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Reject NRGs Power Plant in Oxnard -- Puente Power Project (P3) Docket Number: 15-AFC-01

Friday, June 1, 2018

Subject: Reject NRGs Power Plant in Oxnard -- Puente Power Project (P3) Docket Number: 15-AFC-01

Dear Commissioners Janea Scott and Karen Douglas,

I'm writing to ask you to deny NRG's request for a further extension on the application for the Puente Power Plant.

"Our duty to the whole, including to the unborn generations, bids us to restrain an unprincipled present-day minority from wasting the heritage of these unborn generations. The movement for the conservation of wildlife and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose and method."

-- Theodore Roosevelt

Puente was always a bad idea. The proposal to build more fossil fuel infrastructure on Oxnard's beaches is inconsistent with California's goal of a clean energy future, and its commitment to expanding environmental justice. This project would be damaging to California communities. The city of Oxnard already has some of the highest asthma rates in the state. We should be working to clean the air, not endanger California communities with more pollution.

Additionally, this project is uneconomical and unnecessary. Puente would cost more than twice as much as it would cost to meet the same electricity needs with renewables. Clean energy solutions can create more good, local jobs in the Oxnard area--for a fraction of the cost.

I am thankful that the Commission recognized the environmental consequences of Puente and announced its intention to reject the facility's permit. Now, Southern California Edison is pursuing clean alternatives to Puente.

This is a project whose time has passed. Now more than ever, California's leadership is essential to lead our nation toward a clean energy economy "we aren't going to get there by building uneconomical projects that lock in more pollution and dependence on fossil fuels. It is time for the Commission to take the final step, and officially deny NRG's application.

The residents of Oxnard have spoken out against Puente at every opportunity, and deserve the finality of a final Commission decision. Please deny NRG's request for an extension, issue a final decision, and provide closure to the residents of Oxnard.

"If we've learned any lessons during the past few decades, perhaps the most important is that preservation of our environment is not a partisan challenge; it's common sense. Our physical health, our social happiness, and our economic well-being will be sustained only by all of us working in partnership as thoughtful, effective stewards of our natural resources."

-- Ronald Reagan

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,
Christopher Lish
San Rafael, CA