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DOCKET

07-AFC-4

DATE APR 13 2009

RECD. APR 20 2009

April 13, 2009

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 Sirs,

You have had the difficult time consuming task of understanding hours of expert testimony and thousands of pages of reports regarding the Chula Vista Energy Upgrade Project (CVEUP). All of the governmental agencies that have the responsibility to protect the welfare of the citizens and our environment have provided clearances for this project. This proposed upgrade to a peaker plant in the southwest portion of Chula Vista is now the venue for a few community groups to exercise their political clout and influence in development in this city and the surrounding areas. They have convinced some members in the community that they are the last bastion for their protection. They have communicated that the City of Chula Vista, the San Diego Air Pollution Control District, the California Union for Reliable Energy, the Chula Vista Elementary School District and even the staff of the California Energy Commission have all neglected their responsibility to this community. They will be undoubtedly vocal at your meeting on Monday, April 13th, and you will be required to be the recipients of political rhetoric aimed at persuading you that this project should not be approved.

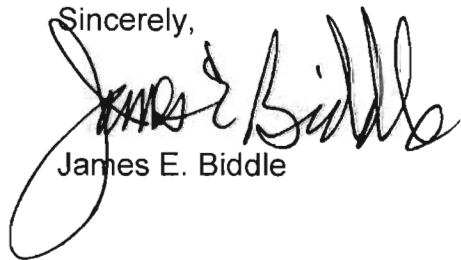
There is no denial that the future energy needs for this region are critical for the continued sustainability of the existing development, let alone future development. The existing peaker plant was sited in the area based upon a universal agreement that it was an appropriate location. The existing peaker plant received equipment that dated back to the 1970's and was not the current

technology for the era. The proposed peaker plant upgrade would receive two state of the art generators that are cleaner, quieter, and far more efficient.

The negotiated package of improvements between the City of Chula Vista and MMC Energy, Inc. would provide the surrounding redevelopment area with significantly needed benefits. The operator is committed to being a good member of the community and has committed to a generous package of community benefits including financing an additional \$210,000.00 for energy efficiency improvements to the homes within one thousand feet of the peaker power plant. The City has also agreed to dedicate over 10 million in tax increments generated by the peaker for community improvements such as corridor enhancement, drainage improvement, and community park and community connectivity.

I strongly endorse the approval of the CVEUP by your commission. It is an important step in the right direction for this community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James E. Biddle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

James E. Biddle