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*Comment Received From: Greg Wood
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RE Support for Hydrostorâ€™s Willow Rock Energy Storage Center

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

August 21, 2025

Commissioner Andrew McAllister

Presiding Member

California Energy Commission

715 P Street

Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Support for Hydrostor's Willow Rock Energy Storage Center

Dear Commissioner McAllister and Members of the California Energy Commission,

As a board member of the Rosamond Community Services District, I am writing to express my strong support for Hydrostor's Willow Rock Energy Storage Center. I have been closely following the development of this project since it was introduced in 2021, and I offer two important points for your consideration.

First, I want to address that I was initially opposed to the project due to its original location on Sweetser Road in Rosamond. This old site was not ideal for various reasons, but my main concerns centered on a lack of compatibility with surrounding land uses and the anticipated impact on residents. However, Hydrostor exercised its capacity as a good neighbor and dependable corporate partner by re-siting the project at a new location on Dawn Rd. and Sierra Highway, effectively addressing these issues. Hydrostor has clearly listened to community concerns, and their adjustments reflect a commitment to being a responsible partner to Rosamond and the greater Kern County region.

Now that my concern about the location has been addressed, I am able to fully appreciate the benefits that this project will bring to my community. The Willow Rock project will generate over \$500 million in direct and indirect benefits to the local economy. Beyond that, projects like Hydrostor's create a multiplier effect, spurring additional employment in local businesses, supply chains, and supporting industries throughout Kern County. The benefits of this project are a lifeline for Rosamond which has been historically underserved and underdeveloped.

This leads me to the second point I present for your consideration: energy reliability and economic investment are urgent needs for our community, meaning we need projects like Willow Rock to be approved in a timely manner. Each delay in the process slows these benefits from reaching the residents who need them most. As such, I respectfully urge the Commission to move forward with timely processing of this application.

I am grateful to the Commission for their consideration of my points and for their commitment to reviewing projects with careful attention to the impact they will have on the communities they serve. For Rosamond, Hydrostor has shown they are responsive to the community, and we believe this project can be a model for balancing economic growth, innovation, and community vitality.

Thank you for your consideration and for your timely review of the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center.

Respectfully,

Gregory Wood

Rosamond Community Services District, Board of Director