

Received electronically on 8/9/2012: Addressed to Robert Worl, and copied to the Public Advisor, Fred Pozzuto, NETL-DOE and to Thomas Daniels

Hello,

I am a concerned citizen living in close proximity to the proposed HECA project site. Please find my attached letter voicing my support for the project.

Thank you,

Sam Ackerman

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**  
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### **Letter in support of the HECA project by a local resident**

I have been a resident living in close proximity to the proposed Hydrogen Energy of California plant (HECA) for close to 25 years and have been in the farming industry for about the same amount of time. I once farmed the very ground where the plant will be built. I also have a great affection for this country, the land and the ag industry with its bountiful harvests which provides us with an affordable cornucopia of the finest food in the world.

Nitrogen fertilizer is to farming as fuel is to the automobile. It just can't be done on a commercial basis without it. As a patriot it incenses me to no end when we shut down domestic energy production along with it's domestic jobs in favor of outsourcing it to countries who want to see us dead. Well fertilizer is exactly the same story, only more so. Most nitrogen fertilizer is produced from natural gas. Natural gas is generally found in oil producing areas and most oil producing areas outside of North America are hostile to our way of life.

We presently import over 50% of our nitrogen fertilizer from these very countries. This gives them huge sums of our hard earned money to fuel their hatred for us and makes our most vital resource (food) vulnerable to their political whims and agendas. Think about it, every time we purchase a meal or fill our tank a significant portion of the purchase price is going to them. It should be going to

support domestic industry and jobs which will in turn fuel our staggering economy.

Well, we have an opportunity to do just that. This HECA project will produce 1.3 million tons of nitrogen fertilizer per year made in an environmentally friendly carbon neutral manner. I guess that makes it about as close to organic as commercial fertilizer gets. This single plant will reduce our national import needs by about 10% and produce enough to meet most of California's needs. In addition it will produce enough electricity to supply a large portion of Kern County. It will also provide our area with a whole bunch of much needed jobs not only during construction but also to run the plant after it is built. The taxes generated will also make a significant difference to our county budget. The CO2 sequestration process used by this plant will also help with production at Elk Hills (more jobs, more domestic oil production).

I hear that some people are worried about additional traffic from the project causing wear and tear on our roads. Well as a resident I know that these same roads are highly used by both ag and oil with little or seemingly no maintenance from the county. I also understand that HECA has a plan to fund improvements on the roads that it will use which will be an advantage to all who use them. Additionally, if one's concern is the amount of energy spent in transportation of materials to and from the plant then how can one justify shipping it from the other side of the planet as it is done now.

This project is great for our country, our state, our county, the ag industry, the oil industry, the construction industry, our local economy and local jobs. I think we should all get behind it and not cave into outside voices who have their own hidden agendas and really don't have our best interests in mind. To my way of thinking if this plant reduces fertilizer imports by 10% then we should become self-sufficient and build 10 more plants. Then we can thumb our noses at all of the imports and say hello to "made in America".

Yours truly

Sam Ackerman