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California Energy Commission Docket Unit

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DOCKET	
07-AFC-5	
DATE	<u>AUG 31 2010</u>
RECD.	<u>SEP 01 2010</u>

Re: IVANPAH SOLAR ELECTRIC GENERATING SYSTEM

(Docket Number 07-AFC-5)

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned member of a science class at Saint Leo University in FLorida. We studied the proposal in class, and I personally question your rationale in approving the Ivanpah Solar Electric Generating System (ISEGS) project. The project, even with the mitigation measures described in the Decision Report, will have remaining significant impacts on the environment that out weigh the benefits.

Good Afternoon Sir,

I read your emails you have sent us, and have been thinking a lot about our phone conference we had last Thursday in class with Mr. Clarke, I was the one who asked the question to him regarding how the surrounding population would feel and is it a favorable or an unpopular project in the community, and he responded its overall feeling towards the project were pretty much negative, not to mention what it would do to the wildlife out there. But I wanted to bring a point up that I was thinking about and we touched on a little bit in class, that is the major corporations that are involved BP, Goldman Sacks, Chevron and others. But do we have such short memories or is it that we just flat out do not care as a country, Example 1. Goldman Sachs had to be bailed out by our huge bail out plan we had to use all of our tax payers money, because we were scared of the consequences of what these companies might become if the government didn't intervene. So, now we are saying the same company who wasn't responsible enough to manage their company and money, we are going to give them a hand in one of the biggest and most important scientific projects that will be affecting our future for generations to come? Example 2. BP, this is the next super power of corporations that we are going to give them power and OUR stimulus money, and I stress Ours because they are a foreign company. What is this saying? Look at their track record, they were responsible for the biggest and worst man made disaster in the history of the world, right off of our coasts in

the Gulf region. Their safety record is nothing to brag about either, they have made it perfectly clear to the world that they are more interested in making a buck and saving money anywhere they can. BP has cut corners on safety regulations, and sometimes did not do any safety checks to begin with because they didn't want to spend the extra couple thousand dollars to fix a problem on a rig, instead of spending the money to properly fix their equipment they have now created Billions of dollars in damage, and the final point on BP is there is no amount of money that could replace a life and the men we lost that day out there on that rig. I think we need to step back and reevaluate all of our options, about the companies we hire and who will ultimately get hold of the California stimulus money that we will be using. I don't know about you, but these companies that are front runners and being named in working on the new project in the Mojave Desert if they bring these same fundamental ideas to the table that they have in previous business transactions and deals, we as a country should have nothing to do with them. This is the United States of America, we have the best scientist, engineers and contractors that are perfectly capable of doing a great job on this project lets go a different route. We don't need to hire foreign companies we can create new jobs here and get this underway the proper way, the American way.

I wanted to touch on this aspect of the project that is up in the air and the deadline is coming upon us extremely quick, but this goes beyond our classroom assignment. I thought it is important to take all these points into consideration, we must have the right people on the job, that do not have other motives and corrupt ideas on their minds. Safety must be the number one priority. Lets be smart on who we hire and how our stimulus money is being given to and how it is used, it must be monitored through the whole process.

Thank You Sir, for listening to my opinion and I wanted to write it on my sheet in class on Thursday but didn't have enough time to write it.

Sincerely yours,

Luke A. Haniford.