Good Morning Mr. Flores:

As a follow up to what I stated in the public meeting yesterday, I am not comfortable with the staff assessment for the Colusa Powerplant which states that roads will be repaired as necessary after construction work has been completed. Clearly the two bridges in question need to be replaced before overloads could be trucked in, but all three County roads, (Delevan, McDermott and Dirks) are not built to very high structural standards and I would expect considerable damage to be done as a result of the overloads that will be brought in. I do not know the details for this particular powerplant but I believe some components moved to the Geysers a few years ago were in excess of two hundred thousand pounds per component. This type of load, even if hauled on the specialized transport trailers will have wheel loads that will likely do a great deal of damage. I would be more comfortable with the requirement of repairing the visibly damaged areas followed by a resurfacing of all roads in question.

Also, as I briefly mentioned in the meeting, the time frames for bridge replacement may pose a problem for the project. The GCID bridge should not run into any environmental issues due to it being an irrigation facility, but Theresa Creek is considered a natural waterway which falls under DFG and USFWS jurisdiction. Some of the delays we experience are due to Federal Highways involvement which should not be an issue if CPV spearheads this, but the involvement of DFG and USFWS will definitely slow things. I am told that 18 months would be optimistically the quickest that project could be designed, permitted and built. The Giant Garter Snake and possibly Chinook salmon will be issues for this bridge.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information on these issues.

Sincerely,

Jon S. Wrysinski

Director of Public Works