



September 26, 2012

Commissioner Karen Douglas
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Quail Brush Generation Project Application for Certification Docket No. 11-AFC-3 OPPOSE

Dear Commissioner Douglas:

Soon you will be asked to make a significant decision with regard to the City of San Diego's future. The intent of this letter is to respectfully ask that you deny all requests from Cogentrix LLC to build a power plant on the outskirts of San Diego in the area known as East Elliott. Such an edifice would be a huge mistake, a travesty of justice, and blight on the landscape.

Save Mission Trails is a nonprofit, mutual benefit corporation dedicated to preserving and protecting areas adjacent to Mission Trails Regional Park from development. We have been involved in the process of opposing the permitting of this project since it was first made public nearly a year ago. We reach out to all of San Diego with a strong following from East County. As such, we represent the majority view of the citizens in the surrounding communities. We urge the Commission, in the very strongest terms, to reject the Quail Brush Generation Project.

Throughout the course of your deliberations, you will be presented with many details concerning the project. Some of these have been well thought out, but nothing you hear will change these four facts:

- 1) That the process requires breaking faith with the original planning concept for San Diego as defined and envisioned by San Diego's past leaders and validated by the current San Diego City Council on Sept. 24, 2012, with its unanimous decision to reject the Quail Brush project and request that Cogentrix withdraw their application from consideration by the CEC. Rezoning a key part of the last piece of really "Open Space" left in San Diego County would be a tragedy.
- 2) That no matter what mitigating acts take place, and in contravention of San Diego's adopted Multiple Species Conservation Plan, there will always be a huge, ugly, and unnecessary power station on the very visible and geographic boundaries of the largest and most beautiful regional park in the nation.

Save Mission Trails Corporation, 8824 Annandale Way, Santee, CA 92071

Inspiring the preservation and conservation of Mission Trails Regional Park and adjoining East Elliott Community Open Space



- 3) That in spite of all the rules governing compliance with existing regulations, this power plant will exhaust the majority of its toxic and carcinogenic exhaust fumes over a high school and future elementary school less than half a mile away, three elementary/middle schools in close proximity to the proposed site, parks and playing fields less than half a mile away, and the surrounding communities with a population of over 300,000 residents.
- 4) That, given the strength of the Wall Street connections of the applicant and builder and the national hunger for cheap energy, this power station will become permanent and operate at all available times for half a century to come.

The "Quail Brush Power Plant" will negatively impact the tranquility of Mission Trails Regional Park and create known health risks to local communities. We strongly urge the California Energy Commission to oppose the initiation of the Quail Brush project and consider developing renewable solar energy sources that are already reducing the need for fossil fuel burning plants such as Quail Brush.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors, Save Mission Trails

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