Energy Commission Siting, Transmission, & Environmental Protection Division

FILE: 08-AFC-8A

PROJECT TITLE: Hydrogen Energy California

☐ Telephone: (661) 765-7431  ☐ Meeting Location: Telephone Exchange

NAME: Aaron Nousaine   DATE: 10/11/2012   TIME: 10:46 a.m.

WITH: Jeff Tensley, Superintendent and Principal, Elk Hills Elementary School District

SUBJECT: School Service Standards and Development Impact Fees

COMMENTS: The following exchange took place between Aaron Nousaine, CEC, and Jeff Tensley, Elk Hills Elementary School District, regarding established service standards and development impact fees.

Mr. Tensley described that 155 students are currently bused in from outside of the Elk Hills School District (EHSD). Elk Hills is “District of Choice,” which means that parents residing outside of the district can apply to have their child attend the Elk Hills Elementary School. The majority of enrolled students who reside outside of the district live in and around the City of Taft. There is one bus that also transports students from Buttonwillow, Rosedale, and Bakersfield.

When questioned regarding any formally adopted service standards, Mr. Tensley acknowledged that the district has no set standards. The school currently operates at a student-to-teacher ratio of 20-to-1 for the lower grades and 25-to-1 for the higher grades. Note that Elk Hills Elementary provides Kindergarten through eighth grade education. It is the desire of the district to maintain student-to-teacher ratios equal to, or less than, those currently experienced in the district. If the proposed project were to cause a substantial increase in the student body, such that student-to-teacher ratios would increase beyond the acceptable service levels, the district’s first course of action would be to cut back on the number of “District of Choice” applications it could accept, and the number of spaces made available for “District of Choice” students.

According to Mr. Tensley, the EHSD has no adopted development impact fee. Although, the district plans to issue a $6.2 million bond that will go to the ballot in November. If passed, the bond would be accompanied by a $0.75 property tax increase per $100,000 in value. Revenue from the new tax would be used to pay the debt service on the EHSD bond.

California Energy Commission
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cc: John Heiser, Siting Project Manager   Signed: ☐