

DOCKET**09-AFC-9**

DATE JAN 30 2012

RECD. JAN 31 2012

Magi Allen

422 Vista Street

Ridgecrest, CA. 93555

760-384-4166

30th January 2012

California Energy Commission

1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: Docket No. 09-AFC-9

I was born and raised in Ridgecrest (1949), in fact my parents moved to China Lake back in 1946 when there was not much here, they are both deceased now, but lived their entire adult lives here and they loved it. I moved away when I was seventeen as I had gotten a job in Fullerton, CA., and ended up returning to Ridgecrest when I was thirty as my older son wanted to be in junior high in Ridgecrest, but mostly to be around his grandparents (my parents). He went off to college and I ended up staying another thirty- two years so far!

We ended up buying property up on a hill as you go out of town on South China Lake Blvd. to Highway 395. It is not the last house on the way out of town, I think Dr. Kevin Seymour and family live approximately 2 acres south of where we used to live. I drew up plans (1979) and we built a house which we lived in till approximately December 1991 and then my son, his wife and new daughter moved in the first part of January 1992. After they left the area and moved to Bakersfield I rented the house to a person who wanted to buy it as a lease/buy which I arranged. I also named the street "Lund Avenue" after filing paperwork in Bakersfield, so you can locate that street on the map.

This person redid parts of the house and some different flooring over the years and bought it outright in 1999 I believe.

Anyway, a little background about the house so you would know that I lived **VERY close** to the area that is in question here for the proposed solar plant, and since 1979, so I do have some knowledge of the area up there for sure! My sons had motor bikes and we also used to walk all around the desert there, across the 395 Highway to exactly where the plant is going!

I have to tell you, **I never once** came upon a ground squirrel or a tortoise, not once! We saw snakes, not dangerous ones, many coyotes, wild dog packs, a few foxes even, and once a

mountain lion. Saw some of the biggest scorpions you can imagine and tarantula migrations, very spooky sometimes living that far out, but very quiet and peaceful.

We attended some of the town meetings and it was the same as all the town meetings they hold here – nothing new is allowed. Some of the other things I remember over the years have been a Casino up on Highway 14, a large golf attraction or water park, Walmart (but it came in anyway), and there have been many others. There is a group of people in this town that has been here since I can remember that controls what comes here and what does not and basically who's in and who's out, whatever that means to them. Probably, they get what they want 98% of the time, so you need to appease these people, you do not have to sacrifice your first born, but anything else is probably open for discussion (just kidding of course).

If I remember right, the solar company was going to move any squirrels and tortoises out of the area before building and then have an approved fence that these little animals cannot get back into the area. The head of the water company here, Mr. Tom Mulvihill, said the plant would not be using enough water to stop the business from being here, as compared to many other types of business (I know that is not exactly what he said, but something to that effect).

Someone told me that all the energy produced here would all go to the Los Angeles area. Is that true? I hope that we get to have some energy used for this area, I mean that is only fair, seeing that we only have about 25,000 population. How about supplying enough energy to cover ½ of our homes/renters/and business owners electrical bills, as they have risen fees so much every year (just about) that it is getting too high for everyone!

Wishing you great success and hope that you get the chance to do the project. I think it would be a good addition to the town of Ridgecrest.

Sincerely,

Magi Allen