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SAN DIEGO NORTH
Economic Development Council

November 19, 2009

Karen Douglas, Chairwoman
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Carlsbad Energy Center Project – Support for Final Staff Assessment
07-AFC-6

Dear Chairwoman Douglas:

This letter is to express the strong support of the San Diego North Economic Development Council for the Carlsbad Energy Center Project (CECP) and we urge the California Energy Commission to license this vital project for construction.

Our members throughout northern San Diego County recognize the critical need for a reliable and efficient supply of electricity. The CECP will not only address those needs but it will provide a cleaner, more efficient electrical generating capacity to the region.

We support the Energy Commission's Staff findings that the best location for this project rests on the current site of the Encina Power Station situated within an infrastructure corridor between railroad tracks and Interstate Highway 5. With the high concentration of other industrial uses on and near the property, this lower profile facility fits the area and will contribute to the retirement of the older units of the aging Encina Power Station.

North County will be cleaner and better prepared for any electrical grid reliability challenge in the future with the approval of the air cooled fast start Carlsbad Energy Center. We appreciate the support this fast start generating equipment gives to the development of solar and wind renewable generation in our region. Our members and their businesses are also pleased to know that should transmission lines in the region be threatened by a natural disaster as they were during the 2007 Firestorm there will be an in-basin generating facility like this one at the ready to help meet any additional spike in demand for power for the entire County of San Diego.

On behalf of my Board of Directors and our members I respectfully request the California Energy Commission approve this vital project as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Gary Knight

Gary Knight
President & CEO

100 N Rancho Santa Fe Road, Suite 124 San Marcos, CA 92069 760-598-9311 Fax 760-598-9325