California Energy Commission  
Attn: Commissioner Robert B. Weisenmiller  
1516 Ninth St.  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512  

Dear Commissioner Weisenmiller:  

Although you will be hearing from local representatives of the Carpenters Union, I am taking the unusual step of communicating directly with you regarding the Genesis Solar Evidentiary Hearing on July 12. I want to express our strong support for this particular project and by extension our support for the extraordinary efforts California and the California Energy Commission have been making to kick start America’s transition to a renewable energy future.

One only need look to our own Gulf Coast and the continuing tragic conflicts in the Middle East to understand the necessity for abundant, environmentally clean sources of domestic energy. California’s commitment to clean energy helps insure that a rapidly growing and technologically evolving domestic renewable energy industry can fulfill that critical need.

The persistent economic downturn, felt strongly in California, adds urgency to this mission. Thousands of jobs will be provided by the billions of dollars that must be invested to make this transition a reality. It could not come at a better time; for the health of our planet, the security of our nation, the economy of our state and the personal livelihood of the workers the renewable industry will need to build this future. I am expressing to you the commitment of our organization, 750,000 members strong, to this effort.

But I offer one caveat to you as you review the issues. It is not only the technology of this emerging industry that is evolving; the construction procedures that this new industry will require are evolving as well. In order to provide cost-effective renewable energy, it is critical that the industry have the flexibility of determining the proper mix of workers needed to construct their facilities.

I urge you to be especially cautious of any labor organizations that express opposition to these urgently needed renewable energy projects on environmental grounds. While it is their right, their motives may be to pressure developers and their chosen contractors to sign outdated labor agreements that do not
fit the needs of this newly emerging and evolving industry. It will not only add extra, unnecessary, uncompetitive costs, it will hamper and obstruct the process of innovation essential to this vital industry. The clean energy revolution is too important to allow these tactics especially under the guise of environmental concern.

We are prepared to work with industry and the local communities where these facilities will be sited, to provide well-trained, skilled workers where needed by industry requirements.

We look forward to your expeditious due diligence and approval of the Genesis Solar project as quickly as possible. We need the energy and we need the work.

If you have any questions regarding the position of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters that are not answered by our representatives at your hearing please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Douglas J. McCarron
GENERAL PRESIDENT

DJM/dc/jb
APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION FOR THE
GENESIS SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT

Docket No. 09-AFC-8

PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 6/7/10)

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*indicates change
DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, Maria Santourdjian declare that on July 13, 2010, I served and filed copies of the attached Letter from National Carpenters Union Regarding Genesis Support. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent Proof of Service list, located on the web page for this project at: [http://ww.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/genesis_solar].

The documents have been sent to both the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the Proof of Service list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

(Check all that Apply)

FOR SERVICE TO ALL OTHER PARTIES:

x sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;

_____ by personal delivery;

x by delivering on this date, for mailing with the United States Postal Service with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid, to the name and address of the person served, for mailing that same day in the ordinary course of business; that the envelope was sealed and placed for collection and mailing on that date to those addresses NOT marked “email preferred.”

AND

FOR FILING WITH THE ENERGY COMMISSION:

x sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed respectively, to the address below (preferred method);

OR

_____ depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
Attn: Docket No. 09-AFC-8
1516 Ninth Street, MS-4
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
docket@energy.state.ca.us

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, that I am employed in the county where this mailing occurred, and that I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the proceeding.

Originally Signed by Maria Santourdjian