

DOCKETED

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I actually grew up in Los Angeles and I thought the air was bad there... it's worse here, some of the worst air in the NATION. We know this already. It has always been such a huge relief for me to come down the Grapevine from LA and descend into our Valley. Wide open space, less traffic and knowing this small safe country town of Buttonwillow is waiting for me. It's a terrible thing that I may have to fight my way through hundreds of trucks to get West of Morris Road where they will supposedly be turning off of. We will be sharing our small farm road with truckers now?? We farm right across the street from their "entry."

We live just a mile or so from the proposed HECA plant location and just a half mile off Stockdale Hwy. Our family farms many crops here, it's a farming town after all, our life and our livelihood. It's a known fact that Kern County already has a water shortage. HECA plans to make that ever more certain by pumping 5,000 + gallons of our precious water per minute. DO THE MATH! I'm sure you've seen the sign, "Where water flows, food grows."? Well, a lot of people will be starving won't they. Has HECA or anyone considered the very likely possibility of food crop contamination?

I don't understand why Buttonwillow was chosen for this "Power Plant" which by the way, we know it will only be powering itself. It will be putting off horrible and toxic fumes and further ruining our already filthy air, health and ultimately our lives. They boast about all these wonderful job opportunities? For who? People from out of town because I'm sure nobody in Buttonwillow, Tupman, Taft etc. would even consider working for such a HOAX! Say it does create jobs but how many "jobs" will it be destroying over time, and how many generations of love and labor that went into our crops? The water WILL run out. The toxins WILL complicate existing health conditions and create new ones.

We want to raise our children here and Elk Hills would be our school. I am very uncomfortable with there being potentially explosive chemicals and very explosive fertilizer so very close to them. Every single house is a bus stop if a child lives there. When the fog comes and we still have hundreds of trucks passing through, what can happen? Please listen to the community and residents who have been here their entire lives. Come see our farms, our life, our small country roads, our routines, our work. Take this plant somewhere else, it doesn't belong here.

Thank you,

Sasha Kosareff