



# KERN COUNTY FARM BUREAU, inc.

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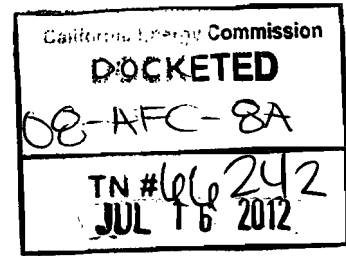
**Steve Maniaci**  
President

**Greg Wegis**  
First Vice President

**Trey Irwin**  
Second Vice President

**Benjamin McFarland**  
Executive Director

July 12, 2012



Mr. Robert Worl, Project Manager  
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Project Division  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street, MS-15  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Docket #08-AFC-8A "Hydrogen Energy California"  
Hand delivered at 7-12-12 Public Informational Hearing/Scoping Meeting in Tupman CA

Dear California Energy Commissioners and Staff:

My name is Ben McFarland; I am the Executive Director of the Kern County Farm Bureau, an organization that represents more than 1,400 agricultural entities, their employees and families in Kern County. It is our mission to promote, protect and strengthen Kern County's agricultural interests.

I am here to advise you of our initial concerns on the impacts the proposed hydrogen energy project would have on agriculture and those who live on and work the land in the Buttonwillow community. Specifically;

- Bifurcation of local farming operations as a result of new rail lines,
- Disruption to local water delivery infrastructure,
- Irretrievable loss of 'Prime Farmland' as classified by the state's Department of Conservation,
- Disruption of neighboring farming activities, and
- Contribution of emissions negatively impacting local air quality, in which our farmers already face the severest regulations and costs for compliance in the world.

Thank you for your interest in our concerns and we look forward to working with you as this process develops.

Sincerely,

Benjamin McFarland  
Executive Director  
Kern County Farm Bureau, Inc.