



ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

25900 Leon Road • Homeland, CA 92548
(951) 926-9244 • FAX (951) 926-2170

Roland Skumawitz, *Superintendent*

DOCKET 05-AFC-3
DATE <u>APR 11 2006</u>
RECD. <u>APR 14 2006</u>

April 11, 2006

California Energy Commission
John L. Geesman, Commissioner
Presiding Member of the Siting Committee for the Sun Valley Energy Project
1516 Ninth Street, MS 31
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: PETITION FOR INTERVENTION IN DOCKET NO. 05-AFC-3

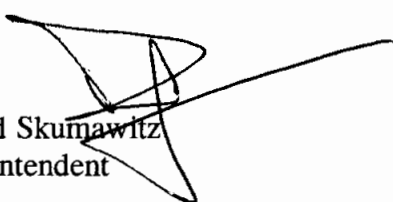
Mr. Geesman:

The Romoland School District is hereby petitioning to intervene in the Energy Commission Siting Case for the Sun Valley Energy Project. The District has prepared a Petition for Intervention as a Public Agency and a Financial Hardship Petition as required by Energy Commission regulations and per instructions from the POA for this project, Nick Bartsch. The District has also provided a copy of these petitions to the applicant, Edison Mission Group, and the CEC Docket Unit.

If the Committee or Energy Commission staff has any questions regarding these petitions, please contact me at (951) 926-9244.

Respectfully,

ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT


Roland Skumawitz
Superintendent

Enclosures

cc: Jenifer Morris, Project Manager, NJ Resources, LLC (Applicant)
Scott Galatti, Galati & Blek, LLP (Counsel for Applicant)
California Energy Commission Docket Unit

Board of Trustees

Cindy Bohn Irene Harris Gerard "Gary" Reller Byron R. Yost

ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT
25900 Leon Road
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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
State Energy Resources
Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of:)	
Application for Certification)	Docket No. 05-AFC-3
Generating Project)	FINANCIAL HARDSHIP
(Sun Valley Energy Project))	PETITION
)	
)	

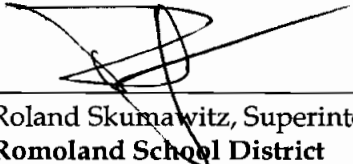
ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT hereby petitions to be excused from

- Filing 12 copies with the Commission Docket Unit.
- Serving its papers on all other parties of record.

Compliance with the above requirement(s) creates an undue financial hardship for the Petitioner in that:

The Romoland School District is dependent on local and state funding for construction and operation of schools within the District. Any additional draw of these funds would reduce the amount needed for our schools. As a Program Improvement District, funds are used to provide tutoring services for our students as well as providing the educational needs to help our students succeed in a low economic area. Free and Reduced Lunch rate is currently at 75%.

April 11, 2006
Date



Roland Skumawitz, Superintendent
Romoland School District

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
State Energy Resources
Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of:)	
)	Docket No. 05-AFC-3
Application for Certification)	
Generating Project)	PETITION BY ROMOLOAND SCHOOL
(Sun Valley Energy Project))	DISTRICT FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE
)	AS A PUBLIC AGENCY IN SITING CASE
_____)	DOCKET NO. 05-AFC-3

1. The following agency hereby petitions to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding:

ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

2. Petitioner will be represented in this proceeding by:

Romoland School District
25900 Leon Road
Romoland, CA 92548
(951) 926-9244
Roland Skumawitz, Superintendent

3. Petitioner is not a member of a group or organization already a party to this proceeding.
4. Petitioner has an interest in this proceeding in that the proposed Sun Valley Energy Project is located less than 1.5 miles from four elementary schools within the Romoland School District boundaries: Romoland, Harvest Valley, Boulder Ridge and the future Mesa View. A significant number of students and staff spend many hours each day over nine months of the year at these schools. Of particular concern to the District is Boulder Ridge Elementary School located less than 0.5 mile south of the Sun Valley Energy Project site. The Sun Valley Energy Project may create significant air quality, public health and safety, toxic release, and noise impacts along with cumulative environmental impacts at each of the four elementary schools.

Given the number of existing power plants and recently proposed facilities in Riverside County, cumulative environmental impacts are of great concern. Two power plants have been constructed in Riverside County since 2000 and are now operational:

Wildflower Indigo 1, 2, & 3 - Intergen - 135 MW
Blythe I - Blythe Energy - 520 MW

Three additional power plants are currently under construction in Riverside County:

Riverside Energy Resource Center Unit 1 - 75 MW - anticipated completion date 3/06
Riverside Energy Resource Center Unit 2 - 75 MW - anticipated completion date 3/06
Inland Empire Combined Cycle (IECC) - Calpine - 800 MW - anticipated completion date 6/08

The Inland Empire Combined Cycle (IECC) Calpine is very close to the existing Romoland Elementary School (approximately 1,100 feet). There also are plans for a 520 MW power plant (Blythe II Combined Cycle) in Riverside County that has been approved by the CEC but the project is currently on hold. These six power plants along with the proposed Sun Valley Energy Project may create significant cumulative impacts at District schools.

Project level environmental impacts related to the natural gas pipeline, water pipeline, hazardous materials, transmission lines, air quality, and noise may also impact our students and staff. As set out in the Application for Certification, the Sun Valley Energy Project would result in the emission of criteria pollutants, such as nitrogen, volatile organic compounds (VOC), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), and particulate matter (PM₁₀). The project would also generate a number of noncriteria pollutant emissions such as ammonia, benzene, formaldehyde, and xylene. The project would also transport and store aqueous ammonia at quantities that has the potential to migrate off-site and cause serious injury or death. The power plant would contain other chemicals, such as sulfuric acid, ammonium and sodium - hydroxide, -hypobromite -hypochlorite, -bisulfite, and -chloride that could pose a threat to students' health. Public health and safety impacts to students or staff may also result from an accident involving one of the trucks delivering ammonia or other hazardous substances to the site. Chemical delivery trucks would come within approximately 400 feet of the Romoland Elementary School. Additionally, accidental releases of natural gas from the 750-foot long high-pressure natural gas pipeline may impact the existing schools. Finally, the Sun Valley Energy Project has the potential to generate noise levels that would impact students and teachers and interfere with indoor and outdoor education at Boulder Ridge School. The District's interest is to ensure that these potential environmental impacts are adequately mitigated.

5. Petitioner understands that it will receive all relevant documents in this proceeding and that it will be responsible for supplying other parties with information and documents properly requested, as well as complying with Orders of the presiding Committee.
6. Petitioner certifies that it has served a copy of this Petition upon the applicant in this proceeding.

ROMOLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 11, 2006

Date

By: _____

Roland Skumawitz, Superintendent