

KILPATRICK, JOHNSTON & ADLER
Attorneys and Counselors at Law
412 NORTH DIVISION STREET
CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89703-4168

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OF NEVADA-CARSON CITY

2013 JAN 16 PM 3:38

CHARLES M. KILPATRICK, LTD.
ROBERT G. JOHNSTON
ERNEST E. ADLER
ANGELA D. BULLENTINI

(775) 882-6112
(775) 883-5149
FAX (775) 882-6114

January 16, 2013

Ms. Breanne Potter
Assistant Commission Secretary
Public Utilities Commission of Nevada
11 50 East William Street
Carson City, NV 89701-3109

RE: Docket No. 10-12004, Copper Mountain Solar 3, LLC

Dear Ms. Potter:

This letter is filed in response to the Commission's Procedural Order issued January 2, 2013, requesting that Copper Mountain Solar 3, LLC ("CMS 3") verify that it has complied with NRS 701.610 and the corresponding regulations in LCB File No. R038-11.

CMS 3 has filed an Application for Energy Projects "Fund for the Recovery of Costs" with the Nevada Department of Wildlife in accordance with NRS 701.600 to 701.640, inclusive. A copy of the application, dated January 14, 2013, is enclosed.

Please contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,



Robert G. Johnston
Kilpatrick, Johnston & Adler

Attorneys for Copper Mountain Solar 3,
LLC

Enclosure

cc: Commissioner David Noble
Tammy Cordova, Staff Counsel
Eric Witkoski, Chief Deputy Attorney General
Nevada State Clearinghouse



Marilyn Teague, P.E.
Manager – Permitting, Compliance and Safety
Sempra U.S. Gas & Power
101 Ash Street
San Diego, CA 92101
714.473.7749
MTeague@SempraUSGP.com

January 14, 2013

Nevada Department of Wildlife
Habitats Division
1100 Valley Road
Reno, NV 89512

Subject: Application for Energy Projects "Fund for the Recovery of Costs"
Copper Mountain Solar 3, LLC

To Whom it May Concern:

In accordance with NRS Sections 701.600 to 701.640, please find enclosed an Application for Energy Projects, "Fund for the Recovery of Costs" for the Copper Mountain Solar 3 Project in Clark County, Nevada. The Copper Mountain Solar 3 Project is a proposed 250MW solar photovoltaic facility with associated 500kV generation tie-line to the Marketplace substation. Based on the project description criteria, a check for \$10,000 is attached. The project is currently under review by the Bureau of Land Management.

Please contact me if any additional information is needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marilyn Teague". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marilyn Teague

SEMPRA GENERATION

To NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE NEV029

Check Number: 015188

Date: January 10, 2013

Invoice No	Invoice Date	Description
NEV029-010813	01/08/2013	INIT PMT RECOVERY COST FUND

Amount	Discount	Paid Amount
\$10,000.00	\$.00	\$10,000.00

TOTALS:

\$10,000 00	\$.00	\$10,000.00
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TRUE WATERMARK IS VISIBLE IN THIS PAPER. HOLD UP TO A LIGHT SOURCE TO VIEW. THIS DOCUMENT HAS A COLORED BACKGROUND ON WHITE SECURITY PAPER.

SEMPRA GENERATION
 101 ASH STREET, HQ14E
 SAN DIEGO, CA 92101
 (619) 696-3145

WACHOVIA BANK, N.A.
 SAVANNAH, GA 31401

64-975/612

015188

DATE	AMOUNT
January 10, 2013	\$10,000 00

Ten Thousand Dollars and 00 Cents

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE
 1100 VALLEY ROAD
 RENO, NV 89512



⑈015188⑈ ⑆061209756⑆ 2079900419018⑈



Application for Energy Projects "Fund for the Recovery of Costs"

NRS Sections: 701.600 - 701.640

NAC Section: LCB R-038

Applicant:

- Self
- Private Company
- Government Agency
- Other _____

Project Name Copper Mountain Solar 3

Applicant Copper Mountain Solar 3, LLC

Mailing Address 101 Ash Street, HQ15

City San Diego State CA Zip Code 92101

Name of Contact Marilyn Teague Phone 714-473-7749 Email mteague@semprausgp.com

Name of Responsible Corporate Officer/Agency Rep. Timothy Allen Title Vice President

Type of Project

- Solar
- Wind
- Geothermal
- Fossil Fuel
- Powerline
- Biomass

Net Maximum Generation Capacity 250 MW Estimated Design Voltage (if a powerline project) 500kV

Proposed Project Size (in acres) 1,375

Proposed Length of Powerline (in miles) approx. 6 miles

Proposed Length of Fuel Lines (in miles for pipeline projects) n/a

Other notable infrastructure such as evaporation pond, electrical substation (in acres) substation area included in project acreage

Project Description (use additional sheet if necessary)
See attached description

Proposed County Location (map to accompany notice) Clark County (see attached maps)

Estimated Project Schedule (graphic attachment acceptable)
See attached schedule

Applicant Signature [Signature] Date 1-14-13

Enclose initial payment made out to : Nevada Department of Wildlife in the amount of **\$5,000** for powerline projects greater than 50kV and less than 50 miles in length or Geothermal or Fossil Fuel power production projects, and **\$10,000** for powerline projects greater than 50kV and more than 50 miles in length, Solar or Wind power production projects.

Submit payment with application to: Nevada Department of Wildlife
Habitat Division
1100 Valley Road
Reno, NV 89512

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Copper Mountain Solar 3 (CMS 3) Project will consist of the following five components:

250-MW Solar PV Electricity Generating Facility and Substation

The generating facility will be an approximately 250 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility, located entirely on approximately 1,375 acres of land leased by CMS 3 from the City of Boulder City. This acreage includes the solar field, buildings, parking area, substation, and other related infrastructure. The property is just north of the Eldorado Valley dry lake bed and on the northwest side of the existing Southern California Edison 230-kilovolt (kV) Eldorado-to-Meade transmission line. The solar field site is located within Boulder City's expanded Energy Zone in the Black Hills Solar Development Area. The lease agreement was completed in 2011.

The CMS 3 project will utilize ground-mounted PV panel technology to collect solar radiation, which will be sent to an electrical collection system that will convert generated power from direct current to alternating current. PV panel supports would be either fixed or pivoting, depending on the specific PV panels selected. The assembled PV panels would have a typical height of about 6 feet and a maximum height of 8 feet. The PV panels would be arranged in rows with center-to-center spacing ranging from 12 to 22 feet. There would be approximately two inverters and one transformer on a shared foundation per every 1 MW. There would be one collection enclosure per every 20 to 30 MW.

Conductors attached to the underside of the PV panels and extending underground would feed direct current to alternating current inverters and associated switchgear housed on each block's inverter skid. Each inverter skid would have an associated transformer to step up the electricity voltage from the inverter output level (approximately 480 volts, depending on the design selected) to 34.5-kV. From each transformer, electricity would be conveyed via an underground circuit to 34.5-kV switchgear housed in a modular collection enclosure that gathers the output of up to approximately 30 MW from PV panels. Modular collection enclosures would not be occupied except during inspection and maintenance. From each collection enclosure, electricity would be conveyed via a 34.5-kV collector circuit to a common 34.5-kV bus within the substation on the project site.

The substation would be a central hub for the 34.5-kV collector circuits and would step up the electricity voltage from 34.5 kV to nominally 500 kV. The CMS 3 substation site, located within the CMS 3 property, would cover approximately two acres and would include, but would not be limited to, the following major components:

- 34.5-kV bus and associated switching devices;
- 500-kV bus and associated switching devices;
- 34.5/500-kV transformers;
- 34.5-kV capacitors;
- Tubular steel support structures up to 50 feet high;
- Grounding grid;
- Prefabricated modular control building; and
- Perimeter fence.

A 5,500-square-foot substation enclosure would house the electronic control equipment for the substation.

An approximately 6,000-square-foot maintenance building would house maintenance vehicles, a staff rest area, local control equipment, and other miscellaneous spare parts, tools, and supplies. There may also be some control equipment in the on-site building, and it may have a septic system for sanitary wastewater.

A 20-acre temporary construction workspace located adjacent to the solar field area would include a 5-acre parking area, a 5,000-square-foot construction office, an 8,000-square-foot warehouse, and a 15-acre laydown area. These facilities would be removed once project construction is completed.

Barriers would be installed around the perimeter of the solar field, which may include tortoise fencing, drainage feature barriers, or similar means to prevent desert tortoise from entering the solar field.

The BLM's Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM-NV-S010-2011-0148-EA) contained detailed analysis of the indirect and cumulative impacts of the solar facility because it is inexorably tied to the gen-tie power line, which will be located on BLM-administered land and is described below. The EA concluded that the CMS 3 project would result in no significant environmental impacts.

Marketplace Gen-tie Line

The 500-kV Marketplace gen-tie line will consist of a single circuit and deliver electricity to the Marketplace Substation. The total gen-tie length is approximately 5.6 miles, generally paralleling existing transmission lines in the area to the extent feasible. The line will be supported on tubular steel towers on drilled pier foundations. The towers will have a maximum height of 200 feet and the span between towers will be between 750 and 1,200 feet.

The BLM is reviewing the proposed route in an EA as an amendment to Right-of-Way Grant N-89424.

Communications Line

The optical ground wire, which is the static ground wire with an integrated fiber-optic line that will be installed on the Marketplace gen-tie line, will be 48-fiber and should be 3/4-inch or less in diameter. The optical ground wire will connect the solar electricity generating facility with the Marketplace Substation.

The BLM is reviewing the proposed route in an EA as an amendment to Right-of-Way Grant N-89424.

Access Road Improvement

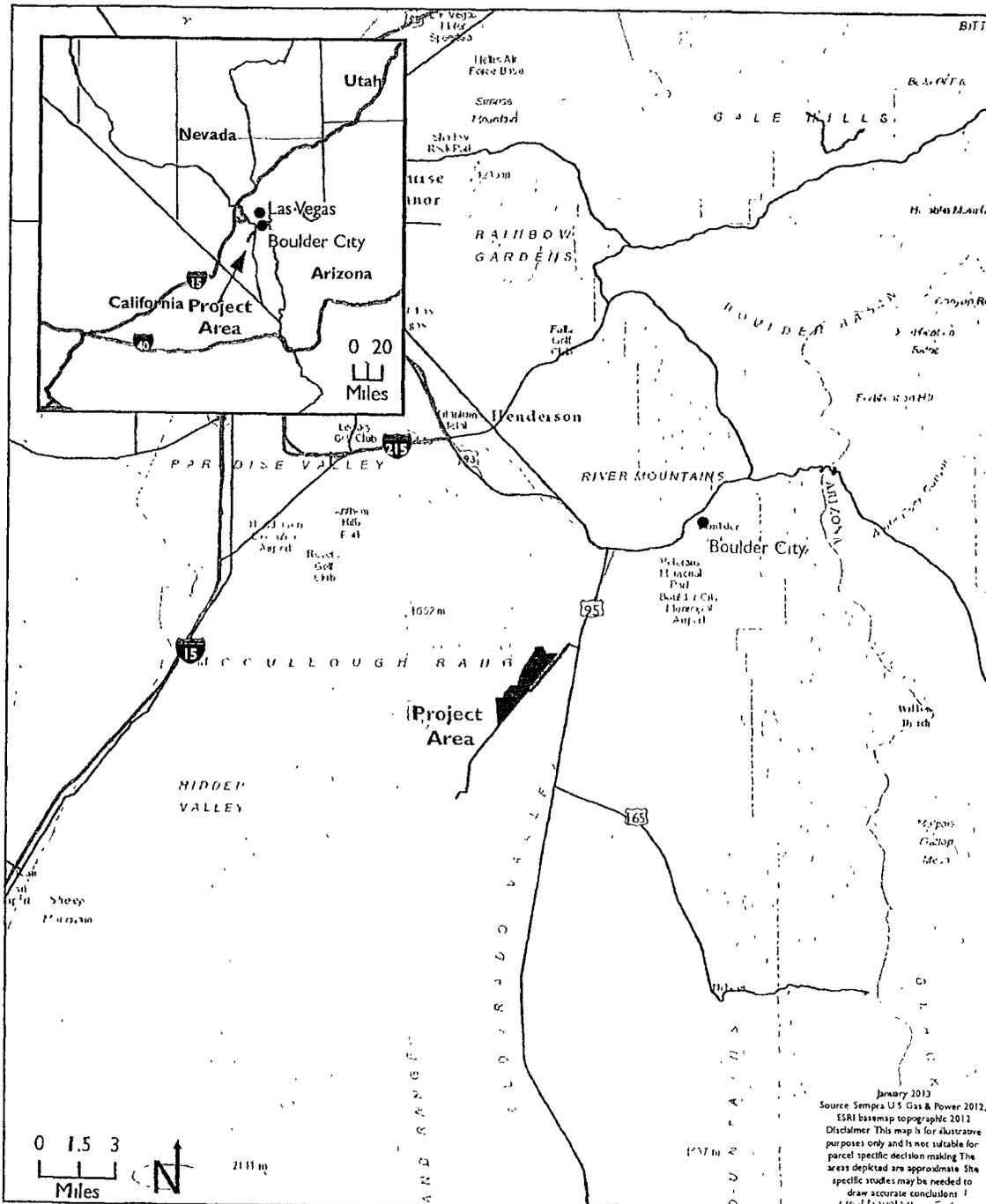
The improved access road would provide access for construction, operation, and maintenance of the CMS 3 Project. From its origin at the solar field, an existing dirt road runs northeast for approximately 2.5 miles before terminating at the existing paved road that connects the Silver State stone quarry to US Highway 95. Improvements will consist of widening the existing 16-foot-wide road to 24 feet with 5-foot shoulders and adding paved or gravel surfacing. Total length of the improved road is approximately 2.5 miles.

The BLM is reviewing the proposed route in an EA as an amendment to Right-of-Way Grant N-89424.

Water Line

The water line providing water for construction and operations of the CMS 3 Project will be up to 14 inches in diameter and constructed of polyvinyl chloride (PVC). The proposed water line will connect to the existing water line at US Highway 95. The water line will be located approximately 10 feet off of the shoulder of the paved Silver State stone quarry access road, and five feet off the shoulder of the improved access road that leads to the solar field site. The water line will be buried with a minimum of 5 feet of cover with a total trench depth of approximately 7 feet.

The BLM is reviewing the proposed route in an EA as a new Right-of-Way Grant N-91133.



Proposed County Location

Clark County, Nevada

Copper Mountain Solar 3 Project

Estimated Project Schedule

	<u>Begin</u>	<u>End</u>
Phase 1: Power Delivery & Site Improvement Civil Works	Mar 2013	Aug 2013
1. Extension of Water Supply System		
2. Site Access Road Improvement		
3. Substation Civil Work		
4. Excavations for Underground Raceway		
Phase 2: Substation, Gen-Tie and O&M Building Construction	May 2013	Jan 2014
1. Substation Construction		
2. Gen-Tie Construction		
3. O&M Building Grading		
4. O&M Building Construction		
Phase 3: Balance of Systems Civil Works	Sept 2013	Jun 2014
1. Storm Water Drainage Systems Construction		
2. Site Fencing Installation		
3. PV Site Grading		
Phase 4: Balance of Systems PV Construction	Feb 2014	Feb 2016
1. Underground DC & AC Systems		
2. Posts & Racking		
3. PV Modules & Above Ground DC Electrical		
4. Inverter Skid Assemblies		
5. Medium Voltage AC Switchgear		
6. Above Ground Medium Voltage AC Electrical		
7. Final Finish Road Construction		
8. CMS 3 Entrance Monument		

Commercial Operation Date:

December 31, 2015