

DOCKETED

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Project Title:	Carlsbad Energy Center - Compliance
TN #:	203646
Document Title:	Powerof Vision Letter to Caltrans Regarding Details of Future I-5 Expansion
Description:	N/A
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Power of Vision

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Monday, February 2, 2014

Arturo Jacobo
Majid Kharrati
California Department of Transportation
4050 Taylor Street
San Diego, CA 92110

Re: Details of Future I-5 Expansion Near Carlsbad Energy Center Project (CECP)

Dear Gentlemen,

Power of Vision is an intervenor in the above referenced proceeding before the California Energy Commission. We represent citizens of Carlsbad that will be impacted by the building and operation of the amended CECP. POV has been involved with the applicant and the CEC since the original application was filed in September of 2007 so we are very familiar with the project and the I-5 widening.

During a recent CEC workshop held in Carlsbad, the applicant through their representative, made statements to the effect that the applicant, NRG, will not be responsible for screening the power plant from public view once I-5 is widened. They contend that is the responsibility of CalTrans. Cal Trans representatives have made statements that it will be the responsibility of NRG to provide screening. In looking at the preferred alignment of the widening, it is likely that several trees will have to be removed. You state, in a conversation docketed by CEC staff on December 22, 2014 that, "Mr. Jacobo is not yet sure whether construction of Phase 1 will require removal of the eucalyptus trees along I-5. He thinks that it likely will, as the pavement will need to be expanded by 8 feet."

If those trees are removed, thousand of Carlsbad residents, beach visitors and motorists will be exposed to the unsightly industrial aspect of the CECP. We would like assurances from CalTrans, NRG and the CEC that new vegetation will be planted that will effectively screen the plant.

Power of Vision would like CalTrans to clear up this confusion. Will Caltrans be responsible for replacing trees that will be removed during the I-5 widening construction?

Regards,
Julie Baker
Arnold Roe, PhD

