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September 17th 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

While reading the Daily Review issue Friday 7th 2007, article titled, "Power Providers may offer Incentives" by Matt O'Brien, I found that one of the main issues as to why the decision to allow two power plants to operate in Hayward should not be decided by California Energy Commission, but by the residence of Hayward is fairness. As O'Brien wrote "But the idea that hundreds of area households would be willing to stop burning wood at home, then take advantage of a discount program to switch to cleaner heating systems, is *assumed* as part of the pollution mitigation plans that could allow one or both Hayward plants to go forward" (local 1). The fact that this idea is assumed is alarming enough. Shouldn't the people who are going to have to live with this decision everyday be allowed to vote on this idea as well? In short, shouldn't the people of Hayward choose if these power plants are to be built? I am a resident of San Leandro, and up until now was thinking about moving into Hayward. It is closer to where I go to school, and many of the places in Hayward are beautiful to see and it has a great population filled with diversity. However, I do not believe that I would want to live where two big power plants are, and I don't find the idea of not being able to operate my own fireplace comforting. I would like for my children to enjoy the pleasures of sitting at home and having the fireplace going while drinking hot chocolate, enjoying the crackles and colors of the fire, and the scent of wood burning, as I once did. If I can't enjoy this simple thing in my own home and know that my neighbors can not either but that my siblings can in San Leandro, then I believe that I would just have to settle for where I am now, which is a shame since Hayward has so much more to offer than just the millions of tiny particles waiting to float into the air damaging the lungs and lives of people.

Sincerely,

Deanna Zambrano Vasquez

