

DOCKETED

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Marilynn Feuerstein's Public Comments on HECA

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Energy - Docket Optical System

From: Three Creeks Ranch [threecreeksranch@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, November 17, 2013 10:38 AM
To: Energy - Public Adviser's Office
Subject: docket HECA 08 AFC 8A

15 November 2013

To All Who Should Be Concerned:

I raised my family on our ranch that is about one mile from the proposed HECA facility, and I still have family living there. I wonder how safe we are with the HECA project so close to us in Buttonwillow? What is the danger from making 1,000,000 tons of fertilizer and storing close to 4 million gallons of anhydrous ammonia on their site? The California Energy Commission (CEC) submitted lots of data after the West Texas explosion this past spring that killed 15 people from fertilizer. The CEC concluded that the HECA project's danger would be less than significant because HECA will be using the best available safety measures. The accident in West Texas was from only 30 tons of fertilizer, and HECA will be making almost 3000 tons, per day. Did the CEC seriously study the potential for accidents should the safety measures fail?!

HECA did do a study on an accidental release of anhydrous ammonia from one of their 1,900,000-gallon tanks; there are several tanks in this proposal. They studied how far concentrations of fumes would travel under different accident scenarios. Curiously, HECA submitted it to the CEC under confidential cover, and the CEC accepted it, hiding risk factors from the public! Knowing how lethal anhydrous ammonia is, how it hugs the ground, and how it can travel up to 20 miles in concentration, we wonder why the report can't be shown to the public? I am outraged that we, living so close, can't know the truth!

Respectfully,

Marilynn Feuerstein
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