

DOCKETED

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Comment Received From: Nathaniel Pidduck

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MREC Site Disqualification

Dear Commission:

RE: Mission Rock Peaker Plant (MREC)

I was extremely disappointed to see the commission's consideration of the MREC. Numerous factors should disqualify the MREC from consideration including: Site Size and Usability (less than 10 acres, located within a 100 year floodplain), Electrical Infrastructure (nonexistent and will require crossing protected agricultural land (see Ventura County SOAR)), Proximity to Sensitive Receptors (the County Jail population is less than 800 ft. away, additionally Santa Paula is a predominately hispanic town and a socioeconomically disadvantaged community), Environmental Considerations (proximity to the Santa Clara River, critical habitat supporting numerous threatened and endangered species including the southern steelhead and southwestern willow flycatcher).

Santa Paula is a predominately hispanic community of limited income, resources, and means. This population will be disproportionately burdened by the MREC. This population is often too scared to voice their opinion for fear of job loss, deportation, etc.

Additionally the Ventura County Jail is located less than 800 feet from the site. This sensitive receptor made up of an entirely socioeconomically disadvantaged community should be given special critical attention because it is a large population that is at the location 24 hours a day seven days a week for the length of their sentence, this means much higher levels of exposure. Similar consideration should likewise be given to the jail staff.

It is unacceptable to locate an environmentally damaging peaker plant within the 100 year flood plain of the Santa Clara River. Additionally, the Santa Clara River is a designated critical habitat, one of the most biologically significant in Southern California, supporting numerous threatened and endangered species including the southern steelhead and southwestern willow flycatcher.

Sincerely,

Nate Pidduck
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