



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY

President Michael R. Peevey
Commissioner Timothy Alan Simon
Commissioner Mike Florio
Commissioner Catherine J.K. Sandoval
Commissioner Mark J. Ferron
Public Utilities Commission
State of California
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED
11-AFC-03

TN # 69094

JAN. 10 2013

Dear President Peevey and Commissioners:

January 10, 2013

The San Diego County League of Women Voters supports the Proposed Decision of Administrative Law Judge Yacknin of 11/20/2012 and the Alternate Proposed Decision by Commissioner Ferron to deny a power purchase agreement for the Quail Brush, Pio Pico, and Escondido gas peaker power plants.

The League of Women supports an energy policy which reduces greenhouse gas emissions giving primary consideration to conservation, energy efficiency and renewable resources while protecting the environment and public health and safety. This is in direct accord with your Loading Order, which was approved on January 12, 2012, which defers any new procurement of fossil fuel generation. This is based on the belief that long-term energy needs do not warrant the construction of more fossil fuel infrastructure, which contributes to global warming. The Loading Order also requires California's utilities to prioritize electricity sources. Energy efficiency and conservation must be employed first to meet consumer demand followed by the use of energy from renewable resources such as wind, solar and geothermal. Only after those supplies are exhausted may the utility purchase power from fossil fuel plants.

According to the California Energy Commission (CEC), the state has about 30 percent more power than is needed on peak energy days. Your data anticipates that the state will be 60 to 80 percent over-built by 2020, should current trends continue.

An article from the Wall Street Journal by Rebecca Smith published on January 2, 2013 reports that U.S. electricity use is decreasing and the power companies are compensating for this financial loss by focusing on projects that can be built quickly. These three projects in San Diego County are a perfect example of this. SDG&E will be paid to build these facilities, if approved, if they are needed or not. These proposed projects defy both your Loading Order and the health and safety of the citizens of San Diego County, all for SDG&E's financial gain.

We urge the Commission to formalize the recommendation of the above mentioned decisions and vote to officially deny a power purchase agreement for the Quail Brush, Pio Pico, and Escondido gas peaker power plants.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

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