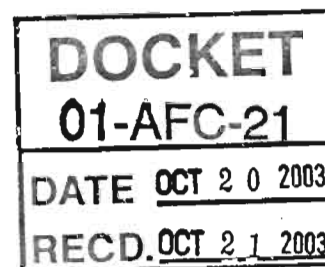


## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5112

October 20, 2003

Paul W. Rea  
1101 Carey Drive #3  
Concord, CA 94520

Dear Mr. Rea,

Thank you for your letter of September 6, 2003, regarding the proposed Tesla Power Plant and the East Altamont Energy Center projects and their contribution to global warming and their compliance with Alameda County's Measure D. As you have pointed out in your letter, global warming presents significant risks and challenges to the citizens of California and the world. The burning of fossil fuels in California's electric power plants creates carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases which contribute to global warming. In 1999, California power plants generated 16 percent of the total statewide carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuels in 1999. California has a very large population and economy; as a result, California's emissions are very high, second only to Texas. California is also characterized by a moderate climate, industries that are relatively moderate carbon dioxide emitters, and active energy and air quality programs capable of indirectly reducing greenhouse gas emissions. For these reasons, California's emissions per capita and emissions per gross state product are actually quite low compared to other states. It is important to note that modern proposed power plants, such as the East Altamont Energy Center and the Tesla Power Plant, are 50 percent more efficient than the existing system average. The Energy Commission recognizes your concerns regarding global warming and has and will consider them in the context of the power plant siting process. In addition, the state currently has a number of programs and policies in place to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with electricity generation and consumption.

With respect to the Tesla Power Plant's consistency with Alameda County Measure D, after extensive discussion and correspondence, the Energy Commission staff has deferred to the County staff's conclusions. The County staff concluded that the project is consistent, given Measure D's and East County Area Plan (ECAP) Policy 13's allowance for infrastructure, with that infrastructure necessary and acceptable for meeting electricity needs in the East County. The Alameda County Board of Supervisors (Board) and the County Administrator received copies of the County staff's April 30, 2003 letter regarding the project's consistency with local laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards, including Measure D. The Board, as the land use policy entity representing the County voters, agrees with the County staff's interpretation of the project as infrastructure which is acceptable under Measure D and ECAP Policy 13. The Board's agreement is demonstrated by the Board's February 6, 2003 resolution, which is discussed in the Impacts section of the staff's Land Use analysis contained in

October 20, 2003

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the Final Staff Assessment (FSA). The FSA can be found on the Internet at:  
[http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tesla/documents/2003-04-08\\_TESLA\\_FSA.PDF](http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/tesla/documents/2003-04-08_TESLA_FSA.PDF).

Evidentiary hearings were held on the Tesla Power Plant project on September 10-12 and 18, 2003. The Energy Commission Tesla Power Plant Committee is now preparing the Presiding Member's Proposed Decision. The proposed decision is anticipated to be published this fall. Its availability will be separately noticed. Following its publication, at a minimum, a 30-day public comment period will follow prior to a final decision by the entire five-member commission. If you have any further comments or questions, please contact the Tesla Power Plant project manager, Jack Caswell at (916) 653-0062 or by e-mail at [jcaswell@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:jcaswell@energy.state.ca.us).

With respect to the East Altamont Energy Center project, the Energy Commission approved the project with conditions on August 20, 2003, a few weeks prior to the receipt of your letter. The Commission Decision can be found at:  
<http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/eastaltamont>. Please feel free to contact me at 916/654-3929 or via e-mail at [kchew@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:kchew@energy.state.ca.us) or Ila Lewis, the Compliance Project Manager at 916/654-4678 or via e-mail at [ilewis@energy.state.ca.us](mailto:ilewis@energy.state.ca.us) if you have any additional questions or comments about the East Altamont Energy Center project.

Sincerely,



Kristy Chew  
Siting Project Manager  
Systems Assessment & Facility Siting Division

01-AFC-21

CALIF ENERGY COMMISSION

SEP 17 2003

RECEIVED IN DOCKETS

California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth St.  
Sacramento CA 95814-5512

1101 Carey Dr. #3  
Concord CA 94520  
Sept. 6, 2003

Dear Members of the Energy Commission:

Surely, given the realities of global warming, the burning of fossil fuels is not the best choice for new power generation. These troubling realities include the shrinking of glaciers, a rise in ocean level, and quite possibly heat waves such as the one that struck Europe last month.

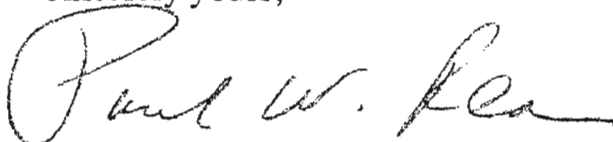
Therefore I urge you to uphold the votes of Alameda County by denying certification for Calpine's East Altamont Energy Center and for Midway's Tesla Power Project.

I would remind the Commission that Alameda County does not have the expertise to forecast energy needs, and that these plants are far larger than permitted under voter-approved Measure D.

Energy-saving measures such as those that reduced California's consumption in 2001 would be a much solution.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,



Paul W. Rea