

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Permittee Name: Copper Mountain Power, L.L.C. - Copper Mountain Power Project - Sempra Energy Resources, El Dorado Valley Drive, Boulder City, Nevada 89006-2470.

Permit Number: NEV2001512

Description of Discharge: Water from the primary cooling system blowdown will be piped to a water treatment plant where lime and soda ash softener additions are made, and filtration will occur to reduce TDS (hardness and silica). Because of the high quality of the incoming water provided by Boulder City, the water will be able to be recycled many times. The quality of the in-coming water will determine how many times it can be concentrated. Whether treated water or direct raw water as supplied, it will be piped to a storage tank for use as makeup water to a wet-surface cooler (used for auxiliary cooling); blowdown from the wet-surface cooler will be piped to the evaporation pond. Service water from floor drains and washdown water (after oil-water separators) will also be used as make-up water for the cooling system. Incident stormwater and the runoff from concrete pads under the turbines is drained to the evaporation pond.

Location: The Copper Mountain Power Plant - El Dorado Valley Drive, Boulder City, Nevada 89006-2470 is located on 100 acres 17 miles southwest of Boulder City, in El Dorado Valley, Clark County, Nevada. U.S. Highway 95 lies 2.75 miles east of the plant site. The site is accessed by a light duty asphalt road that serves the adjacent El Dorado Energy power facility and three adjacent switch yards.

Latitude: 35° 47' 30"N; Longitude: 115° 00' 00"W
Section 12, T. 25S., R. 62E. MDB&M

Characteristics:

Flow: Monitor and Report. A flow of 0.075 MGD (52 GPM) is the estimated annual daily average flow to ponds; Maximum design flow is 0.295 MGD (205 GPM).

Parameters: Monitored and Reported Quarterly: TDS, pH, Temperature, and TPH
Monitored and Reported Annually: Oil & Grease, Priority Pollutant Metals

General: Due to several delays in the project during the first permit cycle, the facility was not constructed. Currently the facility is now under construction. Copper Mountain Power, L.L.C. proposes to operate the Copper Mountain Power Plant, a 600 megawatt combined cycle gas turbine power plant. The power generation facility consists of two 172 megawatt combustion turbines, two supplementary natural gas fired heat recovery steam generators (HRSG), and one 316 megawatt steam turbine generator with an air cooled condenser. The

combustion turbines are also natural gas fired.

Water used for the Copper Mountain Power plant will be potable water from Lake Mead purchased from Boulder City, Nevada. Water will be delivered to the plant via pipeline and used directly for potable water, and service water if of acceptable quality. Water treatment will be employed to soften the water for use as boiler feed water for the steam turbine. A mixture of potable water and demineralized water will be used as makeup water to the evaporative cooler.

Sanitary wastes are piped to an on-site septic system for disposal.

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Water collected in drains that may contain oil will be treated in an oil-water separator before use as make-up water. The evaporation pond is constructed in three cells with approximately 8.4 acres of surface area each, with a total surface area of 25.3 acres. Each cell is individually lined with two 60-mil thick HDPE geomembrane liners with a leak detection and removal system (LDRS) installed between the two liners to detect and automatically remove leakage through a 150 mil geonet liner to a collection trench in the bottom of each cell. Leachate leakage rate is limited to 40 GPM for each cell, and monitoring and inspection are required. The inner exposed liner is covered with a 12-inch thick layer of protective cover material to prevent wind uplift, mechanical damage and other types of damage. The interior side slopes will be covered with geotextile fabric and riprap to prevent wind and water erosion of the liner material. The dike areas surrounding the cell berms will be wide enough to provide access or inspection, monitoring and maintenance. The end of each cell will have a "walk out" to enable egress by man or animal in case they fall into the pond.

The influent system is designed so each cell can operate independently should a cell be required to be shut down for maintenance. The entire pond area is fenced with a 6-foot high chain link fence topped with barbed wire. Tortoise protection fences will be installed at the base of the chain link fencing.

The Permittee has applied for renewal of the permit for discharge of the facility wastestreams to the evaporation pond (3 cells) for disposal via evaporation.

Receiving Water Characteristics: Groundwater below the plant and within a 6 mile radius is in excess of 300 feet below ground surface. Two wells drilled to supply the adjacent substations have static water levels of 317.5 feet and 350 feet below ground surface. Water quality is generally good with the exception of elevated pH (8.98) and iron (1.58).

Procedures for Public Comment: The notice of the Division's intent to issue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to the evaporation pond cells subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Las Vegas Review-Journal** for publication.

The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of 30 days following the date of the public notice, by May 5, 2008. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, or any interested agency, person or group of persons.

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing scheduled by the Administrator must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Proposed Determination: The Division has made the tentative determination to reissue the proposed permit for a 5-year period.

Proposed Effluent Limitations, Schedule of Compliance and Special Conditions

Flow: No limit, monitor and report.
TDS: Monitor and Report
pH: Monitor and Report
Oil & Grease: Monitor and Report
TPH: Monitor and Report
LRDS: 40 GPM leakage rate

An Operations and Maintenance Manual (O&M) shall be submitted to the Division for review and approval after three months of plant start up and operation.

Rationale for Permit Requirements Monitoring is required to characterize the water quality contained in the evaporation ponds and the quantity disposed into the ponds.

Prepared by: Icyll Mulligan
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