

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	15-AFC-01
Project Title:	Puente Power Project
TN #:	206537
Document Title:	Irene Rauschenberger Comments: Global Warming issues of Today Are an Urgent Matter
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Irene Rauschenberger
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	11/9/2015 12:49:09 AM
Docketed Date:	11/9/2015

Comment Received From: Irene Rauschenberger

Submitted On: 11/9/2015

Docket Number: 15-AFC-01

Puente Power Project 15-AFC-01

Commissioner Janea A. Scott, Presiding Member
Commissioner Karen Douglas, Associate Member
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-29
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Re: Puente Power Project 15-AFC-01

I believe the global warming issues of today are an urgent matter that require expedient mitigations against environmental collapse. Your decisions will impact our future.

For background, below is an excerpt from Wikipedia-Oxnard Plain under the caption Postwar prosperity, that quite vividly describes the history of social and environmental impacts Oxnard has endured.

“While the vast fields of fertile soil were appreciated for the agricultural bounty that could be produced, the sand dunes and wetlands along the coast line were considered useless except as places to dispose of solid and liquid waste. This at least dates back to 1898 when the beet sugar factory sent the wastewater discharge through a pipe to Ormond Beach. Various other areas near the coast were used for dumping trash and oil-waste, much of the time with local government encouragement and supervision.[33] The Halaco Engineering Co. a metal recycling facility at the Ormond Beach wetlands, deposited process wastes and wastewater from the smelter from 1965 until 2004 on what was allegedly a former open dump operated by the City of Oxnard until 1962. The waste pile contains an estimated 112,900 cubic yards (86,300 m³) and the facility has been designated a Superfund site.[34] Other large, polluting industries were cited at Ormond Beach wetlands before environmental concerns highlighted the importance of restoring the area to serve as a dynamic habitat for a wide array of native plants and animals.[35]

Over the years, many communities have attempted to control the Santa Clara River by establishing dumps along the banks to create levees that would keep the river from flooding adjacent lands during occasional years with heavy winter rains. Three dump sites about 2 miles (3.2 km) upstream from the mouth of the river came under the control of the Ventura Regional Sanitation District by 1988. They continued to use the sites until they were closed in 1996. [36]

Water quality at the numerous beaches has been very good with a few exceptions.[37] Municipal wastewater treatment facilities, industrial dischargers, and power generating stations are point source dischargers along the coast of the Oxnard plain. Two power generating stations were built in the 1960s to take advantage of the ocean for cooling.[38] The Oxnard City council tried to prevent a third plant from being built in 2012. After years of legal tussles, the 45 megawatts (60,000 hp) McGrath Peaker Plant was built by Edison next to the existing power plant at Mandalay.[39]

With this said, the practices of creating and dumping polluting waste of the past have to change. In particular, the current NRG Energy proposal to build a 4th power plant on our coast is unsound not a valid long-range solution to mitigating the ocean polluting problems as well as social injustice issues.

Ventura County, the City of Oxnard being the largest with a population over 200k, agricultural bounty contribute billions of dollars to the local economy, provide regional food security, and remind us of our connection with the natural world. Protecting this environment from urban sprawl and polluting facilities is important for safe guarding our economy of agricultural, industry, military bases, a harbor district, natural wildlife, and to provide community assets for the growing population.

The City of Oxnard residents need the Mandalay beach, please deny the NRG proposal “ that is a critical step in the right direction to reach our goals for sustainability.

Irene Rauschenberger,

Native Resident