Response to CEC Staff Data Adequacy Comments

Technical Area: Visual

Following are additional information and/or clarifications in response to the specific issues raised in the CEC staff Data Adequacy review. For each specific area where the questions were raised by CEC staff, the applicable section of the CEC Siting Regulations is identified, followed by the "Information Required to Make AFC Conform with Regulations," followed by the supplemental/clarifying information.

VISUAL-1. Appendix B (g)(6)(A)(ii)

Information Required:

Please provide a description of any modifications to the landscape as a result of human activities.

Response:

The landscape of the power plant site will be modified by clearing of vegetation and leveling of terrain. Joshua Trees will be transplanted at the plant site to the extent practicable along Avenue M, along the entry road, and at the administration building.

VISUAL-2. Appendix B (g)(6)(A)(ii)

Information Required:

Please provide a description of the existing visual properties of above ground electrical transmission.

Response:

There are existing above-ground electrical transmission lines for a relatively short distance along East Avenue M and for approximately one third of the length of the proposed electrical line from the Pearblossom Highway to the southern terminus. There is one existing electrical line constructed of steel poles along E Ave M and five existing steel lattice lines on one wooden H-frame line in the corridor from just east of Pearblossom Highway to the substation at the southern terminus. The wooden H-frame line would be replaced by the Project's single pole structures. A photograph of the existing transmission lines along E Ave M is provided in AFC Figure 5.15-5a and a photograph of one of the existing H-frame towers is shown in AFC Figure 2.13a.

VISUAL-3. Appendix B (g)(6)(A)(ii)

Information Required:

Please provide a description of the existing visual properties of the nighttime lighting levels in the project viewshed.

Response:

The project viewshed is influenced by a moderate level of nighttime lighting from roadways and from the industrial and airport facilities to the east and south of the power plant site.

VISUAL-4. Appendix B (g)(6)(C).

Information Required:

Please identify: i) any designated scenic roadways or scenic corridors and any visually sensitive areas that would be affected by the proposed project, including recreational and residential areas; and ii) the locations of the key observation points indicating the approximate number of people using each of these sensitive areas and the estimated number of residences with views of the project. Also identify any major public roadways and trails of local importance that would be visually impacted by the project and indicate the types of travelers (e.g., local residents, recreationists, workers, commuters, etc.) and the approximate number of vehicles, bicyclists, and/or hikers per day.

Response:

The Pearblossom Highway is a designated scenic roadway, initiated as such by the Antelope Valley General Plan, County of Los Angeles. There are no associated permits or specific design or construction guidelines associated with this designation.

The locations of the key observation points (KOPs) are shown on AFC Figure 5.15-3, and KOP 6 is located near the Pearblossom Highway. There are approximately ten residences associated with KOP 3 (on Palermo Dr.) that have views of the main plant site; approximately 25 – 50 average daily users of the Sierra Highway bike and walking trail; approximately 17,000 average daily vehicles on the Sierra Highway; approximately 9,000 average daily vehicles on Avenue M; approximately 1,000 to 4,000 daily users at the Lancaster National Soccer Complex; approximately 18,000 average daily vehicles on the Pearblossom Highway; and approximately 203 residences with views (within a half-mile) of the proposed electrical transmission line.

VISUAL-5. Appendix B (g)(6)(D).

Information Required:

Please provide a table providing the proposed color(s), materials, finishes, patterns, and other proposed design characteristics of each major component visible from off the project site, including any project-related electrical transmission line and/or offsite above ground pipelines and metering stations.

Response:

Table 5.15-5 provides the requested inputs for the major power plant components. In addition, the pole heights for the proposed electrical transmission line range from 105’ – 135’; pole base diameters range from 60.48” – 86”; and the color and material for the poles will be a standard galvanized steel tube.

Table 5.15-5. Significant Structures Coating/Finishing Color List for Plant Site Components

						9/10/08
Description	Height, FT.	Length(East-West), FT.	Depth (North-South), FT.	Diameter, FT.(if applicable)	Finish Color	Equipment Material
Combustion Turbine 1 Enclosure	35	55	25		Desert Tan	Metal siding
Combustion Turbine 1 Inlet Air Filter	70	60	45		Desert Tan	Metal siding
CT 1 MCC Module	20	36	12		Desert Tan	Metal siding
CT 1 Lube Oil Module	15	30	11		Desert Tan	Metal siding
Combustion Turbine 2 Enclosure	34	54	24		Desert Tan	Metal siding
Combustion Turbine 2 Inlet Air Filter	69	62	44		Desert Tan	Metal siding
CT 2 MCC Module	20	36	12		Desert Tan	Metal siding
CT 2 Lube Oil Module	15	30	11		Desert Tan	Metal siding
HRSG 1(Top of Silencers)	119	140	45		Desert Tan	Metal panel
HRSG 2(Top of Silencers)	119	140	45		Desert Tan	Metal panel
HRSG 1 Stack	145			19	Desert Tan	Metal panel
HRSG 2 Stack	145			19	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Wet Cooling Tower (No Plume Abatement)	50	240	96		Desert Tan	Reinforced fiberglass or concrete
Steam turbine Generator/Condenser and associated structure/equipment	70	120	40		Desert Tan	Metal panel
ST MCC Module	20	20	50		Desert Tan	Metal siding
CTG 1 GSU Transformer	26	35	25		ANSI 70 Light Gray	Metal panel
CTG 2 GSU Transformer	26	35	25		ANSI 70 Light Gray	Metal panel
STG GSU Transformer	28	35	25		ANSI 70 Light Gray	Metal panel

Water Treatment Building	25	140	105		Desert Tan	Metal siding
Clarifier Tank 1	25			44	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Clarified Water Storage Tank	35			37	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Filtered Water Storage Tank	30			30	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Demineralized Water Tank	30			30	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Pretreatment Filter Press and Shelter	20	15	30		Desert Tan	Metal siding
Sludge Thickener	20	70	25	20	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Fire Pump Module	15	15	25		Desert Tan	Metal siding
Brine Storage Tank	35			35	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Crystallizer	55			9	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Ammonia Storage Tank (Horizontal)	20		40	10	Desert Tan	Metal panel
Fuel Gas metering Yard	15	75	45		Desert Tan	Metal
Administration / Warehouse	20	210	40		Desert Tan	Metal siding
230 KV Switchyard	20	290	440		Desert Tan/ ANSI 70 Light Gray	Metal
Switchgear Module	20	30	55		Desert Tan	Metal siding
Maximum Dimensions of Significant Structures (Not Including Solar). Dimensions are above ground and do not include foundations. Dimensions are slightly larger than the structures themselves to allow for catwalks, structure significant piping etc. Steps, handrails, grating, etc., if galvanized, will not be finished painted.						

VISUAL-6. Appendix B (i)(2).

Information Required:

Please provide contact information for County of Los Angeles Agency responsible for Scenic Corridors.

Response:

Gina Natoli, Supervising Regional Planner
Department of Regional Planning
County of Los Angeles
Hall of Records (13th Floor)
320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Telephone: (213) 974-6411

VISUAL-7. Appendix B (i)(3).

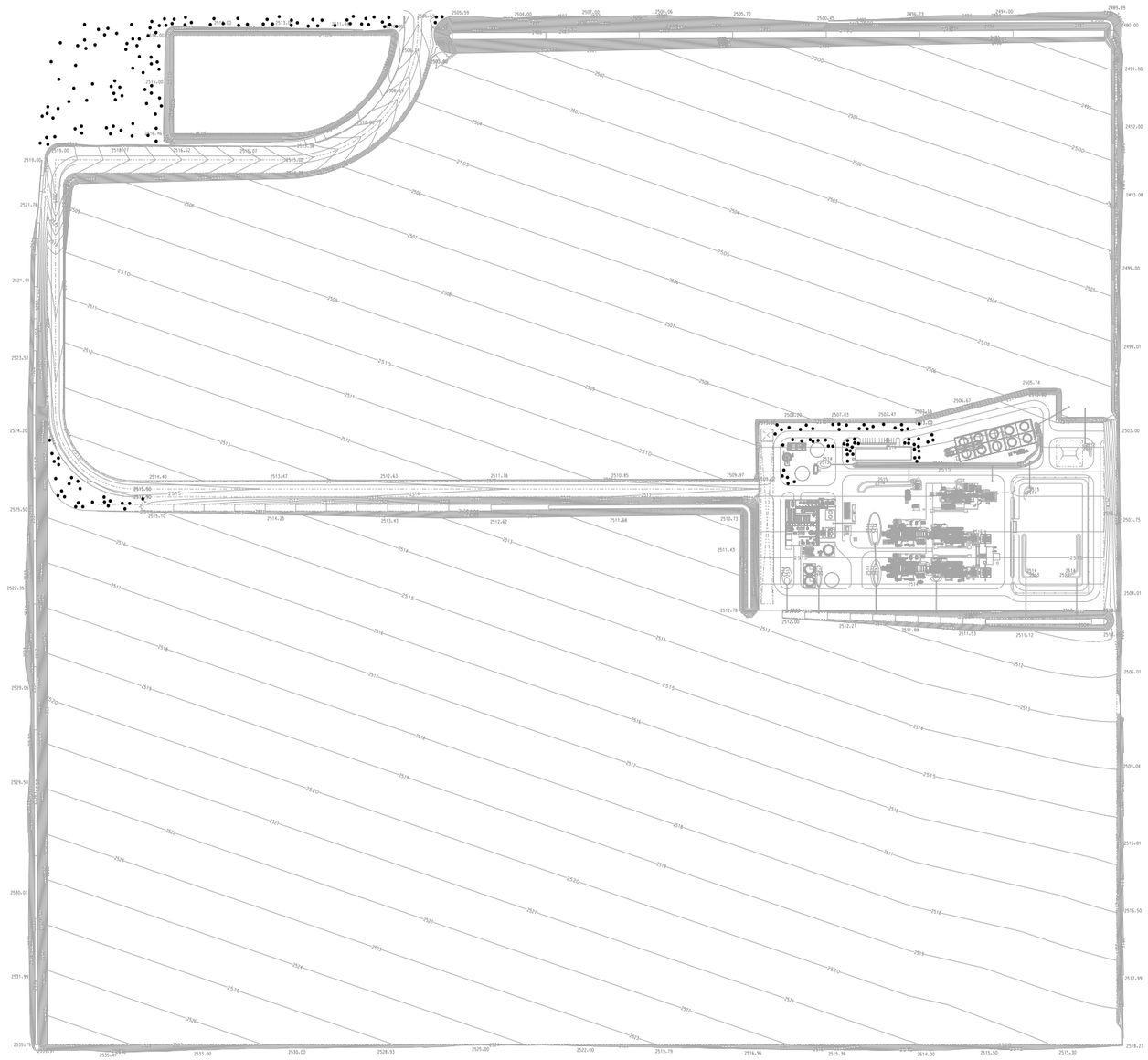
Information Required:

Please provide schedule indicating permits outside the authority of the commission to be obtained and steps the applicant has taken or plans to obtain such permits.

Response:

As noted in AFC Section 5.15.1.5, there are no permits required that are related specifically to visual resources, especially not any federal permits which would be the only type of permit that is outside the authority of the Commission. However, as also noted in this AFC Section 5.15.1.5, a City of Palmdale Native Desert Vegetation Removal Permit will be needed to the extent that the Joshua Trees cannot be transplanted elsewhere on the site (as shown in the Conceptual Landscaping Plan, Figure 5.15-10, attached).

The schedule of this Removal Permit is that it would typically be obtained as part of the Project's final pre-construction activities, along with the other Building, Excavation, etc. permits issued by the City of Palmdale, who is also the Applicant of this Project. The Desert Vegetation Preservation Plan related to this permit will be developed concurrently with plans for Visual screening and the biological resource protection measures of the project.



200 0 200 400
SCALE IN FEET
SCALE: 1" = 200'-0"

N

- PRELIMINARY -
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

CONFIDENTIAL

THESE DRAWINGS ARE CONFIDENTIAL IN NATURE. ANY MISUSE OR UNAUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTION OF THE DRAWINGS CONTAINED HEREIN WILL BE A VIOLATION OF THIS CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENT AND SUBJECT THE VIOLATOR TO LIABILITY. REVIEW OF THESE MATERIALS BY RECIPIENT SHALL CONSTITUTE AN ACCEPTANCE OF THESE TERMS AND THE TERMS OF ANY UNDERLYING CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT WE MAY HAVE EXECUTED IN OBTAINING THIS INFORMATION FROM A THIRD PARTY. IF THE RECIPIENT IS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH THE OBLIGATION OF CONFIDENTIALITY THEN THE DRAWINGS SHALL BE RETURNED TO BIBB.

REV	DESCRIPTION	DWN	CHK	APP	DATE
A	ISSUED FOR CEC APPLICATION	DAD		PAP	06-26-08

Legend
- Indicates Joshua Tree of varied size and spacing.

INLAND ENERGY

PALMDALE COMBINED CYCLE
POWER PROJECT

Kiewit

Kiewit Power
8455 Lenexa Drive
Lenexa, Kansas 66214

Conceptual Landscape Plan

	by	date
DESIGNED		
DRAWN		
CHECKED		
APPROVED		

DRAWING NUMBER

07-27-2008: 001