September 24, 2009

The Honorable Joan Buchanan  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0015

Dear Assembly Member Buchanan:

On June 15, 2009, the California Energy Commission received an Application for Certification (AFC) from Mariposa Energy, LLC to construct and operate the Mariposa Energy Project (MEP). The MEP would be a natural-gas fired, simple cycle peaking facility with a generating capacity of 200 megawatts (MW). The proposed project site is in northeastern Alameda County, in an unincorporated area approximately seven miles northwest of Tracy, seven miles east of Livermore, six miles south of Byron, and approximately 2.5 miles west of the community of Mountain House in San Joaquin County.

On August 26, 2009, the Energy Commission accepted the AFC as complete and staff has now begun the data discovery and analysis phase of the project’s 12-month licensing process. Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings on the proposal to determine whether MEP should be approved for construction and operation and under what set of conditions should approval be granted. These workshops and hearings will provide the public and local, state and federal agencies the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project.

The first event is the combined Informational Hearing and Site Visit scheduled for October 1, 2009. The Informational Hearing and Site Visit will be followed by the Energy Commission staff’s Data Response and Issues Resolution Workshop which will be scheduled at later date. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings separately at least 10 days prior to each meeting.

We are available to brief you and your staff on the Energy Commission's power plant review process and the specifics of the MEP application. Please contact Chris Marxen, Assistant Executive Director, Office of Governmental Affairs, at (916) 654-4942, if you would like a briefing. If your constituents would like to participate in the Energy Commission’s review of the project, they should contact the Energy Commission’s Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489 or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228.

The status of the project, copies of notices, an electronic version of the AFC, and other relevant documents are available on the Energy Commission’s Internet web site at http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/mariposa. You can also subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices at http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html.

Sincerely,

Originally Signed By
MELISSA JONES  
Executive Director