

Docket Optical System - Docket 11-IEP-1K

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Date: 8/24/2011 5:18 PM
Subject: Docket 11-IEP-1K
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Frank Brandt comment to .docket number 11-IEP-1K "2011

IEPR – Natural Gas Market Assessment Reference Case and Scenario Results"

I assume that this directive from the legislature originated several years ago when the state wanted to replace all fuels used to generate electricity with natural gas. I believe the CEC should have asked the legislature to remove this study from the IEPR instead of continuing it since I cannot fathom who can use the results.. Does it serve any purpose? What you are doing is speculating about the future. Your crystal ball is not much better than that of the fortune teller. Predicting the future is always an art rather than a science. For example your graphs show a sharp drop in natural gas price last year. Did you predict that?

Even if you had, what purpose did it accomplish? As you discuss there are all sorts of variables which affect the price of natural gas. You have no control over any of them. The electric utilities have to pay whatever the price is. Your report doesn't help them a bit. It certainly doesn't help me the ratepayer. I doubt that even Bowen who wrote the directive can use the data.

Please ask the legislature to stop the directive and use CEC staff talents for something useful. The only person who will be sorry is the high paid consultant who gazes at the crystal ball.