

## Variance Request Form



Ocotillo Express Wind LLC  
 Pier 1 Bay 3  
 San Francisco CA 94111  
 415-283-4000

Variance:   013    
 Request No.:   Rev 0    
 Date Submit:   8/16/2012    
 Date Approval Needed:   8/17/2012    
 Date Agency Received: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agency Approval Reference No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Request Prepared by: Joan Inlow / James Dermody  
 Spread/ Location: Turbine 155,156 and 159 Collection Cable Routes  
 (Milepost): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alignment Sheet/Sta. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Net acreage affected: -0.75 acres

Landowner: BLM

Tract No: \_\_\_\_\_

In or within 50 feet of a wetland:    Yes    No  
 Within 50 feet of a water body:    Yes    No

Current Land Use/ Vegetative Cover: Desert vegetation  
 Nearby Features (Water body, T&E Habitat, Wetland, Noxious Weed):  
 Area, Residence, Cultural Resource Site (distance, etc.):

Variance Level:  Level 1    Level 2    Level 3   **(To Be Assigned by Designated Representative)**

Variance From:  Permit    Plan/Procedure    Specification    Drawing    Mitigation Measure    Other:

**Detailed Description of Variance:**                      Attachments?    Yes     No                       Photos?    Yes     No

Variance 012 includes minor modifications to the collection cable routing for turbines 155, 156 and 159 (see map attachment).

**Variance Justification:** The currently approved limits of disturbance for the collection cable route to turbines 155, 156 and 159 do not coincide with the latest collection circuit layout. Specifically, the collection cabling that was previously routed along the north side of mine road is no longer needed. Coincident to this change, the temporary disturbance width of the project road corridor from the mine road to turbines 155 & 156 requires widening and the turn radii enhanced in order to route the collection cable.

As identified in Section 5 of the ECCMP, the need for route realignments or changes to previously approved construction work areas may arise during construction. Changes to previously approved work spaces are handled in the form of variance requests submitted by OE LLC to be reviewed and approved or denied by the BLM. The variance procedures outlined in Section 5 of the ECCMP specify three different levels that a variance request may fall under.

In accordance with the procedures and guidance provided in the ECCMP, OE LLC is requesting a Level 1 Variance to cover the collection cable route changes listed above. As identified in Section 1.6, Level 1 Variances are minor changes to the project that provide equal or better protection to environmental resources or better constructability. As seen in Section 1.6 of the ECCMP a Level 1 Variance does not require any further NEPA review. The area where the proposed modifications of disturbance areas will occur was previously surveyed during preparation of the Final EIS/EIR and will not adversely affect any environmentally sensitive areas.

Mitigation measures incorporated as part of the Final EIS/EIR require efforts to be completed by OE LLC in order to minimize environmental impacts. The proposed modifications to the collection cable corridors would be conducted in accordance with the measures that apply to all other project impact areas. Such measures include those specified in BLM's ROD, and approved plans and permits for specific types of activities.

**For (Company Name) Use Only**

Additional Surveys Required	Surveyed Corridor Description	Additional Surveys Completed
Cultural Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
T&E Survey <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Reporting Document Survey:		
Sign-off (as appropriate)	Name (print)	Approval Signature
		Conditions (See Attached)





# OCOTILLO WIND PROJECT: IMPERIAL COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

## VARIANCE 13 - AUGUST 16, 2012

