

**December 14, 2022, California Energy Commission Business Meeting**

**Item 2g. Sunrise Power Project (98-AFC-04C) Post Certification Petition to Amend and Staff Analysis**

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**Petition to Amend**

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=237495&DocumentContentId=70696>

**Staff Analysis**

<https://efiling.energy.ca.gov/GetDocument.aspx?tn=247611&DocumentContentId=81970>

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**STATE ENERGY RESOURCES**  
**CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

***IN THE MATTER OF:***

***Sunrise Power Project***

**Docket No.: 98-AFC-04C**

**Order Approving Post Certification  
Petition to Amend**

**I. BACKGROUND**

On April 12, 2021, the Sunrise Power Company, LLC (project owner) filed a post certification petition with the California Energy Commission (CEC) requesting to amend the Sunrise Power Project (SPP) Final Commission Decision (Decision).

The facility is a 585-megawatt (MW) natural gas-fired, combined-cycle power plant located at 12857 Sunrise Power Road in Fellows, Kern County. The facility was certified by the CEC on December 6, 2000, as a simple cycle peaking facility and began commercial operation on June 27, 2001. On November 19, 2001, the CEC approved a petition to convert the simple-cycle power plant to a combined-cycle facility that began operation on June 1, 2003.

The project owner seeks approval replace a section of the gas turbine with improved technology, an improved combustion system, and an upgraded turbine generator control system, as well as the addition of and revisions to Air Quality conditions of certification. The proposed improvements, referred to as the Sunrise Power Improvement Project, would result in improved performance and increased output and efficiency, increasing the plant's output from 585 MW to 635 MW. On November 21, 2022, CEC staff published an analysis of the proposed project change for public comment. No comments on the change have so far been received.

**II. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff has reviewed the petition and concludes that with approval of the petition to amend, with adoption of the recommendations in staff's analysis, and with the implementation of the revised conditions of certification, the project would remain in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards, and the proposed changes to the project would not result in any significant adverse direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to the environment (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 20, § 1769).

In addition, the facts that supported the original certification of the site as being compliant with California Code of Regulations title 20 section 1748(b) remain unchanged after the modifications to the site and related facility. And, after review of all evidence described in staff's analysis, the changes do not involve new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified significant effect, there have been no substantial changes to the circumstances under which the project was undertaken, and no new information of substantial importance has arisen since the original certification of the site and related facility, and for these reasons, no subsequent EIR shall be prepared pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21166 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15126.

### **III. ENERGY COMMISSION FINDINGS**

Based on the entire record, including staff's analysis, the CEC finds that:

- The petition meets all the filing criteria of Title 20, section 1769(a), of the California Code of Regulations, concerning post-certification project modifications;
- The project will remain in compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards, subject to the provisions of Public Resources Code, section 25525;
- The proposed modifications will not result in any significant impacts to public health and safety, or to the environment;
- None of the criteria in California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1748(b) applies to this project amendment to prohibit the continued certification of this site and related facility; and

This project change does not meet any of the criteria set forth in Public Resources Code section 21166, or its implementing regulations, California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15162, that would trigger preparation of a subsequent or supplemental environmental document.

### **IV. CONCLUSION AND ORDER**

The California Energy Commission hereby adopts staff's recommendation, including the revised conditions of certification as published on November 21, 2022, and grants the petition allowing for the replacement of equipment, as described, including amendments to the Air Quality Conditions of Certification, in compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

**CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Secretariat to the CEC 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 CEC held on December 14, 2022.

AYE:

NAY:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Dated:

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Liza Lopez  
Secretariat