

DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	01-AFC-06C
Project Title:	Magnolia Power Project-Compliance
TN #:	267218
Document Title:	Audrey Ma Comments - Opposing Magnolia Gas Plant Expansion
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Audrey Ma
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	11/13/2025 10:25:33 PM
Docketed Date:	11/14/2025

Comment Received From: Audrey Ma

Submitted On: 11/13/2025

Docket Number: 01-AFC-06C

Opposing Magnolia Gas Plant Expansion

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Audrey Ma, and I am a 16-year-old student writing because what you decide will shape the world I'm stepping into. I oppose the proposed \$80 million expansion of the Magnolia Gas Plant.

SCPPA has not provided a clear or compelling justification for this expansion. The staff assessment does not identify a critical capacity shortage, nor does it demonstrate that this project is necessary to avoid blackouts. At a time when California has added more than 13,000 MW of battery storage – now proven to be faster-responding, more reliable, and more cost-effective than gas – continuing to invest in fossil fuel infrastructure is a step backward, not forward.

I understand why SCPPA says this expansion is about reliability. After the blackouts we've experienced, no utility wants to risk being caught unprepared. But we are not living in 2020 anymore. Just this past year, we went through multiple heat waves without a single flex alert. That wasn't luck. That was batteries doing exactly what they were built to do.

Recent analysis shows that transitioning from gas to battery energy storage reduces resource adequacy costs and lowers customer bills, while at the same time increasing reliability. Batteries cut emissions and can respond in milliseconds, not hours as a gas plant would require. Continuing to build more capacity at Magnolia isn't caution, it's hesitation in the face of progress.

And for young people like me, hesitation has consequences. The staff report acknowledges that the Magnolia expansion would increase CO2 emissions. I'm asking you to choose a future where we can have clean, reliable, affordable energy and reject this expansion. California promised a carbon-free future. Magnolia's expansion breaks that promise. And when adults break promises, it's young people who spend the rest of their lives paying for it, financially, environmentally and physically.

Please choose the path that aligns with California's commitments and with the future my generation will build.