

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

IN THE MATTER OF:

Henrietta Peaker Project

Docket No.: 01-AFC-18C

**Order Approving Post Certification
Petition to Amend**

I. BACKGROUND

The Henrietta Peaker Project is a 95-MW simple-cycle, natural gas-fired peaking facility that was certified by the California Energy Commission (CEC) on January 31, 2002 and began commercial operation on July 1, 2002. The facility is located approximately one mile south of Highway 198 on 25th Avenue, southeast of the City of Lemoore, Kings County.

On August 23, 2022, MRP San Joaquin Energy filed a petition for a post-certification change with the CEC for the Henrietta Peaker Project (HPP). The project owner is seeking approval to amend the CEC Final Decision for the HPP to change the project description to include the interconnection of a battery energy storage system (BESS), at the low side of the existing generator step-up unit/main power transformer and use of the common facilities, and to identify Henrietta BESS LLC as the party that will have legal responsibility for the operation of the Henrietta BESS and responsibility for compliance with the CEC conditions of certification and applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards.

The battery system will be located on the existing HPP site. While the HPP natural gas facility and BESS will have separate ownership and obligations under the conditions of certification, the two facilities will share some common infrastructure sufficient for the project to appropriately be subject to a petition for project change under California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1769. Such integration includes the HPP plant and Henrietta BESS sharing the generator step-up transformer, the generation interconnection (Gen-Tie), and a common point of interconnect with the CAISO controlled/PG&E owned transmission system. In addition, the battery system will be controlled by an Energy Management System controller, which will be connected to the existing Power Plant Control system at the HPP. The proposed BESS project would not increase the output of the existing natural gas plant beyond the CEC licensed capacity and would not exceed the CAISO Aggregate Capability Constraint of 99.4 MW at the

interconnection, and will not result in an increase in the HPP's hourly or annual air emissions above currently permitted limits.

II. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The CEC staff reviewed all project related information and, on January 23, 2023, issued a staff analysis assessing the impacts on the environment from the project and recommended mitigation. Consistent with Public Resources Code section 21166 and California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15163, the staff analysis supplements the original final staff assessment supporting initial certification. The staff analysis concludes that the petition complies with the requirements of California Code of Regulations title 20, section 1769 (a), the proposed changes would not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts, and would comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards with adoption of the staff proposed additions and changes to the conditions of certification. Consistent with California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1769 (a)(4), this petition is brought to the Commission for approval.

Staff recommends approval of the petition to modify the Henrietta Peaker Project and amend related Biological Resources, Transmission System Engineering, and Worker Safety and Fire Protection Conditions of Certification.

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 California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1769(a), concerning post-certification project modifications;
- The Henrietta BESS is sufficiently connected to the existing natural gas facility to appropriately be the subject of a petition for project change;
- The proposed modifications will not result in any significant impacts to public health and safety, or to the environment;
- 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 modified project would not have a significant impact on the environment with the addition of conditions of certification applicable to the Henrietta BESS in the areas of Biological Resources, Transmission System Engineering and Worker Safety and Fire Protection Conditions of Certification;
- Henrietta BESS LLC will be responsible for implementing and complying with the conditions of certification and all laws related to the Henrietta BESS project; and

- None of the criteria in California Code of Regulations, title 20, section 1748(b) applies to this project amendment.

IV. CONCLUSION AND ORDER

The California Energy Commission hereby approves the Petition for Post-Certification License Amendment filed by MRP San Joaquin Energy, LLC, on August 23, 2022, and adopts staff's proposed additions and changes to the project's conditions of certification as set forth in the staff analysis.

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 February 28, 2023.

AYE: Hochschild, Gallardo, Gunda, McAllister, Monahan

NAY: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Dated: February 29, 2023

SIGNED BY:

Liza Lopez
Secretariat