Energy - Docket Optical System

From: Chris Romanini [roman93311@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2013 9:10 AM
To: mmascaro@scsenergyllc.com; trau@heca.com; glandman@heca.com;
dale_shileikis@urscorp.com; michael.carroll@lw.com; marc.campopiano@lw.com; e-
recipientl@caiso.com; Weber, Marni@DOC; tenslow@adamsbroadwell.com; tom.frantz49
@gmail.com; andrea.issod@sierraclub.org; matt.vespa@sierraclub.org; toconnor@edf.org;
gperidas@nrdc.org; bmfcarland@kerncfb.com; Worl, Robert@Energy; Heiser,
John@Energy; DeCarlo, Lisa@Energy; Energy - Public Adviser's Office; Energy - Docket
Optical System
Cc: dave.warner@valleyair.org; leonard.scandura@valleyair.org; roman93311@aol.com
Subject: coal on the rail tracks and in the air   PDOC comments
Attachments: pos_March_4-1-1-1.doc

May 23, 2013

Comments on the PDOC for HECA by the SJVAPCD

The San Joaquin Valley Air district has not adequately studied the effect of coal and coal
dust coming from the trains in Kern County littering the ground, polluting the air, and
contaminating crops. On May 15, 2013, as documented by Channel 17 news, there was coal
between 4 and 6 inches deep between the rail tracks as far as the eye could see going south
out of Wasco from the coal unloading depot. When disturbed, the wind blew it decidedly to
the south east, as documented by Channel 17. It appears the coal is leaking out of the
bottom of the rail cars. It is also evident that open pipes about 6
inches in diameter are on the side of the rail cars with loose coal ready to fall out. These
pipes dump the coal on the outside of the rails. The volume on the ground is alarming. HECA
said they will not cover their rail cars but will put a spray on the top of the cars to hold
down dust. But that will not stop the drainage from the bottom of the cars as was witnessed.

I am wondering what information Dave Warner has that is not public? He was quoted in the
same 17 News report
saying the rail cars will be totally enclosed. Where is this
information coming from? That statement was also repeated by a speaker in the audience that
same evening at the hearing in Buttonwillow.
Mr. Warner did not correct the speaker, letting the audience believe that coal is enclosed
in the rail cars. I request Mr.
Warner clarify the enclosed rail car statements.

They speak of the enclosed unloading building capturing coal dust.
But the problem is not the building. It is the tracks where the rail cars are sitting. Whether the coal is unloaded in Wasco or at the HECA site, the rail cars will sit in the open
waiting to be unloaded or waiting to return to the coal mine. During this time they leak
coal onto the ground in
large quantities as we see in Wasco. Coal is also spilled from these
cars as they journey through California.

Recognizing now that there is
a problem with coal getting out of the
train, what new studies is the air district doing knowing the problem will escalate with the
huge increase for HECA? What will be the increase of the air pollution in Wasco? Kern
County? What are the risks of loose coal contaminating crops? What is the danger to people
working daily breathing the dust from all that stuff on the ground and in the air? What is
the recourse if ANY coal gets dumped in a right of way or near private property? And what
agency is responsible for overseeing coal leaking from rail cars?  This new information should require additional mitigation knowing our air will be more polluted.

We have not had experience with what could go wrong with leakage from trucks, as is HECA's alternate delivery method.  We ask that the air district or the CEC investigate what could go wrong.  Could coal dribble out the bottom of the coal trucks?  What agency is responsible to oversee such loose coal pollution?  If coal is on the roads or in a field, is that a violation?
Is there a penalty if it happens?  Who is responsible for cleaning it up?  Can that agency stop all operation of HECA until the problem is corrected?

No one is taking care of the mess on the tracks now, even with repeated complaints to SJVAPCD.  How are we to believe anyone will be doing anything more once HECA is built and the problem escalates?

Appreciate your response to these issues.
Chris Romanini
HECA Neighbors
AMENDED APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
FOR THE HYDROGEN ENERGY
CALIFORNIA PROJECT

Docket No. 08-AFC-08A
PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 3/4/13)

SERVICE LIST:

APPLICANT
SCS Energy, LLC
Marisa Mascaro
30 Monument Square, Suite 235
Concord, MA 01742
mmascaro@scsenergyllc.com

Hydrogen Energy California, LLC
George Landman
Director of Finance and
Regulatory Affairs
500 Sansome Street, Suite 750
San Francisco, CA 94111
glandman@heca.com

CONSULTANT FOR APPLICANT
URS Corporation
Dale Shileikis, Vice President
Energy Services Manager
Major Environmental Programs
One Montgomery Street, Suite 900
San Francisco, CA 94104-4538
dale_shileikis@urscorp.com

COUNSEL FOR APPLICANT
Michael J. Carroll
Marc T. Campopiano
Latham & Watkins, LLP
650 Town Center Drive, 20th Fl.
Costa Mesa, CA 92626-1925
michael.carroll@lw.com
marc.campopiano@lw.com

INTERESTED AGENCIES
California ISO
e-recipient@caiso.com

Department of Conservation
Office of Governmental and
Environmental Relations
(Department of Oil, Gas &
Geothermal Resources)
Marni Weber
801 K Street, MS 2402
Sacramento, CA 95814-3530
marni.weber@conservation.ca.gov

INTERVENORS
California Unions for Reliable Energy
Thomas A. Enslow
Marc D. Joseph
Adams Broadwell Joseph & Cardozo
520 Capitol Mall, Suite 350
Sacramento, CA 95814
tenslow@adamsbroadwell.com

Association of Irritated Residents
Tom Frantz
30100 Orange Street
Shafter, CA 93263
*tom.frantz49@gmail.com

Kern-Kaweah Chapter
of the Sierra Club
Andrea Issod
Matthew Vespa
85 Second Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
andrea.issod@sierraclub.org
matt.vespa@sierraclub.org

ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE FUND (EDF)
Timothy O’Connor, Esq.
123 Mission Street, 28th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105
toconnor@edf.org

Kern County Farm Bureau, Inc.
Benjamin McFarland
801 South Mt. Vernon Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93307
bmcfarland@kerncfb.com

HECA Neighbors
c/o Chris Romanini
P.O. Box 786
Buttonwillow, CA 93206
roman93311@aol.com

ENERGY COMMISSION STAFF
Robert Worl
Project Manager
robert.worl.energy.ca.gov

*Indicates Change
ENERGY COMMISSION –
PUBLIC ADVISER
Blake Roberts
Assistant Public Adviser
publicadviser@energy.ca.gov

COMMISSION DOCKET UNIT
CALIFORNIA ENERGY
COMMISSION – DOCKET UNIT
Attn: Docket No. 08-AFC-08A
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.ca.gov

OTHER ENERGY COMMISSION PARTICIPANTS (LISTED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY):

After docketing, the Docket Unit will provide a copy to the persons listed below. Do not send copies of documents to these persons unless specifically directed to do so.

KAREN DOUGLAS
Commissioner and Presiding Member

ANDREW McALLISTER
Commissioner and Associate Member

Raoul Renaud
Hearing Adviser

Galen Lemei
Adviser to Presiding Member

Jennifer Nelson
Adviser to Presiding Member

*Hazel Miranda
Adviser to Associate Member

David Hungerford
Adviser to Associate Member

Patrick Saxton
Adviser to Associate Member

Eileen Allen
Commissioners' Technical Adviser for Facility Siting
DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Chris Romanini, declare that on May 23, 2013, I served and filed copies of the attached coal on the rail tracks, dated May 23, 2013. This document is accompanied by the most recent Proof of Service, which I copied from the web page for this project at: http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/hydrogen_energy/.

The document has been sent to the other persons on the Service List above in the following manner:

(Check one)

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

x 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 persons 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: May 23, 2013

Chris Romanini
HECA Neighbors