South VISTA Communities

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September 2, 2008

The Honorable James D. Boyd
Vice Chair
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Carlsbad Energy Center Project, 07-AFC-6

Dear Commissioner Boyd:

This letter is to express the support of South Vista Communities for the proposed Carlsbad Energy Center Project. South Vista Communities is a coalition of neighborhoods and businesses dedicated to protecting and enhancing the quality of life south of State Highway 78.

We and others in North San Diego County require quality and sustainable resources for a reliable and economical supply of electricity. The Carlsbad Energy Center is an ideal project for providing energy and to support development of new renewable resources. It will be quick starting, efficient and meet greenhouse gas reduction initiatives.

The proposed site (between the I-5 freeway and the main line railroad tracks) is the ideal location for the small, environmentally friendly Carlsbad Energy Center Project. Two of the alternate sites that have been proposed (one adjacent to the Carlsbad-Vista boundary near the Merkel Reservoir, and the other adjacent to the Carlsbad-Vista boundary in the new Carlsbad Oaks North industrial park) would create significant negative noise and visual impacts to Vista residents and are totally unacceptable. Other alternative sites are too close to the regional Palomar Airport, creating potential aviation safety concerns, primarily due to the unavoidable thermal plume.

In addition, locating the plant between I-5 and the railroad tracks will result in significant cost savings by eliminating the need to duplicate the existing infrastructure now located at the Encina Station. Clearly, the proposed location and design are economically and environmentally superior to all of the other sites that have been considered and would avoid placing extra electricity cost burdens on Vista families and local businesses.

I urge your timely approval of the sustainable Carlsbad Energy Center proposal.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Jackel

Stephanie Jackel
President

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