



Department of Physics

Tel. (714) 526-6661, Fax (714) 526-6662

DOCKET 07-AFC-6
DATE NOV 20 2007
RECD. DEC 24 2007

November 20, 2007

ATTN: Roger E. Johnson, Manager
Energy Facilities Siting and Compliance Office
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512
RE: Carlsbad Energy Center Project (07-AFC-6)

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I am taking the liberty of writing to you as an expert on energy and energy conversion, having taught this subject not only at my university (CSUF), but also as a visiting professor at Columbia University.

I am writing in response to a request for input concerning the proposed construction of the Carlsbad Energy Center Project. My basic concern relates to the use of natural gas as a source of energy. Based on the global warming, the inevitable resultant CO₂ emission, and the finite quantity of natural gas available, this approach lacks common sense.

Our state of knowledge as a society has far surpassed this irresponsible use of our precious resources and its inevitable deleterious consequences. In other words, if this proposed energy center were approved, this would be an embarrassing step backwards.

There are alternative far superior sources of energy, which do not involve CO₂ emission. The San Onofre nuclear reactors are not far away and could easily be expanded with additional reactors. This technology is state-of-the-art. France already has made the switch to primarily nuclear energy, with many other countries following suit.

California is rich in receiving large amounts of solar energy, which is relatively untapped. I propose that we reactivate the Zum Electric Company, which had successfully been producing electric energy from solar energy in the past (it's resultant bankruptcy was brought about by politics, not a lack of productivity).

I recommend that the Carlsbad Energy Center proposal be scrapped and a careful review initiated, taking into consideration California's *total* energy needs.

Sincerely,

Fred M. Johnson, Professor of Physics

Cc: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor
James Reede Jr., Energy Commission Project Manager