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Senate
California Legislature

JIM BATTIN
SENATOR

THIRTY-SEVENTH SENATE DISTRICT



COMMITTEES:
ELECTIONS, REAPPORTIONMENT
AND CONSTITUTIONAL
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SELECT COMMITTEES:
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CALIFORNIA'S HORSE
RACING INDUSTRY
JOINT COMMITTEES:
ARTS

October 3, 2007

James D. Boyd
Vice Chair and Presiding Member
Sentinel AFC Committee
California Energy Commission

And

Jackalyn Pfannenstiel
Chairman and Associate Member
Sentinel ARC Committee

Re: CPV Sentinel
AFC-07-AFC-3

Commissioners:

I am writing to extend my full support of the CPV Sentinel Standby Power Plant. As government officials we share an obligation to safeguard our constituents, and to seek opportunities to protect and improve their quality of life. The CPV Sentinel Standby Power Plant both meets and exceeds those worthy goals.

The Plant is the solution to the Coachella Valley's critical electric power supply issues, and will provide a needed economic boost to Desert Hot Springs and the region as a whole. CPV Sentinel will deliver these benefits with efficiency, proficiency and in the most environmentally sensitive manner.

CPV Sentinel specifically benefits the Mission Springs Water District rate payers as well because the project will help protect its valuable water resources. CPV Sentinel will support the District's water quality goals by making it possible for MSWD to clean recharge water beyond the present secondary levels to tertiary levels and thus improve water basin quality. CPV Sentinel will benefit MSWD budget goals by paying for new wells, piping systems, and premium rates for water. This is a valuable windfall for the District and ratepayers. The clean, state-of-the-art technology used by the Plant will use water so efficiently that it will have no significant impact on the projected thirty year Mission Springs water surplus.

DOCKET	
07-AFC-3	
DATE	OCT 03 2007
RECD.	OCT 04 2007

The economic benefits to Desert Hot Springs and valley wide are just as important. It will generate \$25,000,000 in new sales tax revenues with \$3,000,000 dedicated specifically to Desert Hot Springs. Additionally, \$5,000,000 in annual property taxes will be paid by the Plant. The project will also generate new jobs that will further contribute to the local economy and the quality of life in the Coachella Valley.

Energy blackouts and brownouts can have a terrible impact on public safety especially in the Coachella Valley where the loss of air conditioning can be fatal to the elderly and infirm. As you may recall, I sponsored legislation during the energy crisis California endured to prohibit rolling blackouts from being targeted in our valley where temperatures are not just uncomfortable, but deadly. Regretfully, the PUC has chosen not to implement that legislation and cited a loophole as an excuse. It is up to us – to you - to ensure the safety of our residents by providing local power sources that we can count on. CPV Sentinel is an important element in avoiding blackouts and brownouts in the Coachella Valley. CPV Sentinel will safeguard our local electric power supply by generating power on an as needed basis – power that will stay here in our communities when we need it most.

Thank you for the opportunity to extend my support of the CPV Sentinel Standby Power Plant project. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of any additional assistance to you with this or any other state related matter.

Sincerely,



JIM BATTIN
Senator,
37th District

JB/kg



Senator Jim Battin
37th District

FAX

To: CEC Commissioners

Date: 10/4/07

From: Senator Jim Battin

Pages (Including Cover): 3

Fax: 916-653-3478 and

Battin Fax: (760) 568-1501

916-654-4365

Letter of support for Friday
hearing. Senator Battin will be in
attendance.

If you have any questions regarding this fax transmission,
please call the Palm Desert District Office at (760) 568-0408