

DOCKET

08-AFC-5

DATE MAY 13 2010

RECD. MAY 27 2010



Docket

May 13, 2010

The Honorable Karen Douglas
Chairwoman
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Tessera Solar Imperial Valley Solar Project

Dear Chairwoman Douglas and Honorable Commissioners,

The County of Imperial has been identified as one of the best resources for renewable energy within the United States. The El Centro City Council has proactively supported the development of clean energy solutions throughout Imperial County.

The potential for solar energy resources in Imperial County could be a significant benefit to the electricity needs for all Californians with estimates exceeding 7,000 megawatts of solar capacity.

In addition to the extensive benefits to the environment from clean renewable energy, the development of this industry would be a significant economic benefit to the City of El Centro and the Imperial Valley. Green jobs in the clean energy industry would provide needed quality employment for the residents of El Centro, currently suffering from high unemployment.

Tessera Solar is processing approvals for a 750-megawatt solar generating facility to be located west of El Centro in the Imperial Valley utilizing the Stirling Energy Systems SunCatcher technology. The SunCatcher is the most efficient solar process in the world and uses very little water – a precious commodity in our county. The Tessera Solar Imperial Valley Solar Plant will be advantageous to the environment by emitting no harmful greenhouse gasses.


Office of the City Manager

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Furthermore, the Imperial Valley Solar Project will generate hundreds of construction and permanent jobs, as well as contribute millions of dollar of revenue into the local economy.

Therefore, the El Centro City Council encourages the California Energy Commission to approve the Tessera Solar Imperial Valley Solar Plant in a timely manner. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Cheryl Viegas-Walker
Mayor

CC: Vice Chair James Boyd
~~Commissioner Jeffrey Byron~~
Commissioner Anthony Eggert
Commissioner Robert Weisenmiller