



State Water Resources Control Board

MAR 2 6 2013

To: Interested Parties

ACCEPTING COMMENTS ON DRAFT FINAL WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR THE EAGLE MOUNTAIN PUMPED STORAGE PROJECT, FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT NO. 13123

Eagle Crest Energy Company (ECE) applied for an original license from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for the Eagle Mountain Pumped Storage Project (Project). The Project is located near the town of Eagle Mountain, in eastern Riverside County, California. As part of the FERC licensing process for the Project, ECE filed its most recent application for water quality certification (WQC) under section 401 of the Clean Water Act with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on August 28, 2012.

On June 27, 2012, the State Water Board released a Draft WQC for the Project for public comment. Comments on the Draft WQC were due by July 27, 2012. State Water Board staff reviewed the comments received on the Draft WQC and prepared a Draft Final WQC for the Project. The State Water Board is not required to release or solicit comments on Draft WQCs prior to issuance. However, the State Water Board will accept comments on the Draft Final WQC. Comments on the Draft Final WQC are due by NOON (12:00 PM) on April 10, 2013. Comments may be submitted electronically or by mail to:

Mr. Oscar Biondi
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000
or

Email: obiondi@waterboards.ca.gov

The Draft Final WQC is available on the Division of Water Rights (Division) web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/ceqa_projects.shtml#eagle

If you cannot access the Draft Final WQC online, you may request that the Division staff mail you a copy by contacting Mr. Oscar Biondi at (916) 323-9397 or by email at obiondi@waterboards.ca.gov. Please make your request promptly to allow enough time to receive and review the document within the comment period.

Prior to issuance of WQC, the State Water Board must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The State Water Board is the lead agency under CEQA. The State Water Board will issue a final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) with the final WQC. On January 28, 2013, the State Water Board released a "Draft Final EIR" for the Project to show how the comments received and State Water Board responses have been incorporated into the environmental document. The Draft Final EIR is posted on the State Water Board's web page at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/eaglemtn13 123_comments012513.shtml

In an effort to reduce reliance on paper mailings, future notices will be provided by email. In order to receive future notices on the Project and for other Division related WQC projects, go to the State Water Board's home page located at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml and subscribe to the: "Water Rights Water Quality Certification" email list.

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to Mr. Oscar Biondi at (916) 323-9397 or by email at obiondi@waterboards.ca.gov. Written correspondence or inquiries should be addressed as follows:

State Water Resources Control Board Division of Water Rights, Attn: Oscar Biondi P.O. Box 2000 Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

Sincerely,

Erin Ragazzi, Manager

Water Quality Certification Program

Enclosure: Interested Parties Mailing List

cc: Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

888 First Street, N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20426

Ms. Alexis Strauss, Director U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Robert Perdue
Executive Officer
Colorado River Regional Quality Control Board
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260