



# City of Palm Springs

Steve Pougnet, Mayor

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September 3, 2008

<b>DOCKET</b> <b>07-AFC-3</b>
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Chair Jackalyne Pfannenstiel  
Vice Chair James Boyd  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Chair Pfannenstiel and Vice Chair Boyd:

I wish to take this opportunity to express my strong support for the CPV Sentinel Standby Power Project that is currently before the California Energy Commission for approval.

I regret that I cannot attend today's Preliminary Staff Assessment hearing, but today is our first City Council meeting after our August hiatus and the agenda is extremely full.

We critically need the CPV Sentinel project in the Coachella Valley. Power blackouts are all too common occurrences in the Coachella Valley. The California Public Utilities Agency has mandated that Southern California Edison bring more power on line. CPV Sentinel is the right solution.

CPV Sentinel will protect us from blackouts, as the plant will generate electricity only during times of emergency – when power supplies are precariously low. Sentinel will benefit the local economy by creating needed jobs and local tax revenues.

The CPV project will benefit the local water supply because CPV is importing twice the quantity of water to the local aquifer than the power project will ever use. The additional water will remain in the local groundwater basin to benefit our groundwater supply. In addition, CPV will implement important water conservation measures that will save even more water. CPV has worked with Desert Water Agency to create these direct and streamlined water supply solutions.

I commend the DWA Board and Staff for its leadership, and its ability to accomplish for the benefit of all citizens in our region.

California Energy Commission  
September 3, 2008  
Page 2

Finally, I want to stress the importance of the CPV Sentinel Standby Power Project to the goal of expanding renewable energy in California. Solar and wind power generation will always need the complement of clean standby power projects to support the energy grid in times when the sun is not shining or the wind is not blowing. CPV Sentinel will help make the goal of increasing reliance on new renewable energy sources a reality.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support for the CPV Sentinel Standby Power Project. I urge you to swiftly approve the CPV project, and to not allow Mission Springs Water District to delay CPV Sentinel any longer than the District has already.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve P. Pougnet". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "P" and "S".

Steve Pougnet, Mayor  
City of Palm Springs

SP:mme