

DOCKETED

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From: Rosa Fallon <rosafallon@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 11:03 AM
To: Energy - Docket Optical System
Subject: Docket Number: Willow Pass 08-AFC-6 COMMENT from residents

Thank you Commissioners Douglas and Scott or this hearing. We strongly support the Staff's Motion to Terminate Proceedings for Willow Pass Generating Station in Pittsburg, CA. We strongly oppose the applicant's motion for yet another suspension. Terminating these proceedings is in the best interest of the Commission, agencies and the public.

Clean Energy Goals: The Commission has given the applicant ample time—including suspensions—to find off takers for the projects power. The fact that the applicants have not obtained power contracts point to two things—either that the applicant has not pursued procurement opportunities, or that there is no market need for gas plants at this location in this time. Indeed, in the years since the application was originally filed, the state has renewed its commitment many times to clean energy and has made tremendous progress in developing large-scale renewable energy generation, distributed generation, energy efficiency and energy storage. The energy landscape and role of gas in that landscape, has changed drastically, as California is now a world leader in clean energy. We are now considering upping these commitments significantly through SB 350. Letting these power plants linger on, moves us backwards on clean energy and clean air goals just at the moment the state is moving forward.

Stale Applications, CEQA: The applicant was deemed data adequate during a period of seven years (Willow Pass). There have been significant changes in the intervening years, notably to California's air quality and water resources. There has been significant amount of new development of new housing in Pittsburg. In most cases these impacts and changes were unforeseeable as cumulative impacts, and were certainly not included in the environmental baseline. The staff correctly identified that the environmental baseline relies on outdated information. At this point in time—these certifications can no longer meet basic CEQA requirements to provide accurate information and a proper baseline to the public. Allowing the applicant to rely on the existing certifications—which contain inaccurate and outdated information—would thwart the public participation goals of CEQA. If the applicants truly wishes to develop these projects, it should diligently pursue new certifications based on current information and a proper baseline as required by CEQA.

The applicant is clearly not pursuing this application with due diligence--indeed, it still has not provided the human health risk assessment requested by CEC staff SEVEN YEARS AGO. There may be potentially significant environmental justice concerns--air quality and soils--from developing yet another gas plant in a community already burdened by years of pollution and emissions.

Additionally, the project connects to Delta Delta Diablo Sanitation District Wastewater Treatment Plant. There were previous concerns that because the CEC required recycled water as boiler feed, using recycled water would otherwise go into the Delta pool. In the years since Willow Pass was certified, California has undergone a historic drought, and Delta water is at a premium. This location is prime for clean energy--storage, DG and other technologies--which can provide power in a way that doesn't use precious water resources or hurt our air.

Thank you for you time,
Chris and Rosa Fallon
Residents of Pittsburg, California