



League of Women Voters—Eden Area

Representing Hayward, San Leandro, and surrounding unincorporated areas of Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland, Fairview, Hillcrest Knolls & San Lorenzo

Political Responsibility Through Informed and Active Participation

September 24, 2007

Via E-Mail

DOCKET	
01-AFC-7C	
DATE	SEP 24 2007
RECD.	SEP 25 2007

Ms. Jackalyne Pfannestiel, Chair of CEC
and Members of the California Energy Commission
Paul Kramer, CEC Hearing Officer
516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Re: Proposed Russell City Energy Center Amendment Docket No. 01-AFC-7C;
Presently Set For A Business Meeting On Wednesday, September 26, 2007

Dear Mr. Kramer, Madame Chair and Members of the Commission:

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization that encourages the informed and active participation of the public in government and works to increase the understanding of the public concerning major public policy issues.

We base our education and/or advocacy on our positions, which are developed after careful study and consideration and approved by consensus.

With regard to the current issue of siting one and possibly two power plants in Hayward, we draw on the following League positions:

League Positions: PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT, AND OPEN GOVERNMENT PROCEEDINGS

We believe, after a review of the record concerning the matter of siting one or two power plants in Hayward, that the matter has not received adequate public input considering its regional impact. We note that the Alameda County Board of Supervisors or Alameda County Planning Commission has not held public hearings on the matter even though the public health of residents in the County's surrounding areas will be impacted. We note that neither the Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council nor the San Lorenzo Village Homes Association were notified of this important issue even though they share a boundary with Hayward and therefore, the pollution as well. Such notice to these organizations would then have alerted the unincorporated areas of Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview and Hillcrest Knolls, which also are impacted by this pollution.

League Position: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND POLLUTION CONROL, WHICH INCLUDES AIR QUALITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The League has a long history of supporting "clean air" and environmental protection. The mitigation measures proposed to ensure both issues do not appear adequate. The fireplace/woodstove conversion is voluntary and will still be a cost to residents even though the program will be partially subsidized and provides no partial subsidies to the communities of Ashland, Cherryland, Fairview and Hillcrest Knolls although Ashland and Cherryland are adjacent to this area.

The trading of pollution credits with other polluting businesses will not reduce the overall harmful particulates that will impact public health.

Hayward area is a growing urbanized area which, according to the Hayward Recreational District's 2006 records, population has doubled over the past ten years. The power plant will be a short distance from at least six public elementary schools, six parochial schools, two public middle schools, three high schools (one public, two private), two colleges and two hospitals. The pollution from the power plants will add to those emitted by the surrounding industrial businesses in the area and the heavily traveled freeways that border the area which recent studies report are contributing to the growing problem of children suffering from asthma.

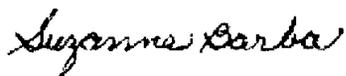
Presently, the nearby interchange of SR- 92 and I-880 operates at the most congested, level F. We believe the health of children, seniors, residents and workers will be negatively impacted unless better mitigation is offered.

The League is not opposed to power plants as we recognize the need for additional energy to meet the needs of a growing population and growing economy. However, we do believe that there should be review by the public and more public input from the region that will be impacted by such a large fourteen-story plant involving 600 megawatts and thermal plumes.

Therefore, we urge the CEC to postpone its final decision on the Russell City Energy Center and the Eastshore Energy Center until Alameda County agencies and the public in those areas surrounding Hayward have had a chance to study the projects and be given an opportunity to voice their opinion and contribute to this process meaningfully.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Barba, Past President
League of Women Eden Area

cc: Senator Ellen Corbett
Assemblymember Mary Hayashi
Hayward Mayor and City Council
Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Board of Directors, San Lorenzo Village Homes Association
Members, Castro Valley Municipal Advisory Council

BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Amendment to the APPLICATION
FOR CERTIFICATION OF THE
RUSSELL CITY ENERGY CENTER
POWER PLANT PROJECT

Docket No. 01-AFC-7C
PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 7/6/07)

INSTRUCTIONS: All parties shall 1) send an original signed document plus 12 copies OR 2) mail one original signed copy AND e-mail the document to the web address below, AND 3) all parties shall also send a printed OR electronic copy of the documents that shall include a proof of service declaration to each of the individuals on the proof of service:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Attn: Docket No. 01-AFC-7C
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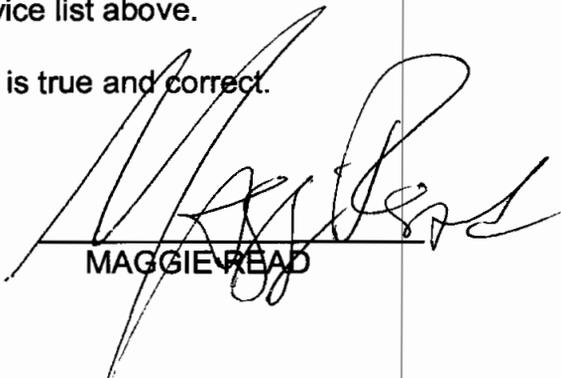
DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Maggie Read, declare that on September 25, 2007, I deposited copies of the attached 9/24/07 letter from League of Women Voters-Eden Area in the United States mail at Sacramento, California with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to those identified on the Proof of Service list above.

OR

Transmission via electronic mail was consistent with the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 20, sections 1209, 1209.5, and 1210. All electronic copies were sent to all those identified on the Proof of Service list above.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.



MAGGIE READ