



March 3, 2010

*** NEWS RELEASE ***

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At the Lancaster City Council meeting of Feb. 24, spokesperson for D.C.A.P. Lyle Talbot, alerted the members of the impending consequences should the City of Palmdale go forward with the planned power plant to be built at Sierra Hwy. & Ave. "M" (the Lancaster/Palmdale "Cactus Curtain") next to AF Plant 42. Mayor Ledford plans to offer discounted energy to the aircraft industry and city residents. Palmdale became a Charter City at the last election and has applied to a state commission for permission become a "public utility" such as the Cities of Los Angeles and Burbank are so designated.

Mayor Ledford should consider the following points before further investing his City's funds:

■ The Antelope Valley is the "Saudi Arabia" of wind and solar energy resources. A fact recognized by the energy industry.

■ Palmdale will invest over \$1-billion on it's so-called eco-friendly, "hybrid", 570-megawatt, facility that is only 10% solar power and overwhelmingly, 90% fossil fuel (natural gas) with all the related noxious fumes - unlike wind and solar.

■ Lancaster residents will become the "down-winders" of noxious off-gases because of the Valley's prevailing South West winds.

■ The Antelope Valley Air Quality District (AVAQMD) office has confirmed the plant will become the largest source of air pollution in our "shared" Valley. Calculated on a scale of "10" it would probably be rated an "11"...plus!

■ While currently Plant 42 is considered to be the largest, single source, on a scale of "10" it is only about a "5".

■ So combining the two sources we will have a "mega-number".

■ Palmdale may be able to sell it's power at a cheaper rate than Edison if the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) grants them such authority. It may not be a certainty.

■ Gov. Schwarzenegger has decreed that all the State's public utilities must meet a 33% goal to use renewable energy sources (solar and wind) by the year 2013, in an effort to end reliance on fossil fuel. As of February 2010 So. Cal Edison has already attained about 16% of that goal so the demand for fossil-fueled plants could diminish in the long run.

■ California presently uses only about 80% of the available energy capacity and with the Governor's mandate, some fossil fuel plants may have to come off line. There is no shortage at this time and that could be expressed as a 20% surplus.

■ Also the price of natural gas will continue to rise and it has been highly, volatile over the past five years.

The source of information contained here-in is from the Valley's environmental organization, D.C.A.P. based on a report titled, "Green Opportunities", which can be verified on Pacific Environment's website... www.pacificenvironment.org

QUESTIONS ABOUND

■ Why should Palmdale "buck" the trend when there are so many natural and sustainable resources here in the Valley?

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■ Why would the taxpayers of Palmdale risk their money on such a speculative venture when demand for fossil-fuel plants could possibly be on the decline?

■ Why subject your "Sister City", Lancaster and outlying areas to the North and East to so much added pollution?

■ Will the two Palmdale members on the Antelope Valley AQMD vote for more pollution, despite knowing that it will cause even more asthma problems for the many children in Lancaster and the entire Valley? Will they? It remains to be seen.

■ Isn't the fugitive dust in our Valley bad enough already? Without adding noxious gases to the atmosphere?

■ Palmdale has committed \$9.1 million to extended the "purple pipeline" recycled sewer water from Lancaster to it's power plant. Some of that sewer water is from Palmdale's housing developments on the north/west side of town which uses the Lancaster sewage treatment plant.

■ How many dollar\$ has Palmdale spent already with Inland Energy, for, permits and plans to buy (what may turn out to be a "pig in a poke")?

■ Why not join Lancaster in promoting more wind and solar projects such as E-Solar which is only 6 miles up Sierra Hwy.

■ In the Valley Press article Nov. 29) Business Editor, Jim Skeen quoted Mayor Ledford: "The power plant is the key to creating more jobs and opportunity at Plant 42." DCAP feels that is more more about Palmdale raising revenue for the City's coffers as sales tax revenue is way down from the glory days.

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Also, if it turns out there is a diminishing demand for fossil-fueled energy in the state, Pamdale's Mayor Ledford may be placing his City's wager on the a losing pony in the California "Energy Derby".

END

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ADDENDUM

March 5, 2010

One only has to pick up the Valley Press (Mar. 5), whose headline story enumerates the health risks in the Antelope Valley to substantiate DCAP's claim: the proposed Palmdale Power Plant will most certainly add to and exacerbate the risk of contracting the Valley's #1 dreaded cause of death - emphysema! *attached*

cc: A.V. Press
A.V. News
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Calif. Energy Commission

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hidden hike?

News ■ A3



they're biting

Outdoors ■ C5



win an Oscar?

Showcase ■ S14



Friday

March 5, 2010

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94th year No. 339

Antelope Valley Press

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Today's Outlook



Partly cloudy. Highs in 50s to lower 60s. Lows in upper 30s to mid-40s. Southwest winds 10 to 20 mph.

Weather C8

Local B1

We're living risky in Antelope Valley

Health, wellness should be a 'community effort'

by CHARLES F. BOSTWICK
Valley Press Managing Editor

PALMDALE — Just as Lancaster, Palmdale and sheriff's officials' efforts drove down crime rates, a leading local physician is calling for a concerted drive to improve Antelope Valley residents' health.

Speaking Thursday to more than 200 businesspeople and community leaders, Dr. Phillip Tusso said Antelope Valley residents' likelihood of dying from conditions like diabetes, heart disease and emphysema is far greater than for people elsewhere in Los Angeles County.

"It's something the people in this room can work together on," said Tusso, a Kaiser Permanente physician who is a board member of the United Way's Antelope Valley Region, a board

member of Antelope Valley Partners for Health and Lancaster Community Hospital's quality management chairman.

Tusso, keynote speaker at the Antelope Valley United Way's second annual CEO Business Summit, said Antelope Valley residents' age-adjusted mortality rate per 100,000 population is 205 for coronary heart disease, compared to 168 for Los Angeles County overall; 67 for emphysema, compared to 31 countywide; 56 for stroke, compared to 41 countywide; and 44 for diabetes, compared to 25 countywide.

Overall, he said, Antelope Valley's age-adjusted mortality rate is 868 per 100,000 population, compared to 661 countywide.

He suggested setting a goal of dropping the Valley mortality rate to 600 — just like Valley officials set and a goal of lowering the serious

crime rate to 300 per 10,000 residents.

Others at the summit, conducted as a breakfast meeting at the Antelope Valley Country Club, agreed that a community effort can help improve Valley residents' health. They said improving the health of the Valley work force makes economic sense.

"The best thing about this summit is that it brings all the right people together," Palmdale School District trustee Sandy Corrales-Eneix said, naming education, health care and business leaders. "This can be our next great venture together."

Palmdale School District's health insurance premiums are 10% higher than they would be elsewhere in Los Angeles County, superintendent Roger Gallizzi said.

See LIVING on A5.

Mortality rates

Age-adjusted per 100,000 population	AV	L.A. County
Motor vehicle accident	22	10
Emphysema	67	31
Lung cancer	51	35
Diabetes	44	25
Stroke	56	41
Coronary heart disease	205	168
Colon cancer	13	15
Breast cancer	27	21
All causes (not all diseases shown)	868	661

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, June 2009 report (2006 data)

He brought

'Stand up for right to education'