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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE ENERGY RESOURCES
CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

In the Matter of:
MISSION ROCK ENERGY CENTER

Docket No. 15-AFC-02

**Comments in Response to
Mission Rock Energy Center Staff
Comments and Status Report #19**

Wishtoyo Foundation files these comments in response to Mission Rock Energy Center (15-AFC-02) Staff Comments and Status Report #19, docketed February 28, 2018 (Status Report).¹

In the Status Report, staff writes that “staff believes two weeks following the PSA Workshop should be adequate time for parties and the public to finalize and submit their PSA comments.” We are unclear how staff formed this “belief.” Staff has not talked about timing for closing the public comment period with Wishtoyo Foundation. Further, it seems clear from the communication docketed by the Santa Paula Alliance on March 1, 2018,² that staff has not discussed this “belief” with them. The project applicant remains publically silent on questions of timing of the closure of the public comment period.³

Wishtoyo Foundation continues to fully support the Santa Paula Alliance’s request to provide time for the community to address the immediate impacts of the devastating Thomas Fire and to have adequate time to be actively engaged in Calpine’s pending application to build the Mission Rock Energy Center.⁴ In the Committee’s Order Suspending Comment Period on Preliminary Staff Assessment Published November 27, 2017,⁵ the Committee pointed out that Staff had proposed to hold the PSA Workshop on February 15 and 16, and to extend the comment period to March 26, 2018. That proposal provided thirty-eight (38) days between the PSA Workshop and the close of

¹ TN# 222788.

² TN# 222819.

³ See, e.g., Calpine’s Mission Rock Energy Center Status Report #19 (TN# 222811). Further, Calpine decided to forgo offering comments regarding the schedule other than “initial comments” (TN# 222358) suggesting that the PSA Workshop would be “more productive after receipt of the information requested by the Order on February, 28, 2018.”

⁴ TN# 222117.

⁵ TN #222270, 222328.

public comment.⁶ Now, with no explanation, staff purports to “believe” that two weeks “should be adequate time for parties and the public to finalize and submit their PSA comments.” We believe that the comment period should be closer to (or exceed) the 38 days originally contemplated. Further, as set out previously,⁷ we continue to agree with the Committee’s assessment that the PSA should be supplemented and re-issued “in order to allow comment on all topics encompassed within it.”⁸

We urge the Committee to continue to ensure that the public participation process is robust and provides adequate time and information to allow participation to be meaningful.

DATE: March 5, 2018

/s/ Angela Johnson Meszaros
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⁶ We remain confused, however, by staff’s decision to wait until March 12, 2018, to provide notice of the PSA Workshop as it appears that they have already determined the date and location of the meeting.

⁷ TN# 222767-1.

⁸ TN #222270, 222328.