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A New Power Plant on an Urban Coastline Is A Bad Idea

I am quite troubled by staff's illogical conclusion that the proposed project would somehow constitute "a noteworthy environmental public benefit" (pp. 4-3-36 and 4.3-37 of the PSA), since a new plant (unlike the old one) would not use ocean water for cooling. That destructive practice must end soon in any event, pursuant to regulation. It is therefore highly misleading to assert that the installation of a new plant would somehow be the reason for the termination of the ocean water cooling practice. Why would an informed staff member write such a thing?

NOISE AND AIR QUALITY: A gas-fired power plant means a lot of noise. A gas-fired power plant also means a lot of particulate matter, and a lot of other air pollutants. This application proposes the construction of such a plant, thoroughly uncalled for by existing or projected energy demand, right in the middle of the most densely populated area of the entire California coast, just a few hundred yards from several primary, middle and secondary schools. Staff can conclude, as they do, that these impacts will be adequately mitigated. Common sense tells us otherwise.

VISUAL RESOURCES: Consistency with applicable LORS -- Staff seem to have left quite a bit (pp. 4.13-55 through 4.13-59 of the PSA) to be determined in the Final Staff Assessment. Is there any way for the public to comment knowledgeably on these issues at this point?

As a concerned resident living near the proposed site, and as a former President of the Board of Education for the Redondo Beach Unified School District, I urge the Commission to reject this application.

David Wiggins