



MONO COUNTY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT and SPECIAL PROJECTS

P.O. BOX 2415, MAMMOTH LAKES, CALIFORNIA 93546
(760) 924-1700 • (760) 924-1697 (Fax)

Mammoth Pacific I Replacement Project Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY is hereby given that a revised Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been prepared for the Mammoth Pacific I (“MP-I”) Replacement Project and is available for public review pursuant to State of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guideline Section 21091(b). SCH # 2011022020

Project Title: Mammoth Pacific I Replacement Project

Applicant: Mammoth Pacific, L.P.

Project Location: The existing MP-I geothermal power plant is located in unincorporated Mono County approximately 1,200 feet northeast of the intersection of U.S. Highway 395 and State Route 203 on 90 acres of private (fee) land owned by Ormat Nevada, Inc. (Ormat), the parent company of Mammoth Pacific L.P. The project site is located on APN 037-050-002 with a Land Use Designation of Resource Extraction (RE). The project site is surrounded by lands under federal ownership and managed by the U.S. Forest Service as part of the Inyo National Forest and lands owned by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power. The project site is located within the existing Casa Diablo geothermal complex.

Project Description: The proposed project would replace the aging MP-I geothermal power plant with a new, more modern and efficient binary power plant (referred to as “M-1”) while maintaining the existing geothermal wellfield, pipeline system and ancillary facilities. No new offices or other structures are proposed, with the exception of a small substation to be placed on the north side of the project site. The M-1 plant would be located approximately 500 feet east of the existing MP-I plant. The M-1 replacement power plant is anticipated to increase the net electricity generation by 34% while utilizing the same geothermal resources for the existing MP-I facility. During M-1 plant startup operations, the existing MP-I plant would continue to operate until the new M-1 plant becomes commercial, after which time the applicant would close and dismantle the old MP-I plant. The transition period during which both the MP-I and M-1 operations would overlap would be a maximum of two years from the date the M-1 plant begins startup operations.

Rationale for Recirculation: Revision and recirculation of the subject Draft EIR was determined necessary by Mono County to provide the public opportunity to review additional Project information provided by the Applicant, Mammoth Pacific L.P. (MPLP); new baseline biological resources information; and supplemental documentation not provided with the earlier published Draft EIR. In particular, guidance is being sought from Responsible and Trustee agencies pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15086(c) and (d) and 15097 regarding the suitability of mitigation proposed in this Revised Draft EIR. Recommendations for mitigation monitoring and reporting are also being sought from the agencies. The terminology “Revised Draft EIR” is utilized here for purposes of clarification. It indicates that the original Draft EIR has been revised and is being recirculated.

The Recirculated Draft EIR will be available for public review at the following locations, starting on February 27, 2012:

- Mono County Economic Development Department, 452 Old Mammoth Road, Mammoth Lakes
- Mono County Community Development Department, Annex I, 74 N. School Street, Bridgeport
- Mammoth Lakes Branch Mono County Library, 400 Sierra Park Road, Mammoth Lakes
- Crowley Lakes Branch Mono County Library, 3627 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake
- Bridgeport Branch Mono County Library, 94 North School Street, Bridgeport

The Revised Draft EIR and its Technical Appendices may also be viewed on the County website:

<http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/cdd%20site/Planning/Documents/MammothPacificDEIRFebruary.pdf>

<http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/cdd%20site/Planning/Documents/MammothPacificDEIRAppendicesFebruary.pdf>

The MP-I Replacement Project Draft EIR was prepared to analyze the potential environmental impacts from the project. With adoption of the identified required mitigation measures presented in the Draft EIR, the project would not have a significant effect on the environment.

A shortened **30-day** public review period for the Recirculated Draft EIR has been requested. If approved, the public review period would begin at 8:00 a.m. on **Friday, February 24, 2012** and end **at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 26, 2012**. If the State Clearinghouse denies the request for a shortened review period, the normal 45-day review period would extend to Tuesday, April 10, 2012. Economic Development Department representatives will respond to all comments received on the Draft EIR received within the relevant public review period. Comments may be submitted by facsimile, letter, or electronic mail.

Comments should be submitted to:

Mono County Economic Development Department
ATTN: Dan Lyster
PO Box 2415
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Fax: (760) 924-1697
E-mail: dlyster@mono.ca.gov

For additional information, please contact Dan Lyster by telephoning (760) 924-1705

Cc: Mammoth Times
Mono County Clerk