PETITION FOR CHANGE OF THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION IN THE FINAL DECISION TO BUILD A NEW BRIDGE CRANE FOR COMBUSTION TURBINE MAINTENANCE

PALOMAR ENERGY CENTER

(O1-AFC-24C)

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DATE MAY 29 2012

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By:

SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Submitted to:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

May 29, 2012

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) is filing this petition for a proposed amendment of the project design as described in the Final Decision for the Palomar Energy Center (PEC), Docket 01-AFC-24 pursuant to 20 Cal. Code Regs. Section 1769(a)(1). San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E or "the applicant") is proposing to build a new bridge crane over the two combustion turbines. The crane will be used during turbine overhauls and general maintenance for equipment adjacent to the turbines. No changes in Conditions of Certification are necessary.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION (Sec. 1769(a)(1)(A))

Further details of the proposed facilities are as follows:

New Bridge Crane for Turbine overhauls and general maintenance of surrounding equipment. SDG&E is proposing to build a new bridge crane over the combustion turbines to be used for heavy lifting during turbine overhauls. The crane will also be utilized for general maintenance for equipment adjacent to the turbine. The crane will consist of a 65 ton main hook and a 15 ton auxiliary hook located on a single trolley. The construction of the crane will consist of structural steel and steel trusses to support an elevated rail system. Both cranes are supported by a single trolley system operated from a local cab or a remote control device. To ensure safe and stable operation of the crane, the crane will consist of a cast-in-place foundation. The use of a fixed crane reduces the risk of unbalanced loads that compromise the engineered specifications of the equipment

and could cause an unsafe working environment. A fixed crane and lifting system will eliminate the use of portable cranes with outraging stabilizers. The outer surfaces of the crane will be consistent with other structural supports found throughout the facility. The plot plan shows the location of the crane and a visual simulation of the structure is attached in Appendix 1.

3.0 NECESSITY (Sec. 1769(a)(1)(B))

The addition of the crane will improve facility reliability and safety by ensuring the availability of specialized lifting equipment required during turbine overhauls and/or other maintenance projects that require the safe handling of heavy material. The crane will also reduce the overall plant maintenance costs by minimizing the use of rented portable large cranes. This will also minimize the presence of large, slow cranes disrupting traffic on regional highways as they transit to and from the power plant.

4.0 TIMING (Sec. 1769(a)(1)(C) and (D))

SDG&E assumed ownership of the PEC about three years after issuance of the Final Decision and certification to Palomar Energy, LLC. Since taking ownership of the plant in 2006, SDG&E has continued to review the engineering and design of the plant in order to better serve the needs of SDG&E ratepayers. SDG&E has also benefited from experience gained operating the plant since assuming ownership. This “fine tuning” could not have taken place during the licensing proceeding because SDG&E was not the applicant, the plant was not yet operating, and Palomar Energy brought its own objectives to the development of the project for the merchant market. The addition of this crane does not change or undermine the assumptions, rationale, findings, or other bases of the Final Decision. The change complies with all laws, ordinances, regulations and

standards and does not have a significant environmental impact, as further described below.

5.0 ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF THE MODIFICATIONS ON THE ENVIRONMENT (Sec. 1769(a)(1)(E))

The requested equipment change will have no significant effects on any of the technical areas analyzed in the August 2003 Final Commission Decision. Please see Table 1 below.

Table 1

Review of Effects of Installation and Operation of Emergency Engine

TECHNICAL AREA	**SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (Y/N)?**		**NOTES**
AIR QUALITY		N	no change
CULTURAL RESOURCES		N	Area for construction is prior filled area
EFFICIENCY		N	No impact
GEOLOGICAL HAZARDS		N	No change
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS HANDLING		N	No change

TECHNICAL AREA	**SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (Y/N)?**		**NOTES**
LAND USE		N	No change
NOISE		N	No Change
PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES		N	Area for construction is prior filled area
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES		N	Area previously disturbed.
PUBLIC HEALTH		N	no change
RELIABILITY		N	No change
SOCIOECONOMICS		N	No change
SOILS		N	No change
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION		N	Construction traffic minimal
T-LINE SAFETY AND NUISANCE		N	No change
TRANSMISSION SYSTEM		N	No change

TECHNICAL AREA	SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT (Y/N)?		NOTES
ENGINEERING			
VISUAL RESOURCES		N	Structures will meet painting and visual requirements of Final Decision; See plot plan and visual simulation in Appendices 1.
WASTE MANAGEMENT		N	No change
WATER RESOURCES		N	No change
WORKER SAFETY		N	No change

6.0 COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS, ORDINANCES, REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS (LORS) (Sec. 1769(a)(1)(F))

The new crane will not affect compliance with any other LORS requirement. Therefore, the proposed modification is not anticipated to impact SDG&E's ability to comply with the applicable LORS, as listed in Appendix A of the Commission Final Decision.

7.0 POTENTIAL EFFECTS ON PUBLIC AND NEARBY PROPERTY OWNERS (Sec. 1769(a)(1)(G and I))

The new crane will not have any environmental impacts and will comply with all applicable LORS. Thus, the proposed equipment change is not anticipated to affect nearby property owners or parties in the application proceedings or the public

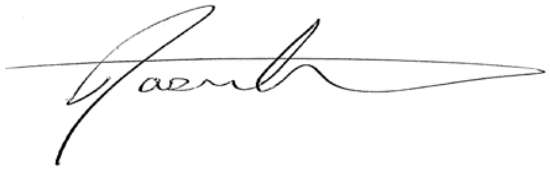
8.0 LIST OF PROPERTY OWNERS (Sec. 1769(a)(1)(H))

A list of property owners 1,000 feet of the plant site has previously been provided to the Commission CPM.

9.0 SUMMARY OF REQUEST

As demonstrated above, construction and use of the new crane will not have an adverse effect on the public or the environment. The change will not affect compliance with applicable LORS. Accordingly, SDG&E requests that the Energy Commission Staff expedite review of this petition, and request Commission approval of the proposed modified conditions in accordance with Title 20 CCR Section 1769.

Respectfully Submitted,



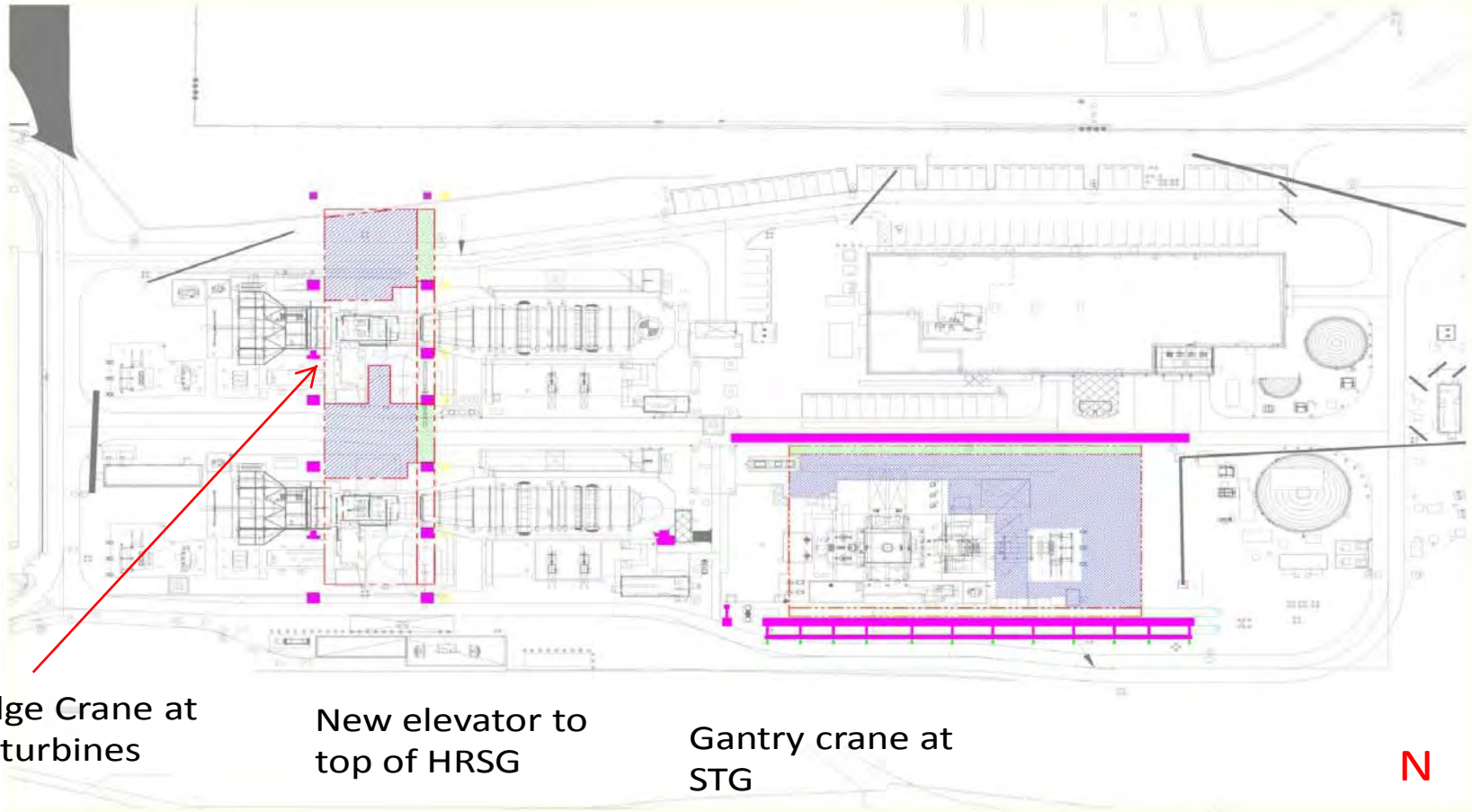
Jason T. Dobbs
Compliance Administrator

Dated: May 29, 2012

APPENDIX 1

SITE MAP, DRAWINGS, AND VISUAL SIMULATIONS OF PROPOSED PROJECT

Site Plan


Bridge Crane at gas turbines
New elevator to top of HRSG
Gantry crane at STG
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