



San Diego County Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO

October 17, 2012

Mr. Eric Solorio
Project Manager
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection (STEP) Division
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-2000
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED

11-AFC-3

TN # 67797

OCT 17 2012

Dear Mr. Solorio,

The San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council (Building Trades Council) is pleased to offer this letter of support for the Quail Brush Generation Project (Quail Brush) before the California Energy Commission (CEC) holds its public Status Conference. We believe this project is required for public convenience and necessity and is critical to the San Diego region's future. We urge the Commission to continue the environmental review process for Quail Brush.

The Building Trades Council represents 22 unions and more than 30,000 workers, including the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 569. These members build projects like Quail Brush. The development of the Quail Brush Generation Project is a necessity to our region because it will go hand-in-hand with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) meeting their 33 percent renewable energy goal. SDG&E will have the capacity to pursue additional solar and wind projects since Quail Brush will help stabilize the grid during dips in renewable energy production. Quail Brush's quick-start technology will help San Diego maintain a steady supply of electricity as more and more intermittent renewable energy resources are brought online.

Additionally, the region's energy reliability relies on Quail Brush as the future of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station remains uncertain and older facilities that use once-through cooling technology, such as the Encina Power Station in Carlsbad, are forced to undergo retrofitting or shut down completely by 2017. The region's energy needs are also growing with the population. SANDAG estimates that San Diego County's population will increase by 40 percent over the next few decades. Additional in-basin generation will be required to meet these needs.

On behalf of the Building Trades Council, I hope you take into account the vital need for this facility. Please approve the project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tom Lemmon
Business Manager
San Diego County Building &
Construction Trades Council