

April 13, 2009

Juan Diaz  
3030 Main St  
San Diego, CA 92113

To:  
James D. Boyd  
Vice Chair & Presiding Committee Member  
California Energy Commission

Raoul Renaud  
Hearing Officer  
California Energy Commission

**RE: The Application for Certification of the Chula Vista  
Energy Upgrade Project; Docket Number 07-AFC-4**

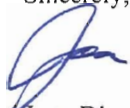
Dear Commissioners,

I am urging you to approve the Chula Vista Energy Upgrade Project (CVEUP). As I have reviewed the evidence and am well acquainted with the arguments offered by those individuals, who are opposed to this upgrade, I believe that the project meets or exceeds all significant standards for approval. The existing site in a redevelopment area of the southwest portion of the City of Chula Vista was granted a Special Use Permit in 2000. The site was approved to be an appropriate location by the various community groups and the city. The land use regulations were strictly enforced by the city staff and council in that decision. At that time, even the most vocal community critics of the proposed upgrade had no question that the development regulations of the city were being abused or misinterpreted. Even though the existing peaker plant has been on this site for approximately eight years, the generating equipment was not of the current technology but dated back to the 1970's. The current owner and plant operator, MMC Energy, Inc. has proposed to construct on the existing site a new facility with two state-of-the-art General Electric natural gas fueled generators.

The proposed peaker plant would be able to provide a significant increase in available energy at the times of peak demand, which is critical to a region that relies on so much imported energy. The must run operational status of the South Bay Power Plant (SBPP) imposes an undesired consequence to the regional air quality and environment. The 1960's technology of the SBPP is outdated and consumes resources and emits pollutants that are not near the required efficiency and emission requirements that we demand from our generation systems today. The CVEUP is an important step in the ability to support the shift to large-scale renewable baseload energy generation, and such a quick start facility will have a necessary support role even when large-scale renewable baseload energy is in place.

Rather than discouraging operators, like MMC Energy, Inc. from seeking the opportunity to provide cleaner, quieter, and more efficient sources of energy, we should be seeking a review process that expedites such permitting and incentives to make the investment in our current and future energy needs and our environment's protection.

Sincerely,

  
Juan Diaz

**DOCKET**

**07-AFC-4**

DATE APR 13 2009

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