

Commissioners, good afternoon. My name is Mary Lou Shively, I am the President of WiChaKa Council #222 Improved Order of Red Man/Degree of Pocahontas. WiChaKa has been in Oakley for 75 years **and I have been a member here in town for 60 years.** We consider our organization to be an important part of the community. Our National Charity is Alzheimer's, but at the end of the day, we simply try to make Oakley a better place to live. Which gets me to this project. In May, I'll be 85 years old, I've seen all these East County towns grow from outposts, to what I think are very large Cities today, and for the life of me, I can't understand why anyone would not be supportive of this project. Antioch is so desperate for revenue right now, we're so lucky we're not in their position. We have to be very careful we don't start to look this gift horse in the mouth. For the first time in years, we have private industry trying to locate in our city, which brings a tax base, which every city needs. More important to me, the backers of the Oakley Generating Station have made a binding commitment to our non-profit community, which if properly nurtured, could last 10, or 15 years, helping our residents for years to come. In the non-profit world, we believe in supporting not only our own cause, but other people and initiatives that share our values. We feel the backers of the Oakley Generating Station share our values, and because of that, we ask you to quickly approve their project.

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