January 21, 2011

Chris Davis
Compliance Project Manager
California Energy Commission
Siting, Transmission, & Environmental Protection (STEP) Division
1516 Ninth Street, MS-2000
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Dear Mr. Davis:

A request for an amendment to the Conditions of Certification for SEGS VIII Harper Lake (88-AFC-1) located at 43880 Harper Lake Road, Hinkley, CA 92347 follows.

1. **Conditions of Certification affected by the proposed change:** The SEGS VIII Harper Lake facility operates under Conditions of Certification from the California Energy Commission (CEC). This submittal is intended to support the CEC's review and approval of the proposed modification and CEC’s determination of whether any changes to our Conditions of Certification are necessary.

2. **Description of the proposed modifications:** NextEra Energy is proposing to construct additional loops within the plant boundary on the east side of the SEGS VIII Harper Lake site. The facility operates under Conditions of Certification from the California Energy Commission (CEC).

3. **Proposed modifications based on information not available prior to certification:** The modification is based on information that was not available at the time of certification. SEGS VIII was configured and operating equipment sized for capacity larger than the number of Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) loops installed. This available capacity at SEGS VIII allows the construction of additional loops without expanding the plant footprint or adding other equipment.

4. **Environmental impact:**
   a) **Summary:** The proposed project will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
   b) **Air quality:** minimal short-term air quality impacts are possible during construction of the foundations, power and control electrical wiring, and piping. Excavation will be necessary to route power electrical wiring and some control electrical wiring and to possibly relocate the existing fire protection system piping. The construction of the foundations, electrical and piping will take approximately two weeks to complete. Minor dust emissions and vehicle exhaust are possible. NextEra Energy will mitigate dust emissions using standard dust control practices, including watering. Further our practice is to ensure that minimal vehicle idling occurs, thereby minimizing vehicle exhaust. Furthermore, all equipment used on site is required to be in proper working order, including properly tuned engines. We believe these measures, coupled with the short-term nature of the construction, will result in air emissions that are not significant.
   c) **Noise:** No significant noise impacts will result from the proposed project. Based on our knowledge of practices for construction of this type, no activities associated with the project have the potential to generate significant noise levels at or beyond the facility boundary.
   d) **Cultural resources:** No adverse impacts on cultural resources (archeological or paleontological) will result from the proposed project. During CEC review of the original project, a complete paleontological survey was conducted on the overall project site. The supporting documentation is available in the project files on site if necessary. No cultural resources were identified within the plant boundary and the proposed project is located within the plant boundary. Furthermore, excavation, grading and other construction activities in the vicinity of the currently proposed project were carried out during the original construction of the project. Therefore,
the area has already been disturbed, and no cultural resources were discovered during construction of the existing plant.

e) **Biological resources:** No adverse impacts on biological resources will result from the proposed project. During CEC review of the original project a complete biological survey was conducted on the overall project. Furthermore, excavation, grading and other construction activities in the vicinity of the currently proposed project were carried out during the original construction of the project. Therefore, the area has already been disturbed. Desert tortoises are potentially present within the overall project area, but the plant boundaries are fenced to eliminate the possibility of tortoises straying into the plant. As part of our normal contractor orientation program, NextEra Energy awareness training and information on the possible presence and the proper response to a sighting, per our existing Conditions of Certification.

f) **Visual impacts:** No significant adverse visual impacts will result from the proposed project. The construction is in a location that is shielded visually by other existing structures and equipment at the site, minimizing incremental visual impacts and rendering the proposed project insignificant with regard to the existing project profile.

g) **Hazardous materials:** The proposed project will not result in any potential adverse environmental impacts associated with hazardous materials use.

h) **Water Resources:** The proposed project will not result in any significant adverse impact to water resources as the additional loops will only result in a maximum annual increase generation of 880MWh. This increased generation will result in a maximum increase water usage of 3 ac-ft per year.

5. **Labor:** The daily local work force will average 10 for the first month during preparation, then vary from 10 to 25 for three months averaging about 15 during assembly and erection, and then average 2 for a period of one month during commissioning. Also additional engineers will range from 2 to 7 averaging 4 or 5 during the five or six month period.

6. **Transportation:** For each of the up to three additional loops, about 38 trucks will be used to haul concrete and rebar for foundations across a period of one month and about 45 trucks will deliver components for assembly during a period of three months. This will have little adverse impact to traffic.

7. **Environmental impact mitigation:** No mitigation will be required since there will be no additional environmental impact.

8. **Affect on the public:** This minor amendment will not affect the public since this change does not change the operation of the facility. A list of property owners within 1000 feet is attached.

9. **Consistent with the overall intent of the Decision:** The proposed modification is a minor amendment to the original Certification of Conditions and is consistent with the overall intent of the Decision.

10. **Approval date and reason:** A request is to approve this minor amendment respectfully as expeditiously as is possible to allow for design work under the auspices of the Certified Building Official (CBO) as authorized by the CEC Compliance Project Manager (CPM). Design work would begin at the potential supplier’s facility and then constructed there before the installation at SEGS VIII so the equipment and its fabrication meets all requirements of the CBO. All applicable permits will be obtained for this project.

Should you have any questions or require additional information please contact me at (760) 762-5562 extension 395, Glen King at (760) 762-3100 extension 231, or Bill Figler at (561) 691-4749.

Sincerely,

Robert Fimbres
Plant General Manager
Luz Solar Partners Ltd., VIII
Parcels within 1000 Foot Limit

"Project Site" Parcel (SEGS VIII): Docket Number 88-AFC-1

Parcel Boundaries

1000 Foot Limit

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