

DOCKETED

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City of Santa Paula

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May 13, 2016

California Energy Commission
Attention: Mike Monasmith
(mike.monasmith@energy.ca.gov)
1516 9th Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Review of Application for Certification (15-AFC-02)-
Proposed Mission Rock Energy Center**

Dear Mr. Monasmith,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the application submitted by Mission Rock Energy Center, LLC, to construct a 275-MW natural gas-fired peaking power plant about two miles west of Santa Paula. This letter, written on behalf of the City of Santa Paula, is meant to express the City of Santa Paula's concerns regarding the proposed Mission Rock Energy Center project. We request that we be added to any distribution list for the proposed Mission Rock Energy Project and notified of all project timelines, and any related information concerning the Mission Rock Energy Center.

On March 21, 2016 and April 4, 2016, the City of Santa Paula received and discussed public comments regarding the proposed Mission Rock Energy Center. The comments received from City residents focused on the negative impacts the proposed project would have on the residents of Santa Paula, including, among others, increasing local air pollution, impacting local agricultural land and operations, and diminishing the natural views of the Santa Clara Valley.

We appreciate the Commission's extension of time to allow the City the opportunity to comment on the proposed project. Having now reviewed the information contained in the project description and application for certification, the City submits the following issues of concern and requests the CEC's review and timely response during this initial data adequacy phase.

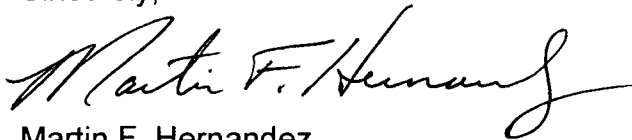
- Is the Energy Center proposed to be located in the 100 year flood plain? Is building in a flood plain normally permitted by the County? If the Project is proposed to be located in the flood plain, why is this a suitable location?

- Are gas fired energy plants which emit PM10 and other chemical substances into the air, state-of-the-art for electric generating facilities or are they becoming obsolete in favor of battery or other type facilities? If this is the case, why propose to build this type of facility?
- Have the impacts of the Energy Center on the operations at the Santa Paula Airport been considered? If so, what are they? What is the height of all facilities and how high in the air will emissions be transported? Will the updraft impact passing aircraft from the nearby Santa Paula Airport?
- Are the maps detailing the precise locations of the proposed new gas line to SoCal Gas; the high tension lines connecting to Edison and the new pipeline to the Limoneira recycled water plant available for public review? These are needed to assess the environmental, health, aesthetic and economic impact, including decreased property values, on Santa Paula and the surrounding unincorporated areas.
- What are the future plans for the proposed water discharge pipeline formerly used by Santa Clara Waste Water?
- Will the Energy Center emit carbon monoxide or nitrous oxides that are hazardous to plants, animals and people or cause smog? What impact would the Project have, or any possible contaminants from the Energy Center operation have, on birds that fly into the exhaust plume, the Santa Clara River and the wildlife in the area?
- What is the amount of particulate matter expected to be emitted per day of operation of the Energy Center? Please do not average emissions over the year.
- Construction of a gas pipeline and overhead transmission lines along with a lighted facility will scar the land and create a negative visual impact in the area. This could have adverse effects on property values in the surrounding area and, in particular, adversely affect the opportunity to develop high-end homes in neighboring Adams Canyon area, which is a future growth area for the City of Santa Paula. Has this been considered?
- The Energy Center will be operated by jet engines. Will the Energy Center be noisy when it is in operation? What is the expected decibel level on site during operation and at the neighboring property?
- What specific risks will the citizens of Santa Paula be exposed to as a result of the proposed Energy Center?
- What specific risks will the inmates at the Todd Road facility be exposed to as a result of the proposed Energy Center?
- As the closest fire and law enforcement agencies, the Energy Center will place additional economic burdens on the City of Santa Paula in responding to potential emergency situations that may occur at the proposed Energy Center. How is the Project proposed to be served by emergency services?

- Does the Energy Center site on Mission Rock Road comply with state social justice laws which prohibit placing this sort of facility in an economically disadvantaged, predominately minority community?
- Please cite and explain the demonstrated "need" for this project?

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the City's comments. Please feel free to contact Jaime Fontes, City Manager with any questions at (805) 933-4201 or by email at jfontes@spcity.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin F. Hernandez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Martin F. Hernandez,
Mayor

cc: Santa Paula City Council
Jaime Fontes, City Manager
John C. Cotti, City Attorney
Kathy Long, County Supervisor