



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

MARSH LANDING GENERATING STATION (PROPOSED)
(#B9169)

Adjacent to 3201 Wilbur Ave.
Antioch, CA 94509

WILLOW PASS GENERATING STATION
(PROPOSED)

(#B9203)

696 West 10th St.
Pittsburg, CA 94565

FACT SHEET

June 24, 2009

Background

- Affiliates of Mirant Corporation have submitted permit applications to the District for two new power plants in Contra Costa County that would be located at existing power plant sites.
- The Marsh Landing Generating Station (MLGS) is a proposed natural gas fired power plant. It includes two gas turbines with heat recovery boilers and steam turbines (combined cycle), and two simple cycle gas turbines. The MLGS would have a net output of approximately 930-MW. The plant would be sited adjacent to the existing Contra Costa Power Plant in unincorporated Contra Costa County near the City of Antioch.
- The Willow Pass Generating Station (WPGS) is a proposed natural gas fired power plant. It includes two gas turbines with heat recovery boilers and steam turbines (combined cycle). The WPGS would have a net output of approximately 550-MW. The plant would be sited adjacent to the existing Pittsburg Power Plant in the City of Pittsburg.
- In accordance with District rules, the proposed combustion equipment for these projects must use the Best Available Technology (BACT) to minimize emissions. BACT requirements for the project are met with the use of selective catalytic reduction (SCR) systems, oxidation catalysts, the exclusive use of natural gas fuel, and modern combustion controls. The projects are also subject to emission offset requirements, Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) analysis requirements, and health risk screening analysis (HRSA) requirements.

Marsh Landing and Willow Pass Generating Stations Fact Sheet

June 24, 2009

Public Comments/Issues

- No public comments have been received to date, but it is expected that many of the issues raised with other recent proposed power plants may also be raised for these plants when public comment periods are initiated.

Project Status

- Both projects are subject to facility certification by the California Energy Commission (CEC). An Application for Certification (AFC) was filed with the CEC for the MLGS on May 30, 2008, and an AFC was filed for the WPGS on June 30, 2008. The first required District action associated with the CEC process is a Preliminary Determination of Compliance (PDOC).
- The District had initially expected that the PDOCs for the two projects could be completed in the second quarter of 2009, but this timeframe became infeasible due to an unexpected change in PSD requirements made by EPA. On April 24, 2009, EPA took action to stay a provision allowing PM2.5 impacts to be addressed under a PM10 Surrogate Policy. Since the applicant's PSD analyses had used the PM10 Surrogate Policy, their ambient air quality impact analyses no longer meets federal requirements and must be revised to directly address PM2.5. Revising the analyses is difficult because EPA has not yet finalized regulations establishing the details of how PSD analyses for PM2.5 must be completed, nor has EPA finalized PM2.5 non-attainment designations (PSD requirements do not apply in non-attainment areas). The applicant is considering a permitting option that involves providing PM2.5 emission reduction credits, but this option would require that EPA take final action to designate the District as being non-attainment for the 24-hour PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard, and EPA has not indicated when this may occur.