

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	99-AFC-03C
Project Title:	METCALF Energy Center Compliance
TN #:	211361-1
Document Title:	Steve Nelson comment on Metcalf PTA for VIS-10, visible plumes
Description:	Comment from Steve Nelson on the proposed Petition to Amend for the Metcalf Energy Center, 99-AFC-3C, with accompanying photograph of plume
Filer:	Eric Veerkamp
Organization:	Steve Nelson
Submitter Role:	Public
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Veerkamp, Eric@Energy

From: Steven Nelson <sa.nelson2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 27, 2016 7:06 AM
To: Veerkamp, Eric@Energy; Energy - Public Adviser's Office
Subject: Metcalf Energy Center Petition to Amend VIS-10
Attachments: Metcalf.jpg

Dear Eric,

I spoke with you on the phone about a week ago about my concerns regarding Calpine's petition to amend VIS-10 for the Metcalf Energy Center.

I mentioned to you a plume that was never analyzed by the CEC for visual impacts. I have attached a photograph I took this past Sunday afternoon when the temperature was approximately 70 degrees with moderate winds. This plume is not from the cooling towers or the main turbine exhaust stacks. I personally have seen this plume rise higher than nearby Tulare Hill in daylight morning hours in the past. I would hope any new analysis by the CEC of the visual impacts of the Metcalf Energy Center would include this plume.

In addition, Calpine told the community many times in meetings and on their web site that the Metcalf Energy Center would not produce a visible plume. As you recall the CEC overrode San Jose's local zoning for the site as a heavy industrial use was not compatible with San Jose's long range plans for North Coyote Valley. The following is from Calpine's web site, www.metcalfenergycenter.com, from the Internet Archive of a snapshot of the web site on February 23, 2001. See <http://web.archive.org/web/20010223030534/http://www.metcalfenergycenter.com/faq3.asp#3.5>

Will there be a steam plume?

No. The Metcalf Energy Center will include "plume abatement" technologies in the project design. This means that the water vapor that is released from the facility will not be visible, even on cold days. Calpine and Bechtel are investing several million dollars in this design feature in order to meet the high visual standards proposed for North Coyote Valley.

Finally, the city of San Jose and its residents were deeply involved in the CEC's certification process. I urge the CEC to hold at least one public meeting on this issue in the San Jose area so those unable to travel to Sacramento can understand Calpine's petition and offer comments.

Sincerely,

Steven Nelson
sa.nelson2@gmail.com