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V. MANUEL PÉREZ  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, EIGHTIETH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
CHAIR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
AND THE ECONOMY  
ACCOUNTABILITY AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW  
HEALTH  
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October 21, 2009

Melissa Jones  
Executive Director  
California Energy Commission  
1516 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

09-AFC-6

**DOCKET**

09-AFC-7

DATE OCT 21 2009

RECD. OCT 26 2009

Dear Ms. Jones:

I write to express my support for the Palen Solar Power Project and Blythe Solar Power Project, two solar thermal electric power plants under development by Solar Millennium, LLC. The proposed projects will be located in Southeastern Riverside County, in the 80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District.

As a member of the California State Assembly, and representative of the 80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, I am excited about the benefits that this solar project will bring for the economic development and environmental health of my constituency.

The Palen and Blythe Solar Power Plants will create thousands of jobs during the two-and-a-half year construction, as well as a number of administrative and operations jobs over the lives of the plants. The region will also likely realize additional, ancillary economic benefits – jobs and revenue – created to indirectly support the plants' construction and operation.

These projects will also mean environmental benefits for residents of the 80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District. The Palen and Blythe Solar Power Projects will generate clean, renewable electricity during periods of highest electrical demand. Further, both plants will be dry-cooled, which means an approximate 90% reduction in originally planned water needs.

Solar Millennium's Palen and Blythe Solar Power Projects will make use of the rich and abundant solar energy resource in the 80<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, to the benefit of my constituents.

Sincerely,

V. Manuel Pérez  
Assemblymember, 80<sup>th</sup> AD

cc: Terry O'Brian, CEC Siting Division  
Eileen Allen, CEC Siting Division

