

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 5, 2010

Mr. David Kates
The Nevada Hydro Company, Inc.
2416 Cades Way
Vista, California 92083

Re: Application Completeness Review – Talega-Escondido/Valley-Serrano 500 kV Interconnect Project Proponent’s Environmental Assessment -- Application No. A.10.07.001

Dear Mr. Kates:

The California Public Utilities Commission’s (CPUC) Energy Division has conducted its completeness review of The Nevada Hydro Company’s (TNHC) Talega-Escondido/Valley Serrano 500 kV Interconnect Project (TE/VS) Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) (A.10.07.001) and the Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (PEA), filed July 6, 2010 and calendared on July 7, 2010. This document is referenced by the July 7, 2010 date.

Section 15100 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines requires that the lead agency assess the completeness of the project proponent’s application within 30 days of its submittal. The CPUC Energy Division used the CPUC's Information and Criteria List, as well as the requirements outlined in General Order (GO) 131-D¹ as its basis in evaluating the completeness of the PEA and determining whether sufficient information had been provided for the CPUC to complete its initial environmental assessment of the project, as required by CEQA. According to these requirements, the CPUC Energy Division concludes that the PEA/Application is complete. At this time, CPUC will now undertake an independent evaluation of the proposed project and its potential impacts as required by CEQA.

While the PEA and Application are considered to be complete based on CPUC requirements, the CPUC Energy Division may still require additional information of THNC in order to prepare a complete and adequate CEQA environmental document. Therefore, the CPUC Energy Division reserves the right to request additional information through data requests to TNHC during the course of the CEQA process. Should you have any questions, please call me at (415) 703-3221 or email at bca@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Andrew Barnsdale
Project Manager for TE/VS Interconnect
Energy Division - Transmission and Environmental Permitting

cc: Angela Minkin, Administrative Law Judge
Nicholas Sher, CPUC Legal Division
Jason Rieger, Office of Cmmr. Ryan
Fritts Golden, Aspen Project Manager

¹ G O. 131-D is entitled “Rules Relating to the Planning and Construction of Electric Generation, Transmission/Power/Distribution Line Facilities and Substations Located in California.”