

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA

Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV)
Energy ("Nevada Power"), under the provisions of the)
Utility Environmental Protection Act, for a permit to)
construct a 0.3 mile overhead 230 kV transmission line)
and associated facilities at the Harry Allen Substation)
located approximately 23 miles northeast of Las Vegas)
in Clark County, Nevada.)
_____)

Docket No. 16-01020

At a general session of the Public Utilities
Commission of Nevada, held at its offices
on March 9, 2016.

PRESENT: Chairman Paul A. Thomsen
Commissioner Alaina Burtenshaw
Commissioner David Noble
Business Process Analyst Jennifer Sturm

ORDER

The Public Utilities Commission of Nevada ("Commission") makes the following
findings of fact and conclusions of law:

I. INTRODUCTION

On January 19, 2016, Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy ("Nevada Power"), filed with the Commission an Application, designated as Docket No. 16-01020, under the provisions of the Utility Environmental Protection Act ("UEPA"), that requests a permit to construct a 0.3 mile overhead 230 kilovolt ("kV") transmission line and associated facilities at the Harry Allen Substation located approximately 23 miles northeast of Las Vegas in Clark County, Nevada (the "Project").

II. SUMMARY

The Commission grants the Application and issues the corresponding UEPA Permit to Construct.

III. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

- On January 19, 2016, Nevada Power filed with the Commission an Application for a Permit to Construct a Utility Facility.
- Nevada Power filed its Application pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and Nevada

DOCUMENT REVIEW SHEET

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FINAL DRAFT ON: <u>3/28/16</u> AT <u>4:45 PM</u>	
REVIEWED & APPROVED BY:	DATE:
<input type="checkbox"/> ADMIN / ASST. (_____) _____	<u>1/1</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMM / COUNSEL <u>Aut For Gaw</u>	<u>3/28/16</u>
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Administrative Code (“NAC”) Chapters 703 and 704, including but not limited to NRS 704.820 to 704.900 and NAC 703.415 to 703.427.

- On January 21, 2016, the Commission issued a Notice of Application for UEPA Permit to Construct an Electric Transmission Line and Associated Facilities.
- On February 22, 2016, Playa Solar 1, LLC and Playa Solar 2, LLC (together “Playa Solar 1 and 2”) filed Petitions for Leave to Intervene.
- On February 26, 2016, Playa Solar 1 and 2 filed Withdrawals of their Petitions for Leave to Intervene.
- Regulatory Operations Staff (“Staff”) participates as a matter of right pursuant to NRS 703.301.
- On March 3, 2016, Staff filed a briefing memorandum.

IV. UEPA PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT

Nevada Power’s Position

1. Nevada Power requests that the Commission grant its requests for a permit to construct the Project.

Staff’s Recommendation

2. Staff recommends that the Commission issue a UEPA Order granting the request of Nevada Power for the issuance of a UEPA Permit to Construct the Project.

3. Staff recommends that this Order include an ordering paragraph which states: “No construction may commence on any utility facilities that are the subject of this Application for a UEPA Permit to Construct until after the Commission has issued the Permit to Construct for the Project.”

4. Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order that includes findings and conclusions that:

- a) In Playa Solar LLC’s (“Playa Solar”) Environmental Assessment (“EA”) in Docket No. 14-09001, which the Project incorporates by reference, the

Bureau of Land Management (“BLM”) determined the nature of the probable effect of the Project on the environment;

- b) The need for the individual Project balances any adverse effect on the environment;
- c) The Project represents the minimum adverse effect on the environment, considering the state of available technology, and the nature and economics of the various alternatives;
- d) Nevada Power, in conjunction with Playa Solar, has obtained all other permits, licenses and approvals required by federal, state and local statutes, regulations and ordinances; and
- e) The Project will serve the public interest.

Commission Discussion and Findings

5. The Commission finds that it is in the public interest to grant the Application for the UEPA Permit to Construct the Project.

6. Pursuant to NRS 704.890, the Commission further finds and/or incorporates the following:

- a) In Playa Solar’s EA in Docket No. 14-09001, which the Project incorporates by reference, the BLM determined the nature of the probable effect of the Project on the environment;
- b) The need for the individual Project balances any adverse effect on the environment;
- c) The Project represents the minimum adverse effect on the environment, considering the state of available technology, and the nature and

economics of the various alternatives;

- d) Nevada Power, in conjunction with Playa Solar, has obtained all other permits, licenses and approvals required by federal, state and local statutes, regulations and ordinances; and
- e) The Project will serve the public interest.

7. No construction may commence on any utility facilities that are the subject of this Application for a UEPA Permit to Construct until after the Commission has issued the Permit to Construct for the Project.

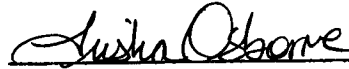
THEREFORE, it is ORDERED that:

- 1. The Application of Nevada Power Company d/b/a NV Energy, designated as Docket No. 16-01020, is GRANTED.
- 2. The requested Utility Environmental Protection Act Permit to Construct a 0.3 mile overhead 230 kilovolt transmission line and associated facilities at the Harry Allen Substation located approximately 23 miles northeast of Las Vegas in Clark County, Nevada, SHALL BE ISSUED.
- 3. No construction may commence on any utility facilities that are the subject of this Application for a Utility Environmental Protection Act Permit to Construct until after the Commission has issued the Permit to Construct for the Project.

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4. The Commission may correct any errors that have occurred in the drafting or issuance of this Order without further proceedings.

By the Commission,



TRISHA OSBORNE,
Assistant Commission Secretary on behalf of
the Commissioners

Dated: Carson City, Nevada

03.29.16

(SEAL)

