ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION 1516 NINTH STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95614-5512 www.energy.ca.gov

December 10, 2007

Mel Vernon San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians 1044 North Ivy Street Escondido, CA 92026

PROPOSED NEW POWER PLANT IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Dear Mel Vernon:

Your name was provided to the California Energy Commission (Energy Commission) by the Native American Heritage Commission as a representative of a Native American community who might be interested in the proposed construction and operation of a 96 megawatt power plant near the town of Pala, San Diego County.

The Energy Commission is preparing an environmental document; however if approved, permits to build the power plant, known as the Orange Grove Project, of approximately 96 megawatts, near the town of Pala in San Diego County must be obtained at the local level. You will receive, if you have not already received, specific information about the proposed power plant from the project applicant. Information about the project can also be viewed on the Energy Commission website at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/index.html.

Please review the information you receive from the project applicant, and if you have concerns regarding cultural resources that could potentially be affected by the proposed power plant and related facilities, please contact Dorothy Torres (916-653-3992), Fax: (916) 651-8868; E-mail: <u>dtorres@energy.state.ca.us</u>

The cultural resources staff welcomes your comments. By spring, we anticipate providing a draft staff assessment. We will also be holding workshops and hearings over the coming months on the project and our assessment. You will be notified concerning the times, locations and the topics to be covered. You may also call the Commission's Public Adviser, toll-free at 1-800-822-6228, for assistance in participating in the Energy Commission's review of the proposed project.

Sincerely,

Paul Richins, Manager Environmental Protection Office

cc: Energy Commission Dockets

