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| Document Title: | BBR Response on AES Redondo Rezoning Initiative |
| Description: | BBR request to suspend application activities |
| Filer: | James A Light |
| Organization: | Building A Better Redondo |
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James A Light and Building a Better Redondo response for August 7th CEC Meeting concerning Redondo Beach Energy Project

1 Aug 14

In response to the CEC demand for comments for August 7th meeting:

BBR requests the CEC suspend all activities related to AES' application to build a new power plant at their Redondo Beach site. As noted in the demand, AES has submitted an initiative to the City of Redondo that would rezone their property to a mix of uses and the phase out of the existing power plant. Under that zoning, a new power plant would not be a permitted or conditional use. As noted in the press, both AES and Mayor Aspel are using the ongoing permitting process as an ultimatum. In essence the message is vote for this zoning or you will get a power plant.

BBR's request is based on the following:

- 1) **Continuing the permitting process would represent a corruption of the public process.** The public now has two activities related to the AES Redondo power plant that would bifurcate and divert their attention. This would impact the public's focus and responsiveness on the public activities related to the permitting process.
- 2) **Continuing the permitting process would represent a high potential for unnecessary expenditure of taxpayer, government official, and private time and money.** The City of Redondo, the CEC and now the City of Hermosa are committing hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars cumulatively to the permitting process. Residents and non-profits like BBR will have to continue to invest time and money to continue to participate in the public process. All of this will likely be for nought as the public opposition to the power plant represents a high likelihood the rezoning initiative will pass. The CEC should suspend activities until the initiative decision is made by the voters of Redondo in order to avoid the potential expenditures on an application that will likely be abandoned.
- 3) **Continuing the permitting process would corrupt the election process.** As noted above, AES and the Mayor of Redondo Beach are using the application process as a gun to the head of the voters. Suspension of the permitting process enables a vote without the imminent threat of power plant approval.

In closure, **it is in the best interest of the public, the voters of Redondo, and the California taxpayers to suspend the AES Redondo application activities until the results of the AES initiative are determined. Suspending activities until the April 2015 timeframe does not represent an undue delay to the project should it continue.** And the CEC should not allow a private company from Virginia to play both sides of the fence and corrupt both the public application process and the initiative election process.

BBR may not be able to attend the meeting on the 7th due to the short notice and my prior work commitments. BBR requests the CEC take our position into consideration.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this subject.

Very respectfully,

James A Light
President, Building a Better Redondo