

June 9, 2021 California Energy Commission Business Meeting, Item 4; Solar Energy Generating Systems III-VII Decommissioning Plan (87-AFC-01C)

SEGS III-VII Final Decommissioning Plan (TN 27500)

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=87-AFC-01C>

SEGS III-VII Decommissioning Plan Staff Analysis (TN 238063)

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/Lists/DocketLog.aspx?docketnumber=87-AFC-01C>

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of:

**SYSTEM (SEGS) III-VII SOLAR
ENERGY GENERATING**

Docket No. (87-AFC-01C)

**[PROPOSED] ORDER
APPROVING FACILITY
DECOMMISSIONING PLAN**

On April 20, 2021, NextEra Energy Resources-Operating Services (NEER), as agent for LUZ Solar Partners III-VII Ltd. (project owner), filed the Facility Decommissioning Plan (TN: 27500) with the California Energy Commission (CEC) for the Solar Energy Generating Systems Unit III-VII (SEGS III-VII) facility, as required by Section 20 of the Conditions of Certification, as found in the Commission Final Decision for the SEGS III-VII.

SEGS III–VII consists of five 30-megawatt solar-thermal and natural-gas-fired units. These units use parabolic mirrors to concentrate solar energy for transfer into heat transfer fluid, which is then used to create steam to generate up to 150 megawatts net total of electricity for the Southern California Edison transmission grid. The CEC certified the SEGS III-VII project in May 1988. Construction was completed and the facility went online in February 1989.

On February 12, 2021, NEER docketed a draft Decommissioning Plan (TN#: 236752) with the CEC requesting approval to begin decommissioning activities of the SEGS III-VII facility. Separately, NEER is seeking to redevelop the SEGS III-VII site with solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and supporting facilities. The proposed PV project would be under the local jurisdiction of the County of San Bernardino and would be permitted through the County’s Conditional Use Permit process.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff reviewed and analyzed the Facility Decommissioning Plan and has concluded that decommissioning of the SEGS III-VII facility would have less than significant effects on the environment and would comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards with the continued implementation of existing conditions of certification in the Commission Final Decision, and with the implementation of new conditions in the areas of Air Quality, Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Geological and Paleontological Resources, Hazardous Materials Management, Land Use, Public Health, Soil and

Water Resources, Transportation, Waste Management and Worker Safety and Fire Protection. In addition, decommissioning would not affect any population including the environmental justice population

ENERGY COMMISSION FINDINGS

Based on staff's analysis, the CEC finds that the activities proposed in the Facility Decommissioning Plan would not have a significant effect on the environment or on an environmental justice population and would be consistent with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards. The CEC further finds that:

The Facility Decommissioning Plan meets all of the criteria included in Section 20 of the Conditions of Certification in the Commission Final Decision for the SEGS III-VII as listed below:

- A. Identify and discuss the proposed decommissioning activities and schedule for the power plant sites, transmission line corridor, and all appurtenant facilities constructed as a part of/or because of the project;
- B. Identify all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, standards, (LORS) and local/regional plans applicable at that time;
- C. Discuss how the specific proposed decommissioning activities will comply with those identified LORS and plans;
- D. Contain an analysis of all decommissioning alternatives considered, including restoration of the site to its preconstruction, natural state;
- E. Discuss the reasons for selecting the preferred proposal.

CONCLUSION AND ORDER

The CEC hereby adopts staff's recommendations and approves the Facility Decommissioning Plan under Section 20 of the Commission Final Decision. The CEC further adopts the proposed conditions contained in the appendix to staff's Analysis and Recommendation of the SEGS III-VII Facility Decommissioning Plan.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Secretariat to the Energy Commission does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the California Energy Commission held on June 9, 2021.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Patricia Carlos
Secretariat