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1 MR. VARGAS: Thank you very much. I'm Rogelio
2 Vargas from Bakersfield.
3 I would like to express some ideas that I have seen and
4 experienced. The first time that I was invited to a board
5 meeting in Bottom Willow, I was told that HECA or HICA,
6 however you want to call it, was going to develop an
7 electrical power plant of 25 megawatts. And I said, okay.
8 Why do you want that power plant of 25 megawatts when we
9 have windmills and solar power plants? It is better in
10 the technology that we can have now. And I said, if you
11 want to improve the environment you can still use your
12 heads and develop something more in the ocean where there
13 are waves every day- sea waves that can generate great
14 amounts of energy if you really want to. Well, that was
15 my idea but then they told me that they are going to
16 build a fertilizer plant- no longer will it be electrical
17 but rather it will be run by fertilizers. And I remember
18 what happened in Texas. An entire community fled- why are
19 we going to wish for the same thing. Now, I know that we
20 are all part of a nation and that nation is a family, but
21 just because we're family doesn't mean that I'm going to
22 go to this man's house and put up a coal plant. Just
23 because we're in a free country, right? But I think that
24 Kern County also has a right to speak out, and I am
25 speaking for all the people who haven't come or who don't
26 know or understand what HECA, HICA or HICAS is. The big

1 problem that we have is that a power plant is going to be
2 set up in our area and, in addition to that as you all
3 know, Kern County suffers horrendous effects from
4 pollution. We are number one and my kids are always
5 sending me emails, look at where you're living, Dad. What
6 can I say, Kern County is my county and I want to live
7 there and I want to breathe fresh air that isn't
8 contaminated and that's what is happening to me. We
9 didn't ask them to come, Kern County didn't ask them to
10 come, and if they were invited to come it would have been
11 by our leaders and representatives. With a little
12 monetary incentive you have convinced us that they can
13 come to live with us. And, as soon as HECA puts up that
14 plant what are they going to do? Run out of here with
15 their packs of money, while Kern County will continue to
16 suffer problems. They children are going to be crying
17 with leukemia and bronchial diseases, and why? Because
18 HECA and those who have money could set up this plant.
19 Please, please have mercy on your family which is Kern
20 County. Take care of it and protect it so that it doesn't
21 have to take in more pollution than it already has. I
22 sincerely thank you for giving me the chance to express
23 my ideas in honor of humanity. Thank you.

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