

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov



DATE: November 1, 2011

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Mary Dyas, Compliance Project Manager

**SUBJECT: KERN RIVER COGENERATION PROJECT (82-AFC-2C)
Staff Analysis of Proposed Modifications to Operate the Combustion
Gas Turbine Units in an Extended Startup Mode**

****BUSINESS MEETING DATE HAS CHANGED TO NOVEMBER 30, 2011****

On July 14, 2011, the Kern River Cogeneration Company filed a petition with the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) to amend the Energy Commission's Final Decision for the Kern River Cogeneration project. Staff prepared an analysis of this proposed change and a copy is enclosed for your information and review.

The Kern River Cogeneration project is a 300 megawatt cogeneration power plant located approximately five miles north of the City of Bakersfield, and five miles east of State Route 99 in Kern County, California. The project was certified by the Energy Commission in September 1983 and began commercial operation 1985.

The proposed modifications will allow Kern River Cogeneration Company to operate all four of the combustion gas turbine units in an extended start-up period for the purpose of tuning¹ the units following removal and replacement of combustion hardware.

Energy Commission staff has reviewed the petition and assessed the impacts of this proposal on environmental quality, public health and safety, and proposes revisions to existing conditions of certification for Air Quality. It is staff's opinion that, with the implementation of revised conditions, the project will remain in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards and that the proposed modifications will not result in a significant adverse direct or cumulative impact to the environment (Title 20, California Code of Regulations, Section 1769).

The amendment petition and staff's analysis has been posted on the Energy Commission's webpage at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases_pre-1999/index.html. The Energy Commission's Order (if approved) will also be posted on the webpage. Energy Commission staff intends to recommend approval of the petition at the November 30, 2011, Business Meeting of the Energy Commission.

¹ Tuning is the dynamic performance testing and corresponding operating optimization set point adjustments of the combustion system.

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If you have comments on this proposed modification, please submit them to me at the address below prior to November 11, 2011.

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Comments may be submitted by fax to (916) 654-3882, or by e-mail to mdyas@energy.state.ca.us. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 651-8891.

For further information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

Enclosure