

# *Shafter~Wasco Irrigation District*

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ROGER RILEY

16294 Highway 43

P.O. Box 1168  
Wasco, California 93280

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**Business Office: (661) 758-5153**  
**Fax: (661) 758-6167**  
**Water Department: (661) 758-5369**

*General Manager*  
**JERRY L. EZELL**

*Office Manager/Treasurer*  
CAROLYN WALDRIP

*Legal Counsel*  
ERNEST A. CONANT  
SCOTT K. KUNEY

March 14, 2013

Robert Worl, Project Manager  
California Energy Commission  
Via E-mail: Robert.Worl@energy.ca.gov

HECA Docket 08 AFC 08A

Blake Roberts, Public Advisor  
California Energy Commission  
Via E-mail: Blake.Roberts@energy.ca.gov



Reference: Hydrogen Energy California

Gentlemen:

I am writing on behalf of the Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District (SWID) Board of Directors. Our district is composed of approximately 32,000 acres of prime agricultural farmland in the northern part of Kern County. I have recently become aware of the above mentioned project and have questions regarding potential impacts to our district.

I understand that there is a significant demand, in the order of 7,000 acre-feet per year, of water supply to operate the proposed Hydrogen Energy California (HECA) project near Buttonwillow. The district is requesting information on the source of this water and how the water supply in our basin is being impacted. If removed from the basin what are the plans to replace this water?

The HECA will require coal in the manufacturing process that will either be trucked or by rail car to the project site. The SWID office is located on possible routes for both trucks and trains. Travel by truck to deliver up to 350 truck loads of coal from the City of Wasco to the project site will most likely pass through the intersection of Highway 43 and Kimberlina Road where our district office is located. The existing train rail also passes on the east boundary of our district office. The district is interested in receiving information regarding the project transportation plans to move this coal. Please provide the district with a copy of all plans regarding the transportation routes of this coal from off load to the project site.

Your timely response to our questions will be appreciated. If additional information is needed, please contact me at (661) 758-5153. Please docket this letter.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jerry L. Ezell", written over a horizontal line.

Jerry L. Ezell  
General Manager