

# The Board of Supervisors

County Administration Building  
651 Pine Street, Room 106  
Martinez, California 94553

John Giola, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Gayle B. Uilkema, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Mary N. Piepho, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Susan A. Bonilla, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Federal D. Glover, 5<sup>th</sup> District

# Contra Costa County



David Twa  
Clerk of the Board  
and  
County Administrator  
(925) 335-1900

October 4, 2010

Mr. Craig Hoffman  
Project Manager  
California Energy Commission  
1516 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

<b>DOCKET</b>	
09-AFC-3	
DATE	OCT 04 2010
RECD.	OCT 12 2010

**Re: Mariposa Energy Project - Follow up Comments Docket #09-AFC-03**

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

Contra Costa County would like to thank the California Energy Commission (CEC) for the opportunity to provide follow up comments on the proposed Mariposa Energy Power Plant project near the Contra Costa County south-eastern border. We have provided earlier remarks in a letter of April 13, 2010 and have since received voluminous information responsive to our concerns from the project applicant, County staff, as well as public input.

The County is now satisfied that the proposed project is compatible with the County's General Plan and the Byron Airport Master Plan.

Contra Costa County defers to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) on aeronautical safety issues. We have reviewed and acknowledge the FAA's Determinations of No Hazard to Air Navigation for the project as well as the 2006 FAA study on plume safety that indicates "power plant exhaust plumes do not present an immediate or critical increase in human mental or physical workload." The report further indicates that "the likelihood of an accident or incident caused by an over flight of an exhaust plume is acceptably small. We also understand that the FAA may be releasing additional information about plume safety in the future and look forward to understanding how the new information will inform future decisions.

We recognize that the project is located in Alameda County and, therefore, beyond the jurisdiction of Contra Costa County. We further note that the Alameda County Board of Supervisors has already determined that the project is compatible with its land use regulations. We respect and defer to Alameda County's determination. However, given the location of the Byron Airport in Contra Costa County and the various queries from Contra Costa stakeholders, we believe our review and evaluation of the project's impact on our County and its assets was prudent.

We acknowledge that the Contra Costa County Planning Commission and the Contra Costa County Byron Municipal Advisory Council has also reviewed the project and supports it as a way of attracting local, high wage jobs and increasing local purchasing in Contra Costa County.

Given that our questions have been satisfactorily addressed regarding potential impacts to the Byron Airport, and given that the County will receive economic benefits in the form of local spending, a community benefits package, and local high-wage jobs, Contra Costa County supports the Mariposa Energy Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Gioia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOHN GIOIA  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Catherine Kutsuris, Director, Conservation and Development Dept.  
Julie Bueren, Director, Public Works Department  
Alameda County Board of Supervisors  
David Twa, County Administrator  
Keith Freitas, Director of Airports  
Airport Sub-Committee of the Board of Supervisors  
Aviation Advisory Committee  
Byron Municipal Advisory Council