

DOCKETED

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April 1, 2015

Karen Douglas, Commissioner
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Carlsbad - Docket No. 07-AFC-06

Dear Commissioner Douglas:

On behalf of the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce I would like to once again express our strong support for the amended Carlsbad Energy Center project.

For close to ninety (90) years the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce has worked to promote a favorable business climate for the 1,600 businesses and more than 75,000 employees in and around the City of Carlsbad. This is why we pay close attention to issues in Carlsbad that could impact not only the ability of local businesses to thrive, but also matters that could impact the quality of life in our community.

A reliable power supply is a basic need for health, safety and economic wellbeing. We remain concerned about the reliability of our power supply given the closure of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, the retirement of the Encina Power Station in 2017, and the vulnerability of our transmission system to wildfires. You may recall that wildfires burned nearly 30,000 acres in and around Carlsbad in May 2014.

The Carlsbad Chamber was a supporter of the project that you licensed in 2012. We feel the amended project before you offers numerous benefits over the previous project.

This project will likely run less than the project previously licensed, and will help integrate a growing supply of wind and solar power. It will not run at all during overnight hours except in an emergency.

The amended Carlsbad Energy Center has a lower visual profile, better air quality and will consume less water than the project you previously licensed.

We are very pleased that NRG, SDG&E and the City of Carlsbad have reached an agreement whereby the Encina Power Station will be demolished by a date certain and the SDG&E Service Center relocated from the site. These actions mean that nearly 60 acres of oceanview property could be ready for non-industrial redevelopment early next decade. I will say that citizens and the business community are excited about the possibilities for the site.

In addition to the cleaner energy being produced in our community, the Carlsbad Energy Center would also provide millions of dollars in local tax revenue annually and generate hundreds of jobs during construction. The Carlsbad Energy Center is a project that makes sense for our local economy.

Carlsbad has hosted the Encina Power Station since ever the City's founding over 60 years ago. While some communities may support regional infrastructure so as long as it isn't in their backyard, Carlsbad continues to lead by hosting the next generation of power and water projects. And we do this without sacrificing the quality of life we enjoy in Carlsbad which for most of us is the reason we choose to live and do business here.

It is our firm belief that this revised project will provide Carlsbad and the region with the most logical and reliable solution to our power needs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Owen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the top and a long tail extending to the right.

Ted Owen
President & CEO