

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	15-AFC-01
Project Title:	Puente Power Project
TN #:	220335
Document Title:	Michal Lynch Comments deny Puente Power Project
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Michal Lynch
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	7/24/2017 9:55:04 PM
Docketed Date:	7/25/2017

Comment Received From: Michal Lynch

Submitted On: 7/24/2017

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deny Puente Power Project

Mr. Hearing Officer and California Energy Commissioners,

The Puente Project is not needed, will unfairly impact low-income populations by further damaging air quality, and poses a threat to endangered species (not disclosed by developer). I don't know which of these factors is worse!

Low-income Oxnard residents already suffering from high asthma rates currently breathe the exhaust from three fossil-fuel power plants. Approving a 4th plant would be a great social injustice.

The grossly polluting Puente Power Plant would be constructed atop a rare 2-acre coastal wetland that is surrounded by ancient and environmentally sensitive coastal dunes and unique plants and wildlife. Initially undisclosed by the developer, biologists just recently discovered numerous protected species living on and around the proposed site. Protected peregrine falcons are nesting, feeding, and raising young on the site, as are great horned owls. Federally-threatened snowy plovers and endangered California least terns nest in critical habitat on three sides of the site.

This power plant is not needed for public safety or grid reliability. An industrial facility of this nature should never be built on the coast where sea level rise will eventually submerge it. Please deny this ill-conceived project as we Californians look to a brighter fossil free future.

Sincerely,
Michal Lynch