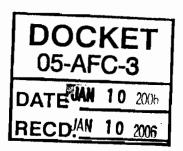
## CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512 www.energy.ca.gov



January 10, 2006



Marion Ashley, Chairman, and District 5 Supervisor Board of Supervisors Riverside County 4080 Lemon Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Riverside, CA 92502-1629

## Dear Chairman Ashley:

As you may be aware, Valle del Sol, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Edison Mission Energy, submitted an Application for Certification (AFC) to the California Energy Commission on December 1, 2005 to construct and operate a simple-cycle power plant near Romoland, in unincorporated Riverside County. The proposed Sun Valley Energy Project (SVEP), to be located at 29500 Rouse Road, near Romoland, would be a nominal 500 megawatt (MW) peaking facility designed to meet electric generation load during periods of high demand.

The Energy Commission is responsible for reviewing and ultimately approving or denying all thermal electric power plants, 50 MW and greater, proposed for construction in California. The Energy Commission's facility certification process carefully examines public health and safety, environmental impacts and engineering aspects of proposed power plants, and all related facilities such as electric transmission lines and natural gas and water pipelines. The Energy Commission's responsibilities are those of a lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), except the Energy Commission's analysis includes several environmental and decision documents rather than an Environmental Impact Report.

The AFC is currently being reviewed to determine if it contains the information required by Energy Commission regulations. When the application is deemed data adequate (the earliest this could occur would be January 18, 2006) the Energy Commission will start the discovery and analysis phases of our review of the SVEP. Over the coming months, the Energy Commission will conduct a number of public workshops and hearings on the proposal to determine whether the SVEP should be approved for construction and operation and under what set of conditions. These workshops will provide the public and local, state and federal agencies the opportunity to ask questions about, and provide input on, the proposed project. The Energy Commission will issue notices for these workshops and hearings at least 10-14 days prior to the meeting.

Chairman Ashley January 10, 2006

If your constituents would like to participate in the Energy Commission's review of the project they should contact Margret Kim, the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California, at (800) 822-6228. The status of the project, copies of notices, an electronic version of the AFC, and other relevant documents are available on the Energy Commission's Internet web site at: <a href="http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/sunvalley/index.html">http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/sunvalley/index.html</a>

Sincerely,

TERRENCE O'BRIEN, Deputy Director Systems Assessment and Facilities Siting