

From: Mike Monasmith
To: Docket Optical System
Date: 1/20/2009 4:20 PM
Subject: Fwd: Docket #07-AFC-06: Proposed Carlsbad Energy Center Project

Please docket the following public email regarding the above proceeding

Thanks,
Mike

J. Mike Monasmith
Siting Project Manager
California Energy Commission
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DOCKET	
07-AFC-6	
DATE	<u>JAN 20 2009</u>
RECD.	<u>JAN 20 2009</u>

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>>> "Becky Storkson" <bstorkson@live.com> 1/20/2009 4:00 PM >>>
David and Rebecca Storkson

4744 Sunburst Road
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Mike Monasmith
Project Manager
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814

January 20, 2009

RE: Proposed Carlsbad Energy Center Project

Dear Mr. Monasmith:

Please copy James D. Boyd and Karen Douglas, Commissioners; and Paul Kramer, Hearing Officer.

We are proud to be recent (since July 2008) landowners and members in the beautiful, forward-thinking and resourceful community of Carlsbad. Based on the rising population demands and current method of power grid operations, we certainly understand the need to increase and improve power production in SoCal. However, NRG's proposed Carlsbad Energy Center Project that replaces/adds to the existing Encinas Power Station is a short-term remedy that's extremely disturbing on many levels.

* Of paramount concern is the impact of the CECP on the health and welfare of this AND the global community.

o Degraded air quality. According to documentation about the Energy Commission report, "the plant will emit 73 tons - or 140,000 pounds - a year of nitrous oxide. The plant will also emit 217 tons of carbon monoxide and 39 tons of particulate matter annually." And "the proposed plant will generate 850,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases a year." This poses grave environmental and health concerns.

* Obvious negative contribution to the global warming crisis;

- * Increase risks of contracting lung and pulmonary diseases as well as a large variety of cancers;
- * Added health costs; deaths resulting from associated diseases.
- o Additionally, there are PROVEN negative impacts of desalination plants to the surrounding wildlife in the ocean, lagoons and nearby habitats.
- o Visual impact of the increased number of emissions stacks, size of adjacent buildings and exhaust facilities will no doubt directly impact our enjoyment of the ocean view and waterfront, property values and tourism. Our understanding is that the original plans of the EPS included dismantling the current stack years ago. It has been reputed that the existing stack will actually remain since EPS Units 4 and 5 will continue to operate. And, if the Caltrans I-5 project proceeds, there won't be space enough to even attempt to mitigate this unsightly obstruction.
- o Increased noise during construction and normal operations will most certainly impact our health, our homes and associated infrastructure. This also detracts from the natural beauty of this area, again negatively impacting tourism revenues.
- * Tourism is perhaps the most valuable asset in this community. Why not plan now to make Carlsbad another of the most desirable locations in California, world-renowned for our beauty?! While the current zoning of that land is P-U (Public Utility), it has become, since the EPS was built over half a century ago, prime ocean front real estate. We simply don't understand why one of California's, and in fact the U.S.'s most precious and beautiful resources would be marred with unsightly industrial buildings emitting harmful toxins. Surely rezoning and developing those acres for healthful use by us, the citizens, tourists and local wildlife would be lucrative for Carlsbad and California while preserving a natural wonder - our ocean.
- * Increased health costs, deaths resulting from associated diseases, lost tourism revenues, decreased property values, lost educational funding . . . the list of affects of the CECP goes on and on.

In short, we fear for our health, the health of our neighbors, community, country and world. Our property value will drop as a result the negative visual impact, air and noise pollution. Moreover, we're terribly disheartened by the move to further desecrate the beautiful natural resources here.

Now that the end of carbon fuel is a reality, building the CECP using natural gas is undoubtedly a stop-gap measure that is quickly becoming obsolete in the light of developing eco-conservative technology. There is every indication that once built, this plant will likely be here for at least half a century. The lack of understanding/acceptance of the contributing factors of our current global warming crisis suggests we need to not only reconsider our current methods of energy production, but we need a radical paradigm shift in the whole business of energy production and usage. It's most prudent to plan and create environmentally safe energy production versus reacting years down the road to unwise, profit-driven stop-gap methods that result not only in fiscal irresponsibility, but moreover are truly harmful to the earth and ourselves. We implore you to seek avenues that will promote, enhance and contribute to the health and welfare of Carlsbad as well as the world.

Sincerely yours,

David and Rebecca Storkson