

## DOCKETED

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## **HECA Project**

On September 17, 2013 the Federal Department of Energy held a public hearing for a government sponsored power plant being built by HECA near Buttonwillow, CA. The public comment portion of the meeting was being led by the DOE's Fred Pozzuto. About half way through the public comment period Mr. Pozzuto read a name that he had trouble pronouncing. After about the third time justifiably mispronouncing the name he made a joke out of the name calling on a Miss "Viagra" to come to the podium. This was followed by laughter and the lady never came to the podium. It sounded like the lady being called upon was Latino and judging from other responses that night there was a good chance she was not completely fluent in English. I imagine she was confused and embarrassed by Mr. Pozzuto's joke as were other Latino members of the audience and comment line up that night. Approximately four to five of the proceeding Latino speakers turned down their opportunity to come to the podium and speak following Mr. Pozzuto's joke. I believe these members of our community were disenfranchised and I do not believe any public comment period can come to an end until these people are given another opportunity to voice their concerns at a meeting being led by someone besides Mr. Pozzuto.

Thank you

Beau Antongiovanni