May 13, 2011

Energy Commission Docket Unit
Docket No 09–AFC-3

Mountain House . . . bet you are thinking the town . . . Right?

I am writing on behalf of several members of the community of Mountain House - not to be confused with the town of Mountain House - by whom our identity was taken. The proof of this is inevitable by the fact that we have completely been ignored by both the Proposed Mariposa Energy Project (PMEP) and the California Energy Commission (CEC). During a previous meeting CEC was asked "if they knew that there was such a community " in Alameda County, downwind and a stone’s throw away from the project. The answer was no but, not CEC’s fault, maybe the (PMEP) failed to disclose this information.

We are the closest residents to the PMEP and yet we have been overlooked in the Project Review Process to the extent of never receiving informational notices of the project or meeting notices. Is this because there are senior citizens living 1/2 mile or less from the project who do not have access to the internet or other sources of communications that are chosen to be ignored, banking on the premonition that they don’t care? Or is it because the PMEP is not a "good neighbor" and the CEC condones their actions?

Issues have been addressed, i.e., emissions, hazardous materials, biological conditions, fire protection, water supply, environmental justice, noise and vibration, visual resources, etc. They will become the everyday obstacles our community will see and breathe every day of our lives. Our property will be radically devalued with this project in our backyard. Has the (PMEP) informed you as to what mitigation they have done for the residents in our community?

It appears Mountain House community, not those in Mountain House town, will deal with the shadow of this project. The risk is to the nearby downwind community. And whether those impacts are small or large, nonexistent or life-changing, is entirely beside the point.

We have been urged and some of us have, submitted our written comments or spoke their concerns just to be humiliated by lawyers. Are our comments just to make us feel better as there hasn’t been any responses to our concerns?

It has been told that power plants typically "don’t make the best neighbors"- we can see why.

Sincerely,

Dolores Kuhn
doletteskuhn@yahoo.com
Jane Peterson
Joan Uznay