

# **S.O.R.E.**

(Save Our Rural Economy)  
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October 11, 2012

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

California Energy Commission

**DOCKETED**  
**11-AFC-3**

TN # 67833

OCT. 18 2012

Dear Mr. Solorio:

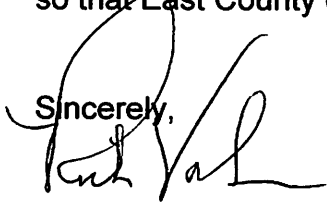
Save Our Rural Economy (S.O.R.E.) is a California non-profit social welfare corporation made up of ranchers, farmers, entrepreneurs/business owners, health care providers, tribal members and residents dedicated to preserving property values and a vigorous economy in East San Diego County's backcountry. We understand that the California Energy Commission (CEC) will be discussing whether the Quail Brush Generation Project (Quail Brush) is required for public convenience and necessity at a status conference next week, and we would like to provide our thoughts on this issue. In short, S.O.R.E believes Quail Brush is needed to make sure San Diego County has a reliable electric system.

In order for San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) to meet its 33 percent renewable energy goal, SDG&E must expand its portfolio by developing more renewable energy resources. This is why peaker plants have become more vital to our electric grid than ever before. Quail Brush will allow for this renewable development to occur without causing blackouts during dips in production.

The project will also improve energy reliability throughout San Diego County as a result of its ability to start quickly when demand for electricity is high. Quail Brush's high efficient technology allows the plant to supply power within 10 minutes, whereas old generation facilities can take up to 12 hours. Our region's need for this type of facility is especially apparent with the uncertainty of the San Onofre nuclear plant and the potential retirement of old generation facilities.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to seeing Quail Brush move forward so that East County can begin realizing the benefits of clean and reliable power.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Volker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "V".

Rich Volker,  
Chairman