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Environmental Justice

To California Energy Commission Members:

Regarding the proposed power plant two miles downwind of our home in Santa Paula

I am an 84 year-old retiree in my 14th year as caregiver for my great wife who suffers from Alzheimer's disease. Thank you for considering my comments.

I am pleased to note that you have an "Environmental Justice†policy. Too often power plants have been relegated to low income, minority communities. I won't attempt to bore you with statistics, but Santa Paula certainly falls into this category. Your staff can easily verify this. You will discover that we have a very high percentage of low income and minority members, but we get along and are gradually improving our community. Your decision on this matter will confirm whether or not your commission is serious about implementing this policy. The people of Santa Paula need your help in this matter.

After completing college on the G. I. Bill, my wife and I arrived in this area in 1959 with \$411 and a baby in a cardboard box, and we have prospered here. The Santa Clara Valley is beautiful and a wonderful place to live. We love it, and want to preserve it for our grandchildren and those of our neighbors. Power plants pollute air, seriously detract from a community image, and lower property values. Your Environmental Justice policy was designed to protect communities such as ours. We need your help in this matter.

Please reject the Calpine Mission Rock proposal as inconsistent with your Environmental Justice policy.

Thank you,

Delton Johnson 14 McKevett Heights Santa Paula, CA 93060

CorpsmanHm1@gmail.com

The concept behind the term "environmental justice" is that all people $\hat{a} \in$ "regardless of their race, color, nation or origin or income $\hat{a} \in$ "are able to enjoy equally high levels of environmental protection. Environmental justice communities are commonly identified as those where residents are predominantly minorities or low-income; where residents have been excluded from the environmental policy setting or decision-making process; where they are subject to a disproportionate impact from one or more environmental hazards; and where residents experience disparate implementation of environmental regulations, requirements, practices and activities in their communities. Environmental justice efforts attempt to address the inequities of environmental protection in these communities.