

DOCKETED

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Quail Brush Power Plant AFC (11-AFC-03): Deny 2nd Suspension and Vacate Application

Could Better Filters To Be Created At The CEC?

I am an intervenor who opposes this illogical application and Cogentrix's request for a second suspension. I respectfully ask the Commissioners to use our tax dollars and public resources of time and energy sparingly by denying this nonsensical second request for suspension and vacating the Quail Brush application for good. Common sense must prevail and politics put aside if we are truly to advance as a society. Be brave, be bold, and do what is right for our planet and its inhabitants.

The CEC approved the start of this originally incomplete application, violating their own previous decision to not allow any power plant application to go forth without the exhaustive consideration of alternatives. AND YET this application was allowed to slip through ... CAUSING TREMENDOUS community grief, aggravation, and umpteen hours of united and varied hard work on top of already heavily burdened lives. We (a coalition of citizens, organizations and city officials) worked long and hard ... and won several battles against a GIANT—equipped with vast resources and staffers who were paid to fight in excess of normal working hours. They were fighting for a thicker lined pocket, not for an ethically rich purpose in the interest of mankind.

It has been proven that the alternatives presented were extremely limited - all in the East Elliot area – an area with protections against such a venture ... and yet we still have to fight for the enforcement of those protections, it seems. All the regulatory bodies of San Diego voted strongly against this application for both siting and use, preferring to stick to our city's plan to move toward solar on rooftops in sunny San Diego rather than emit pollutants that will drastically and negatively affect the old and young alike.

What's the purpose of extending the survival time of such a flawed application that has not substantially changed? A new and greener application is needed in a more suitable area, NOT a recycling of the old one. Perhaps Cogentrix should broaden their minds and think outside the box. A novel idea: Work with the city's plan by funding the rooftop solar initiatives and working out their profit that way. Yes, change is difficult when one has a cookie cutter mentality.

In 2014, in a land BOUNTIFULLY overflowing with sunshine and when the reasonable opportunity exists for the use of green and non polluting fuel sources, it is baffling how this application for a second suspension of a majorly flawed application can be allowed to be presented even for a moment. Shouldn't there be some kind of gatekeeping mechanism at the CEC? While allowing applications to come through, couldn't there be a group that evaluates the merits of the application against the goals of the various national energy committees to determine if the public's resources and time should be spent moving forward?

I challenge the Commissioners to do the right thing for EVERY being. The goal is something the US Navy, Federal Government, environmentalists, and millions of her citizens want – a cleaner and greener environment in which to raise their families and to thrive for the rest of their lives. The purpose of progress is to better everything for ALL – that does not mean to take the easy and low road, but a higher one that makes us reach beyond our grasp while pulling our fellow man forward.

With sincere thanks for your thoughtful consideration.

Roslind Varghese
Citizen Intervenor