complete and does not require staff to prepare additional data requests, these changes should not affect our filing of the Preliminary Staff Assessment on or about August 2, 1999.

cc: Delta Energy Center Proof of Service List
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