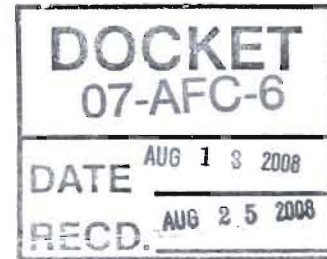




GREG COX
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT
San Diego County Board of Supervisors

August 13, 2008



The Honorable Jackalyne Pfannenstiel
Chairwoman
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairwoman Pfannenstiel:

A critical need exists in California to modernize and replace aging power infrastructure in order to meet the current and future demand for energy in the State. In San Diego County, aging facilities like the Encina Power Plant in Carlsbad top the list of critical infrastructure power projects that need to be replaced.

I am writing to you in support of a cleaner, more efficient power plant for the region that would replace the Encina Power Plant. The Carlsbad Energy Center Project proposed by NRG is the quickest, most reliable way of securing power for the region. While proposed transmission lines in the region are vital to San Diego County's future, replacing old power plants with new, more efficient facilities are also essential measures needed to provide reliable sources of local power for this region for years to come. New facilities are also needed to play backup roles during disruptions caused by man-made or natural disasters.

The Carlsbad Energy Center Project will also produce cleaner energy, with state of the art technology and emissions control equipment. It will operate on natural gas fuel – not oil – and will not use ocean water for cooling.

I urge the California Energy Commission to allow NRG's Carlsbad Energy Center Project to proceed and help San Diego County address our local power generation needs immediately.

Sincerely,

GREG COX
Chairman

cc: Members, California Energy Commission