



Association of Irrigated Residents
Tom Frantz, President
30100 Orange St
Shafter, CA 93263

January 9, 2013

Status Update

RE: Docket No. 08-AFC-08A

The Association of Irrigated Residents (AIR) continues to study this project. AIR is not satisfied with many of the answers it has been given by the applicant to previous data requests. The answers have been flawed because they come from the applicant who is naturally prejudiced in favor of the project. AIR hopes that the CEC staff and commissioners will be more objective and not take the applicant's answers to these questions as anything other than one-sided. AIR concurs with the Sierra Club request to extend the data discovery period so that at least one more round of data requests may be made. This is needed, in part, because the applicant continues to ask for more time to answer some previous data requests from the CEC and intervenors. The answers to some of these very important outstanding data requests will almost certainly lead to more questions.

AIR feels that objective information still needs to be procured by the CEC in the following areas (this is not an exhaustive list):

- An accurate accounting of all project related CO2 emissions including the CO2 injection and recovery operations. This must also include an estimate of CO2 equivalent emissions from the recovered oil and from the fertilizer use.
- A valid justification for locating this project in the center of prime farmland with no mitigation for the loss of such land when other nearby power plants, such as La Paloma, were located on zoned agricultural land of far less importance and value.
- A valid justification for adding significant air pollution to the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley without a guarantee of mitigation for 100% of these added emissions, including from transportation, in the immediate area of the project.
- A valid justification for using tremendous amounts of marginally brackish water which may also be used for irrigation of crops in a region with a general shortage of irrigation water.
- A valid justification for polluting the air and disrupting, damaging, and/or destroying local farming by bringing coal from out-of-state and pet coke from outside the valley to Kern County to produce electrical energy when abundant fuel already exists in Kern County, abundant non-farmed land exists nearby, and additional electrical energy is not needed in Kern County.
- A valid and holistic justification for how this project will actually decrease CO2 emissions significantly, and to the extent required for meeting 2050 goals, from energy and fertilizer use in California and globally.

- A valid justification for how this project needs \$400 plus million dollars of taxpayer money in order to move forward.
- A final determination, before CEC approval, of how the coal will be transported to the project site (direct rail spur or trucks from Wasco). This issue is too big in corresponding impacts to be left open after the CEC approval stage. This issue is not at all similar to the fact raised by the applicant of two alternative routes for electrical transmission lines.

Sincerely,

Tom Frantz
President, Association of Irrigated Residents



BEFORE THE ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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**AMENDED APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
FOR THE HYDROGEN ENERGY
CALIFORNIA PROJECT**

**Docket No. 08-AFC-08A
PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 12/24/12)**

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COMMISSION DOCKET UNIT

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DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Tom Frantz , declare that on January 9, 2013, I served and filed copies of the attached Association of Irrigated Residents Status Update, dated January 9, 2013. This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service list, which I copied from the web page for this project at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hydrogen_energy/index.html .

The document has been sent to the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, as appropriate, in the following manner:

(Check one)

For service to all other parties and filing with the Docket Unit at the Energy Commission:

I e-mailed the document to all e-mail addresses on the Service List above and personally delivered it or deposited it in the US mail with first class postage to those parties noted above as "hard copy required"; OR

Instead of e-mailing the document, I personally delivered it or deposited it in the US mail with first class postage to all of the persons on the Service List for whom a mailing address is given.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that I am over the age of 18 years.

Dated: January 9, 2013

Signed:

