

STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

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NEWS RELEASE

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White Pine Energy Center Power Plant Public Hearing on CO2 Emissions Set for March 25

CARSON CITY -- The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), Bureau of Air Pollution Control, will conduct a public hearing on Wednesday, March 25, 2009, in Ely, Nevada, following an agency determination on CO2 "Greenhouse Gas" Emissions.

The hearing is scheduled for 6 p.m. at the Bristlecone Convention Center, Bristlecone Room, 150 Sixth Street, Ely, Nevada.

LS Power intends to move forward with this project. However, in light of an Environmental Appeals Board (EAB) ruling on CO2 emissions, NDEP is inviting the public to comment on the agency's determination. Public comment has already been closed on our technical review of the White Pine Energy Center and at this time we are limiting public comment solely to the agency's determination on CO2 as it relates to the Clean Air Act. The Agency position remains the same that there are currently no federal or state clean air standards or regulations that govern carbon dioxide emissions or other greenhouse gas emissions for power plants.

Since NDEP's original determination there have been a number of actions, including the EAB ruling regarding Deseret Power that reaffirms our position that greenhouse gases are not subject to state or federal air quality standards. However, NDEP is presenting the basis for our determination to the public through this public hearing.

According to Michael Elges, bureau chief for Air Pollution Control, "We understand this is an ever evolving issue. LS Power has elected to move forward with their project, in response to that action NDEP prepared an agency determination pursuant to greenhouse gases. And we are accepting comments solely on our determination "

Elges noted that members of the public can submit written comments to be part of the official record through the close of the public hearing and should address them to:

> Mr. Michael Elges, Chief Bureau of Air Pollution Control Nevada Division of Environmental Protection 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001 Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249 (775) 687-9343 (775) 687-6396 FAX

A copy of the Administrator's determination will be available for public inspection on the NDEP-BAPC website: <u>http://ndep.nv.gov/bapc/index.htm</u>. And at the following locations:

White Pine County Library 950 Campton Street Ely, NV 89301 (775) 289-3737

> Elko County Library 720 Court Street Elko, NV 89801 (775) 738-3077

For more information on the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection we invite you to visit our website at: <u>http://ndep.nv.gov</u>.

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