

**DOCKETED**

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Docket Number:</b>   | 19-SPPE-01   |
| <b>Project Title:</b>   | Laurelwood Data Center (MECP I Santa Clara I, LLC) |
| <b>TN #:</b>            | 228057   |
| <b>Document Title:</b>  | Sarvey Petetion to Intervene                       |
| <b>Description:</b>     | Petition for intervention                          |
| <b>Filer:</b>           | Robert Sarvey                                      |
| <b>Organization:</b>    | Robert Sarvey                                      |
| <b>Submitter Role:</b>  | Intervenor   |
| <b>Submission Date:</b> | 5/6/2019 10:36:06 AM                               |
| <b>Docketed Date:</b>   | 5/6/2019   |

State of California  
State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

|                        |   |                           |
|------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| In the Matter of:      | ) | Docket # 19-SPPE-01       |
| Laurelwood Data Center | ) | Petition for Intervention |
|                        | ) | Robert Sarvey             |
|                        | ) |                           |
|                        | ) |                           |

---

PETITION TO INTERVENE OF ROBERT SARVEY

Robert Sarvey hereby petitions to intervene in the Laurelwood Data Center SPPE 19-SPPE-01. Section 1207 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure allow that, “Any person may file with the Docket Unit or the presiding committee member a petition to intervene in any proceeding. The petition shall set forth the grounds for the intervention, the position and interest of the petitioner in the proceeding, the extent to which the petitioner desires to participate in the proceedings, and the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner.”

Petitioner is concerned about the plethora of data centers being located in California and specifically in Santa Clara’s low-income communities. All of these data centers utilize massive amounts of diesel fired back-up generators which have no criteria, TAC, or GHG emissions limits during emergency operation. Despite the known environmental damage from employing multiple back up diesel generators government agencies continue to allow there use in large quantities at data centers when less damaging back up generation technology is available. Air Quality in the BAAQMD airshed is suddenly declining after years of improvement from the impacts of global warming and wildfires and the additional criteria pollutants which will occur in the future are offset by worthless paper emission reduction credits sometimes generated decades before. The local and regional impacts from the project’s emissions from just the testing of the back-up generators are significant. The indirect criteria pollutant emissions from generation of electricity for the project which is estimated at 867,240 MWh per year is highly significant.<sup>1</sup>

Data Centers use massive amounts of water. This data center project is expected to use about 1,032 acre-feet per year of potable water for cooling according to the application.<sup>2</sup> If this was a power plant the CEC would be requiring dry cooling. There are technologies which can drastically reduce the amount of water the project directly uses and they should be required. Indirectly the proposed project will consume many

---

<sup>1</sup> SPPE Application Page 103 of 172

<sup>2</sup> Application Page 162 of 172

more acre feet of water each year to produce the energy to power the data center. Data centers are an energy-intensive land use, requiring more electricity than other types of development. On an annual basis, the project would consume up to the maximum electrical usage of 867,240 MWh per year.<sup>3</sup> This would require a large amount of water to produce the energy for this power-hungry project in a state which is now in perpetual drought.

The operation of the project would generate 255,583 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year. Inclusion of emissions from the LDC's maximum possible electricity use and other non-stationary sources brings this contribution to a maximum of 14 percent of the total City GHG emissions.<sup>4</sup> To put that in perspective the Lodi Energy Center a 255 MW combined cycle power plant a major asset of NCPA emitted 290,397 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2017.<sup>5</sup>

Petitioner also believes that the project does not qualify for SPPE treatment with 56 - 3 MW generators. The SVP artificial 100 MW cap is not enforceable and all of the individual users of the data center will negotiate their own energy contracts so SVP would have to aggregate all of the user's electrical requirements to apply the cap.

The project site is heavily polluted from past industrial use. The property is so contaminated that it includes a deed restriction, executed in August 2017 that limits the uses of the property to industrial, commercial, or office space. The deed restriction prohibits human habitation like residential, hospitals, daycares for children or senior citizens, schools for persons under 21 years of age. That contamination in conjunction with the TAC emissions from the BUGS and TAC emissions from construction needs to be evaluated in the health risk assessment.

If granted intervention petitioner would like to participate in the topics of Alternatives, Air Quality, GHG Emissions, Hazardous Materials, Public Health, Reliability, Efficiency, Water Resources, Traffic and Transportation, Biology, and Environmental Justice. Petitioner intends to participate fully providing testimony, briefing, and cross-examination of witnesses.

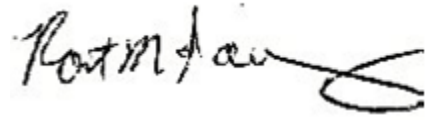
---

<sup>3</sup> SPPE Application Page 103 of 172

<sup>4</sup> SPPE Application Page 104 of 172

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reporting/ghg-rep/reported-data/2017-ghg-emissions-2018-11-05.xlsx?\\_ga=2.105712963.1764484268.1556579543-182072006.1556508233](https://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/reporting/ghg-rep/reported-data/2017-ghg-emissions-2018-11-05.xlsx?_ga=2.105712963.1764484268.1556579543-182072006.1556508233) Line 401

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Sarvey", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

---

Robert Sarvey  
501 W. Grant Line Rd.  
Tracy, CA. 95376  
[sarveybob@aol.com](mailto:sarveybob@aol.com)  
(209) 836-0277