

DOCKETED

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HECA

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Subject: FW: Public Comments Received for the Hydrogen Energy California Project
Attachments: 1757_001.pdf

From: Homero Ramirez [<mailto:Homero.Ramirez@valleyair.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, November 26, 2013 2:10 PM
To: Heiser, John@Energy
Subject: Public Comments Received for the Hydrogen Energy California Project

Good afternoon, John.

The Valley Air District received another letter and articles (attached) in opposition to the Hydrogen Energy California project. The letter appears to be intended for the CEC since it urges voting against the project, so I wanted to forward it to the CEC. Would you like the hard copy of the letter and articles or is the attached electronic copy okay?

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you.

Homero Ramirez
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SJVAPCD
Southern Region

San Joaquin Valley Air Dist.

Are you people CRAZY or is someone making BIG BUCKS on this HECA plant? Why on earth would you vote for a coal plant in a county & valley that has the WORST air in the NATION!

We have no coal in CA. It has to be trucked in (500 round-trip trucks a day on a two-lane highway in the F06 in the winter) from New Mexico! Put the damn thing there where the wind blows all the time! It will make fertilizer - we have no shortage of fertilizer but we do have a shortage of WATER of which it will use billion of gallons.

If we need more power lets put in SOLAR PANELS not this air polluting garbage.

We need to put it on the ballot so the people can vote on it. Our air district is not taking care of the valley and its people.

Please vote AGAINST this plant!

J. Moore

More questions about HECA

I am pleased the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is questioning health risk studies done by the California Energy Commission on the Hydrogen Energy California project.

The EPA found that the CEC's health-risk assessment on HECA had insufficient information. The EPA noted that the CEC concludes the HECA project would not result in significant risk of cancer or short- or long-term health

effects to the public. Yet the CEC does not show how it justifies its conclusion.

CEC states Kern County ranks as one of the lowest California counties in overall health. The mortality rates for asthmatics and those suffering from coronary heart disease in Kern are higher than the state overall. It identifies Valley Fever as an existing public health concern that appears to be on the rise in Kern. The CEC states that their analysis uses a conservative health-protective methodology that accounts for impacts to the most sensitive individuals, including a developing fetus, newborns, infants and the elderly. Yet it is not clear through their methodology how the pre-existing health conditions were considered or how this information affected their conclusions, if at all.

I support the EPA's questioning. The CEC needs to clarify how the health-risk assessment considered the pre-existing health conditions. We, in the dirtiest air in the nation, deserve robust studies that show the health risks of hundreds of tons of new emissions from this dirty coal-fueled plant. The CEC needs to do better.

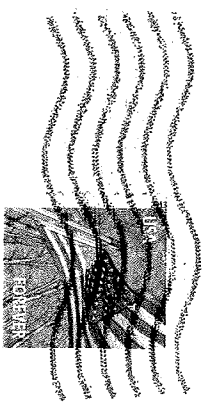
What is air district thinking?

I am a lifelong resident of the San Joaquin Valley, born in Stockton, and have lived most of my adult life in various parts of Kern County, including Tehachapi and 27 years in Bakersfield. Being from Stockton, the issue of water from the delta to irrigate the southern San Joaquin Valley has always been a contentious issue in that growers continuously seek more water for agriculture vs. conservation of the delta's environment.

The heavy blanket of dark, gray smog seen daily from the Tehachapi mountains overlooking Bakersfield reminds us that communities in Kern County have the worst air pollution in the country and of the fact that Kern has been fracking for oil, and contaminating groundwater, for more than 30 years. These and other environmental issues that plague our county push me to write these words, crying out: What in the world is the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District thinking in signing off on the HECA project? I was under the impression that the district was established to combat these environmental issues, not encourage them. I strongly oppose this project. Time for a new board?

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