

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	15-AFC-02
Project Title:	Mission Rock Energy Center
TN #:	212501
Document Title:	Luzmaria Espinosa Comments: Mission Rock Calpine-Limoneira Project
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Luzmaria Espinosa
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	7/28/2016 9:58:50 PM
Docketed Date:	7/29/2016

Comment Received From: Luzmaria Espinosa

Submitted On: 7/28/2016

Docket Number: 15-AFC-02

Mission Rock Calpine-Limoneira Project

To The CEC re: Mission Rock Project in Santa Paula

My name is Luzmaria Espinosa. I live at 975 W. Telegraph Rd #120, Santa Paula, California. This evening, I intended to speak during the public hearing of July 28, 2016, at the Santa Paula Community Center. However, the recent fires and the fact that Ventura County's air quality, including Santa Paula, exceeds both state and federal standards, my lungs are compromised and I had to come home. However, I do want to submit my comments.

My family has lived in Santa Paula for the last 60 years. My elementary, secondary and high school education was the public schools here in Santa Paula. During the summers, my brothers and sisters and I worked in the strawberry fields as well as in the Citrus and Avocado Orchards. I have dedicated my entire life to contributing to my community as an educator, a cultural worker, and as a social worker. I work with the developmentally disabled population of which research shows these disabilities may be attributed to pesticides. I also teach the spiritual, cultural, and dance traditions of the Mexica Nation to children, youth, and their families.

Six years ago I was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis even though I have never been around asbestos or smoked. I now have to use Oxygen. The home where I live is a retired gated community of seniors. It is approx. less than 1 mile from the proposed Mission Rock Site. The Mission Rock Project poses a danger to the seniors in that community, as well as to the minority and low income communities of our city.

In researching natural disasters and Calpine I have found that there have been several natural gas explosions which were constructed and/or operated by Calpine such as the Kleener Project in Middletown, Connecticut on 2/7/2010, The Wolff Project in Fairfield, CA, and Garner, North Carolina, to name but a few. In these explosions there were lives lost and people injured. In the case of the Kleener Project, it was a gas blow when they were installing the pipe.

Santa Paula is a community between 75-80% Latino who do not receive a living wage. Many are farmworkers (as I was when I was growing up) and are exposed to pesticides and air pollution.

Santa Clarita is not too far away and the gas leak there has still not been resolved. The previous hazardous waste water spill at Mission Rock which has yet to be cleaned up completely, is close to the proposed site.

I will not bore you with facts and figures that many others will cover. I would like to recommend that you look into solar energy as an alternative. Another suggestion is to put the power plant in Simi or Thousand Oaks on the Santa Monica mountains. No matter how clean natural gas is, it is colorless, odorless, and poses a threat to the Santa Clara River and the animals and plants that live in their natural habitat. It poses a danger in climate change, in air quality, and in the lives of children, farmers, farmworkers, seniors, and lastly my own self who has to depend on oxygen. No amount of jobs, or money that Limoneira and Calpine create with this power plant can bring the quality of life back once it is gone. Please do not allow Calpine to go forward with this project in our community. We have a responsibility to our Sacred Mother Earth and to the seven generations that will come after us. We deserve to live in a clean and healthy environment. I want to live without this power plant.

Sincerely,

Luzmaria Espinosa