

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Mission Rock Energy Center
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Document Title:	City of Santa Paula letter opposing the Mission Rock Energy Center
Description:	Battery Energy Storage System letter, dated January 9, 2018
Filer:	Mike Monasmith
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City of Santa Paula

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January 9, 2018

Via Electronic Submission and Regular Mail

California Energy Commission

Attn: Mike Monasmith

Senior Project Manager

1516 Ninth Street, MS-15

Sacramento, CA 95814

Reference: Mission Rock Energy Center (Docket Number: 15-AFC-02)

Dear Mr. Monasmith:

The City of Santa Paula is on record as strongly opposing Mission Rock Energy Center's proposal to construct a 275-MW natural gas-fired peaking power plant about two miles west of the City ("MREC Plant"). As you know, on December 21, 2017, the City commented on the Preliminary Staff Assessment (the "PSA") issued for the MREC Plant. We wanted to make the Commission aware that there are better alternatives to the MREC that in conjunction with the use of renewable energy sources can help meet the SB 32's mandated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030.

Currently pending before the City is an application from ZGlobal, Inc. for a permit to develop a 20MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in the City. The BESS will be used to store electrical energy on a large scale for those times when production exceeds consumption and returned to the grid when production falls below consumption. ZGlobal's application will be publicly considered by the City's Planning Commission on January 23, 2018.

With projects like the BESS, stored power from renewable sources can be fed to the power grid when consumption exceeds production. In this way, electricity production need not be drastically scaled up to meet momentary consumption. At a time where renewable energy is making strident gains in terms of cost and viability, it seems imprudent to consider the construction of natural gas-fired combustion generators like those proposed by the Mission Rock Energy Center.

While we cannot predict how the City's Planning Commission will address the planning aspects of the BESS project, the City is fully supportive of uses that assist in the generation of clean, renewable energy.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ginger Gherardi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ginger Gherardi, Mayor
City of Santa Paula

cc: Honorable City Council
Michael Rock, City Manager
John C. Cotti, City Attorney