

DOCKETED

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BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
1516 NINTH STREET, SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

*APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
REDONDO BEACH ENERGY
PROJECT*

Docket No. 12-AFC-03

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF'S STATUS CONFERENCE STATEMENT

Background

On July 28, 2014, Energy Commission Staff (Staff) timely published its Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) in the Redondo Beach Energy Project Application for Certification. The PSA includes Staff's analyses in all technical topics. At this time, Staff is planning on holding public workshops in September in Redondo Beach to accept comments from other parties, agencies and the public, in addition to any written comments filed.

On July 29, 2014, the Committee filed a Notice of Status Conference and Order to File Status Conference Statements, ordering parties to file a Status Conference Statement no later than August 4, 2014, stating each party's position on whether the proceedings should be suspended during the pendency of AES' land use ballot measure.

Staff's Position on Suspension of the Proceedings

On July 23, 2014, Staff was informed through media reports that AES is intending on gathering signatures for a March 2015, ballot initiative that would replace the existing power plant with "Harbor Village", a mixed-use development which would include residences, commercial space, a hotel, and open space.

In the PSA, Staff defined the No-Project Alternative as follows:

Under the No-Project Alternative, the existing RBGS would not employ a means to comply with the SWRCB's OTC policy directed at reducing impacts from the

use of seawater. Therefore, on December 31, 2020, the RBGS would cease all operations. The No-Project Alternative consists only of RBGS shutdown and the site remaining unoperational in its existing state at that time. (PSA, p. 4.2-23.)

If the proceedings are not suspended until after the March 2015 election, Staff would need additional time to re-examine its No-Project Alternative to include the proposed Harbor Village development. Staff would request the Committee allow parties an opportunity for further data requests directed to AES, specifically focused on the project description of the proposed Harbor Village development and any potential environmental impacts.

Staff welcomes a formal discussion before the Committee regarding AES' plans to develop the current project site, and whether AES is intending on moving forward with its Application for Certification.

DATED: August 4, 2014

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ (original signed by)
KERRY A. WILLIS
Senior Staff Counsel