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HUNTINGTON BEACH ENERGY PROJECT

BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

In the matter of the: Huntington Beach Energy Project,

Docket No. 12 AFC 02

COMMITTEE CONFERENCE ON THE
REVISED PRESIDING MEMBER’S
PROPOSED DECISION

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
1516 9TH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2014
APPEARANCES

COMMITTEE:

Andrew McAllister, Presiding Member and Commissioner
Karen Douglas, Associate Member and Commissioner

ADVISORS:

Pat Saxton, Advisor to Commissioner McAllister
Jennifer Nelson, Advisor to Commissioner Douglas

HEARING OFFICER:

Susan Cochran

STAFF:

Felicia Miller, Project Manager
Kevin Bell, Staff Counsel

APPLICANT:

Melissa Foster, Applicant's Attorney (via telephone)

INTEVERNOR:

Monica Rudman

OTHERS PRESENT:

Edward Mainland (via telephone)
James Stewart (via telephone)
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HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Good afternoon.

This is Susan.

I'm sorry.

We're going to be starting now.

COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: Maybe I can have a microphone over here.

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Sure. I think it will reach.

COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: Greetings everyone.

How many people do we have on here?

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Three.

COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: Just a few. Okay.

Welcome to the Huntington Beach Energy Project Committee Meeting.

This is a closed session, but of course, as a notice of session, there's a chance for public comment.

I'm Andrew McAllister. I'm the lead commissioner on HBEP case (verbatim).

Let's see. I won't go around the room here.

At this point, I'll consider the hearing -- the committee meeting open and pass it to Susan Cochran, the hearing officer.
HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Thank you very much.

We're here today to meet on the Huntington Beach Energy Project.

The agenda is divided into four parts.

Commissioner McAllister has already opened the meeting.

We'll now take public comments.

At that point, there will be a closed session, and finally, the meeting will open again in open session to announce the conclusion of the closed session and adjourn (verbatim).

I see we have a few folks on the line. I recognize Melissa Foster who is counsel for AES Southland, the applicant.

Ms. Foster, do you have any comments that you'd like to share with the committee at this time?

ATTORNEY FOSTER: I do not. I'm just monitoring the public comment.

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Thank you very much.

We have two call-in users who are not identified. What I'm going to do is I'm going to mute call-in user five so that, if someone could identify themselves, we'll know who you are.

MR. MAINLAND: My name is Edward Mainland, and I'm a ratepayer in PG&G territory from Novato, California.

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Mr. Mainland, could you
MR. MAINLAND: M-a-i-n-l-a-n-d.

MR. MAINLAND: Yes, I do.

My comments are as follows:

I'd like to, first of all, call the Commission's attention to a filing by James Stewart on October 24th that lays out ten reasons why this energy project should not be approved (verbatim).

Among the ten reasons I'd like to highlight are the facts that it is totally illogical at a time when we're trying to reduce greenhouse gases to put more dirty fuel, gas-fired plants onto the grid.

There are alternatives, and the alternatives are a whole suite of new energy-paradigm solutions -- efficiency, conservation, storage, demand reduction, CHP, smart web, microgrids (verbatim). These tools are coming along rapidly. They are affordable. They are now competitive. They will be demonstrated as implementable and usable and reliable in short order certainly within a few years of the construction of this plant, which will become obsolete and a burden to ratepayers (verbatim).

The other thing -- the final thing I'd like to
note is that in consideration of this plant the whole problem of methane leakage hasn't been addressed -- methane leakage in the production of natural gas, the distribution of the natural gas, and the use of the natural gas in this plant -- so there are alternatives available, and you haven't looked at all the drawbacks that this plant will make.

Thank you very much.

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Thank you very much. I'm now going to mute you, and I am unmuting the other call-in user.

Other call in user, do you have any comments that you'd like to offer to the committee today?

MR. STEWART: Yes.

This is Jim Stewart.

I wanted to ask if the commissioners will have a chance to consider the comments that I submitted on Friday, and also, I wanted to call attention to the fact that I did submit just an hour ago some support for one of the comments that I made about the Cal ISO peak load. I submitted the Cal ISO data chart which shows that, indeed, there's been a decline in the peak load in California over the past eight years since 2006 and that the Cal ISO peak load is the same now as it was in 1998 and the commission -- the proposed decision says that there's
expected to be more growth in electricity because of increased economic and population growth, and I did the calculation. There's been a 16 percent population growth increase in California since 1998. If the electricity peak demands we're tracking -- the increase in population growth -- it would be 16 percent higher (verbatim). That is flat. I didn't do the calculation on how much economic growth has been in the last 16 years since 1998, but it's probably -- our GNP has doubled or something like that (verbatim).

Clearly, what is so exciting about this is the success, and I got to compliment the CEC on all of its amazing energy-efficiency regulations that you guys have been putting in over the last 16 years. They're working; therefore, as the previous speaker said, there's no need for this plant. We could save huge amounts of general -- greenhouse gases if we used the readily available and economically beneficial and environmentally sound alternatives.

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Thank you very much.

I'm going to mute you again.

Is there anyone in the room who would like to offer public comment?

INTERVENOR RUDMAN: All right.

I'll do it.
Can you hear me?

COMMISSIONER McALLISTER: Yes.

INTERVENOR RUDMAN: I'm a little far from the microphone.

This is Monica Rudman.

I grew up in Huntington Beach, lived there most of my teen years until I went away to college and then occasionally went back, and my mother still lives there; so I have an interest in Huntington Beach. I also work as an energy specialist at the Energy Commission but do not represent the Energy Commission in this.

Again, I urge the committee to consider my testimony and evidence that I submitted, and I believe this demonstrates that this project is really not a good outcome for the people of Huntington Beach, and so I really urge you to take a look at that.

In addition, I proposed some conditions of certification in my response to the presiding members' proposed decision that I think would be helpful in mitigating the impacts, and I urge you to consider those as well.

Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: Thank you.

Anyone else?

Staff?
STAFF COUNSEL BELL: Nothing on behalf of staff.

Thank you.

HEARING OFFICER COCHRAN: At this point, we will adjourn to closed session.

We are in closed session.

Thank you very much.

(ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION 2:09 P.M.)

HEARING ADVISOR COCHRAN: The Committee has adjourned from closed session; the time is now 3:50.

(WHEREUPON THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:50 P.M.)

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CERTIFICATION

OF

CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER

I, the undersigned, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California do hereby certify:

That the foregoing proceedings were taken before me at the time and place herein set forth; that any witnesses in the foregoing proceedings, prior to testifying, were placed under oath; that a verbatim record of the proceedings was made by me using machine shorthand which was thereafter transcribed under my direction; further, that the foregoing is an accurate transcription thereof.

I further certify that I am neither financially interested in the action nor a relative or employee of any attorney of any of the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have this date subscribed my name ________________________________.

Matthew Sculatti, CSR No. 13558

Dated: October 27, 2014