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College District

DOCKET 01-AFC-7C
DATE _____
RECD. OCT 26 2007

9 STATE OF CALIFORNIA
State Energy Resources
10 Conservation and Development Commission

11 In the Matter of:

12
13 RUSSELL CITY ENERGY CENTER
14

Docket No. 01-AFC-7C

**DECLARATION OF CHANCELLOR
JOEL L. KINNAMON IN SUPPORT OF
INTERVENOR CHABOT-LAS POSITAS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT'S
MOTION TO INTERVENE AND MOTION
FOR RECONSIDERATION AND STAY**

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17
18 I, Joel L. Kinnamon, declare as follows:

19 1. I am the Chancellor of the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District
20 ("District"), which seeks to intervene in this proceeding, and which has filed a Petition for
21 Reconsideration of the California Energy Commission's ("Commission") Final Decision of
22 September 26, 2007 approving the Russell City Energy Center ("RCEC") site plan. I make this
23 declaration in that capacity, and if called upon to testify, I could and would competently testify to
24 the following facts from my own personal knowledge or from knowledge obtained through a
25 review of original and true and correct copies of documents.

26 2. The District has been providing education and employment opportunities to Bay
27 Area residents for over 44 years. The District has deep ties to, and a strong interest in, the well
28 being of the community we serve. Currently, the District governs two community colleges in

1 Alameda County--Las Positas College located in Livermore, and Chabot College located at 2555
2 Hesperian Boulevard, in Hayward. I am informed and believe that Chabot College is located less
3 than 3 miles from the RCEC site.

4 3. Chabot College operates on a 94-acre campus. The Campus includes multiple
5 buildings for classrooms, laboratories, a cafeteria, administrative and student services offices, a
6 bookstore, a Learning Resource Center, a 1,432-seat Performing Arts Center, a television studio,
7 a radio station, planetarium, art gallery, and gymnasium. The college also utilizes a significant
8 amount of outdoor space including walkways, open spaces, parks, playground areas and athletic
9 fields.

10 4. As stated in the Chabot College Master Plan, one of our core values is the creation
11 and maintenance of a safe college campus. Consistent with that core value, the College and
12 District have signed onto American College and Universities Presidents commitment to create
13 environmentally responsible campuses. Specifically the District and College have committed to
14 developing the internal infrastructure and planning to become climate neutral as soon as possible.

15 5. The Campus serves thousands of community residents on a daily bass. The
16 Chabot student population, alone, is approximately 15,000 (4,000 full-time and 11,000 part-
17 time). Indeed, Chabot serves about one quarter of the high school graduates in its service area
18 and impacts, to some extent, nearly every household. Further, many of our facilities serve not
19 only our students, but the community at large. For example the Performing Arts Center hosts
20 both student and community presentations; our athletic fields and sports facilities are utilized by
21 local teams of young boys and girls; and our Children's Center provides day care services to
22 infants and toddlers. Last but not least, Chabot has approximately 600 employees.

23 6. Chabot College plays a significant educational and economic role in the
24 community. Chabot is a public, comprehensive community college that prepares students to
25 succeed in their education, progress in the workplace, and engage in the civic and cultural life of
26 the global community. The college furthers student learning and responds to the educational
27 needs of our local population and economy. The college serves as an educational leader,
28 contributing its resources to the intellectual, cultural, physical, and economic vitality of the

1 region. The college provides opportunities for intellectual enrichment and physical well-being of
2 all community members who can benefit.

3 7. In 2003, the Chabot-Las Positas Community College District contracted with an
4 outside company to analyze the economic impact of Chabot College on its local service area, the
5 state, and its students. CCBenefits, Inc., using a comprehensive economic mode, made four key
6 conclusion:

- 7 --Chabot College stimulates the regional economy;
- 8 --Chabot leverages taxpayer dollars for social benefits;
- 9 --Chabot generates a return on government investment; and
- 10 --Chabot increases individuals' earning potential.

11 8. Despite the District's key role in the community that will be impacted by the
12 RCEC plant siting, obvious interests in that siting, and legal rights as an interested governmental
13 agency, the District did not receive notice from the Commission of RCEC's amended application.
14 The Commission did not request the District's analyses, comments and/or recommendations
15 regarding the RCEC approval. As such, the District has not had the opportunity to provide such
16 input—to the detriment of the District and the community it serves.

17 9. I am especially concerned by this oversight, given that community colleges
18 generally—and Chabot College specifically—serve historically disenfranchised populations.
19 Chabot's student body is "majority-minority," with 75% of the students from race-ethnicity
20 groups other than non-Hispanic single-race whites. The student population is 14% African
21 American, 18% Asian American, 9% Filipino, 22% Latino, and 25% white, with the remaining
22 population either unknown or comprised of other heritage groups. Over one third of the students
23 are in the first generation of their family to attend college. Further, students attending Chabot
24 struggle financially, with 57% of our students reporting household income levels of low or very
25 low, based on federal poverty rate guidelines. Given these demographics, failure to give proper
26 notice to the District of these proceedings has not only deprived the District—as a local
27 governmental agency—the right and opportunity to be heard; it has deprived a largely non-white
28 and impoverished community an important voice in these proceedings—through their local

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1 community college district.

2 10. Based upon the limited review of information I have been able to conduct at this
3 point, it is my belief that—if given the opportunity to analyze the data and provide appropriate
4 input on this issue—the District would be able to offer evidence that:

5 a. The Chabot Campus presents a site with a high concentration of individuals
6 within 3 miles of the proposed site;

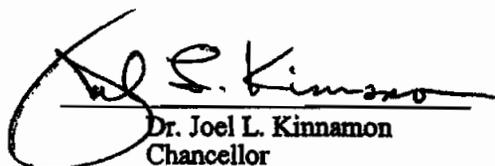
7 b. The Chabot Campus is in the area identified as most highly impacted by
8 the proposed siting;

9 c. Placement of the plant at the proposed site would likely negatively impact
10 the health and welfare of Chabot students, staff and community members;

11 d. Placement of the plant at the proposed site would likely negatively impact
12 Chabot's student and staff recruitment efforts, and thus its educational and economic
13 contributions to the community.

14 e. Placement of the plant at the proposed site is contrary to the goals and
15 values of the College and District, as set out in the Master Plan.

16
17 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
18 foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on October 25, 2007 at
19 Pleasanton, California.

20
21 
22 Dr. Joel L. Kinnamon
23 Chancellor

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