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Opposition to the Redondo Beach Energy Project

I am opposed to the recent application filed by AES for a new power generating facility relative to the land use compatibility of their request. For as long as the existing facility has occupied the site, its particular land use has been completely contradictory to the nature of the area in which it is situated. Seeing as this new application and potential construction calls for a full reconsideration of the site, its contextual/surrounding uses and its feasibility to operate as a power generating facility, I feel that this site is ill-equipped to operate as such a site. Not only does the proximity to the waterfront make it quite possibly the most ill-fitting location in the City of Redondo Beach, its surrounding uses are very active and bring a large amount of the City's population and visitors alike within very close proximity to the site. Due to the proposed re-development of the adjacent pier area which has been approved and is moving through the environmental review and entitlement process now, this will only confound the problem by attracting more people to the area where a future power generating facility, if approved, could cause even more harm. While the land use element is possibly my biggest complaint and logical argument, human health risk is an immensely important issue to consider as well. Approving a power generating facility in this location will result in a significant increase in risk to human health for those who dwell and recreate in the area surrounding the site and its transmission lines. Particulate matter generated from the plant will increase under the scope of the current application plans and that to me is unacceptable. While AES may be able to submit reports that comprise professional opinions regarding the quantified risk associated with their proposed facility, there is no question that the impact will cause a net increase in airborne particulate matter from the existing use. Again, allowing the plant to be proceed into construction knowing that there is a net increase in airborne particulate matter in an already relatively dense coastal community like Redondo Beach is unacceptable and the CEC would be setting a poorly thought through precedent for other communities throughout the state if that is your chosen course of action.

As a life-long resident of Redondo Beach, I have lived with the existing facility my entire 25 years of life here and while I am certainly not anti-development and meeting market demand for energy based on generalized growth patterns, I think this particular location is one of the worst possible locations for the proposed facility. Due to the inherent land use compatibility issues and the net increase in airborne particulate matter the proposed project will create, I recommend that the CEC deny AES's request for a new power generation facility. Thank you for your continued work on this matter and consideration of the public's opinion, it is much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Christopher Roche