April 13, 2012

Mr. Eric Solorio  
Project Manager  
California Energy Commission  
Docket No. 11-AFC-3  
1516 9th St.  
Sacramento, CA 95814  

Cogentrix Quail Brush Generation Project - Docket Number 11-AFC-3, Data Request Responses to Set 1: Data Requests 22 through 24

Dear Mr. Solorio:

Pursuant to the provisions of Title 20, California Code of Regulation, Quail Brush Genco, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cogentrix Energy, LLC, hereby submits the Cogentrix Quail Brush Generation Project - Docket Number 11-AFC-3, Data Request Responses to Set 1: Data Requests 22 through 24. The Quail Brush generation Project is a 100 megawatt natural gas fired electric generation peaking facility to be located in the City of San Diego, California.

These two responses were compiled in response to the Energy Commission’s Quail Brush Generation Project (11-AFC-3), Staff’s Data Requests, 22 through 24, dated February 7, 2012. This document provides additional information necessary to fulfill the Application for Certification data requests for the following technical areas:

- Biological Resources

If you have any questions regarding this submittal, please contact Rick Neff at (704) 525-3800 or me at (303) 980-3653.

Sincerely,

Constance E. Farmer  
Project Manager/Tetra Tech  
cc: Lori Ziebart, Cogentrix  
John Collins, Cogentrix  
Rick Neff, Cogentrix
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
For the QUAIL BRUSH GENERATION PROJECT

DOCKET NO. 11-AFC-03
PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 4/12/2012)

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Constance Farmer, declare that on April 13, 2012, I served and filed a copy of the Cogentrix Quail Brush Generation Project (11-AFC-3) Cogentrix Quail Brush Generation Project - Docket Number 11-AFC-3, Data Request Responses to Set 1: Data Requests 22 through 24 Report. This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/quailbrush/index.html].

The document has been sent to the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission’s Docket Unit or Chief Counsel, as appropriate, in the following manner:

(Check all that Apply)

For service to all other parties:

x Served electronically to all e-mail addresses on the Proof of Service list;

x Served by delivering on this date, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses NOT marked “e-mail preferred.”

AND

For filing with the Docket Unit at the Energy Commission:

x by sending an electronic copy to the e-mail address below (preferred method); OR

☐ by depositing an original and 12 paper copies in the mail with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION – DOCKET UNIT
Attn: Docket No. 11-AFC-3
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512 docket@energy.state.ca.us

OR, if filing a Petition for Reconsideration of Decision or Order pursuant to Title 20, § 1720:

☐ Served by delivering on this date one electronic copy by e-mail, and an original paper copy to the Chief Counsel at the following address, either personally, or for mailing with the U.S. Postal Service with first class postage thereon fully prepaid:

California Energy Commission
Michael J. Levy, Chief Counsel
1516 Ninth Street MS-14
Sacramento, CA 95814
mlevy@energy.state.ca.us

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the proceeding.

Constance Farmer

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22. Please specify the amount of total nitrogen deposition in kg/ha/yr in special status habitats and vegetation types for wet and dry deposition for the Quail Brush Generating Project. Please provide the complete citation for references used in determining this number.

Response:

On March 6, 2012 Cogentrix, Tetra Tech, Aerowest, Atmospheric Dynamics, and CEC staff held a technical conference call to discuss the approach to nitrogen deposition modeling and to determine if modeling could occur without project-specific 2012 field data. It was decided that an initial plot of project only N-deposition would be made that would be overlain onto a geo-referenced map. In the 20-day letter, Quail Brush stated that we believed that we could provide the initial plot on or before April 15, 2012. This preliminary plot is provided in this data response as Attachment 1. The plot shows the general areal extent of the nitrogen deposition impacts that have been mapped as of the date of the data request. The scale of the depositional rates varies between 0.1 kg/ha-yr to 3.9 kg/ha-yr.

23. Please provide an isopleths graphic over USGS 7.5 minute maps (or equally detailed maps) of the anticipated nitrogen deposition rates for the proposed project. The geographical extent of the nitrogen deposition mapping should be directed by the results, i.e. extend geographically to where the deposition is considered below any stated threshold of significance for vegetation communities and where the NOx plume could affect Quino checkerspot butterfly habitat and occurrences including critical habitat.

Response:

Please see response to data request #22 above.

24. Please also provide a cumulative impact analysis of the nitrogen deposition values in kg/ha/yr. Please identify other NOx sources that were considered as part of the cumulative impacts analysis. Provide an isopleths graphic over USGS 7.5-minute maps of the direct nitrogen deposition values in the cumulative analysis and specify the cumulative nitrogen deposition rate in kg/ha/yr at any affected special status habitat and vegetation type. The geographical extent of the cumulative nitrogen deposition mapping should be directed by the results, i.e. extend geographically to where the deposition is considered below any stated threshold of significance.

Response:

As stated in the 20-day letter for Data Requests 1 through 58 docketed at the CEC on February 27, 2012, Quail Brush was unable to provide this information on March 8, 2012. In the 20-day letter, Quail Brush stated that we expected to be able to provide this information by July 2, 2012. However, we believed that we could provide the initial plot on or before April 15, 2012. The cumulative data set is currently under review by CEC staff and has not been approved for use in this analysis. At such time as the CEC agrees with the list, the cumulative nitrogen deposition modeling will be conducted and the cumulative nitrogen deposition plot will be prepared.
Quail Brush - ANNUAL NITROGEN DEPOSITION (KG/HA-YR)