

DOCKETED

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Comment Received From: Laura Espinosa

Submitted On: 5/2/2016

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On Mission Rock Energy Center

Additional submitted attachment is included below.

Energy - Public Adviser's Office

From: votelaura1@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 02, 2016 3:58 PM
To: Energy - Public Adviser's Office
Subject: Fwd: Mission Rock Energy Center Public Comment

-----Original Message-----

From: votelaura1 <votelaura1@aol.com>
To: eFiling <eFiling@ENERGY.CA.GOV>
Sent: Mon, May 2, 2016 2:20 pm
Subject: Mission Rock Energy Center Public Comment

I am a resident of Santa Paula and reside less than 2 miles from the proposed energy center. I strongly object to any location in Santa Paula as a proposed site.

This is an impoverished agricultural community of predominately Latino residents (over 80%) who greatly rely on maintaining a healthy environment for their jobs and physical and emotional health. This population of primarily Spanish speaking workers are overwhelmingly impacted by the health effects of working as farm workers in fields with pesticide use.

I believe siting this dirty energy center would violate Title VI of the Civil Rights Act which requires an assessment of the civil rights impacts of all decisions by State and Federal agencies. Additionally, such action could possibly violate Presidential Executive Order 12898 which requires Federal agencies to consider environmental justice implications in decision making.

California EPA Secretary, Mathew Rodriguez states that those most burdened by pollution speak Spanish as a first language. This characteristic fits Santa Paula. Additionally, Santa Paula meets several of the **Pollution Burden indicators including lower educational attainment, high asthma rates, poverty, high unemployment, and linguistic isolation.**

The site is a flood zone and on the Santa Clara River. The river is the largest wild river remaining in Southern California. There are serious impacts to our pristine environment which the voters have mandated remain open space and free of toxic development thru their support and passage of the SOAR measure.

I respectfully submit these comments in opposition to the siting of an energy center in Santa Paula which is already burdened with a solid waste dump site and county jail. It is egregious and racially motivated to pit one minority community against another as the community of Oxnard is also considered for another energy site and has a high Latino population.

Laura Espinosa
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