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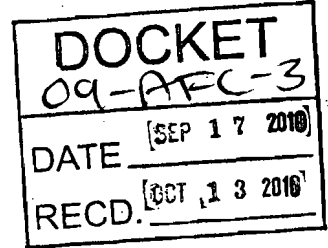
JOAN BUCHANAN
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTEENTH DISTRICT

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September 17, 2010

Commissioner Jeffrey D. Byron
Commissioner Robert Weisenmiller, PhD
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA



Dear Commissioners Byron and Weisenmiller,

We write to encourage your favorable consideration and quick approval of the Mariposa Energy Project proposed by Diamond Generating Corporation ("DGC"). Located in an unincorporated area within Alameda County, but near Contra Costa and San Joaquin Counties, this Bay Area energy project is important to our local electrical grid reinforcement and fit into overall regional energy needs, will play an important role as we integrate more renewable power into the grid, and offers regional investment and economic benefits.

As California embraces the very aggressive targets to reduce emissions set forth in AB 32 and by Executive Orders, we understand and appreciate the need to enhance our use of renewable energy sources. Mariposa is a necessary component of the strategy to bring us to this goal. Mariposa will be a natural gas-fired, simple cycle electrical generating facility with a capacity of only 200 megawatts. Designed as a quickstart, highly flexible, and highly dispatchable facility that assists in the integration of renewable energy in the California grid, this project effectively enables the utilities to meet California's Renewables Portfolio Standards.

DGC, located in California for over twenty years, has successfully developed, owned and operated several projects in the state that have shown considerable value and importance when California needed it. For Mariposa specifically, we believe that (i) this project meets the energy needs of the Bay Area based on the determinations of the California Public Utility Commission; (ii) DGC, a longstanding successful California energy development firm, has worked diligently to address all concerns and worked closely with community, labor and governmental organizations; and (iii) Mariposa offers a significant financial investment at a time of economic challenge and will generate a significant economic impact for the region.

We appreciate your consideration of this letter and again ask that the Commission approve this worthy project in a timely fashion.

Sincerely,

Joan Buchanan
Assemblymember
Alameda County

Tom Torlakson
Assemblymember
Contra Costa County

