DOCKETED	
Docket Number:	97-AFC-01C
Project Title:	High Desert Power Plant (COMPLIANCE)
TN #:	207285
Document Title:	Victor Valley Chamber of Commerce Letter Regarding Review of Amendment Proposal
Description:	N/A
Filer:	Alicia Campos
Organization:	California Energy Commission
Submitter Role:	Commission Staff
Submission Date:	1/12/2016 2:37:52 PM
Docketed Date:	1/12/2016



November 12, 2015

The Honorable Robert Weisenmiller, Ph.D. Chairman California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: High Desert Power Project

Dear Chairman Weisenmiller:

It's my understanding that you are in the process of reviewing an amendment proposed by the High Desert Power Project. While I cannot speak to this petition, I can tell you that the plant is crucial to our community. The High Desert Power Project has been a part of our chamber for over 15 years.

The Victor Valley is working hard to retain current businesses and to draw in new employers. Similar to many other regions of the state, we are trying to regain financial ground lost over the past few years due to a challenging economy.

As one of the largest taxpayers in the region, High Desert Power Project's contributions to our local economy are critical. In 2014, the plant estimates that they provided approximately \$8.6 million in salaries and payments for locally contracted services and supplies, and it paid more than \$2.5 million in local property taxes and related payments.

The High Desert Power Project personnel contribute and support local projects and events. To name a few that we are aware of, they participate at the High Desert Opportunity Day, the Clean Air Fair, Inland Empire United Way-Desert Communities, Victor Valley Chamber of Commerce, Mojave Environmental Education Consortium, and the local homeless and animal shelters.

As you can see, High Desert Power Project is vital to our region. Please ensure that whatever action you take does not jeopardize the plant or its ability to run.

Sincerely,

Michele L Spean

Michele Spears President/CEO

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