

State of California
State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of:) Docket # 09-AFC-03
))
Mariposa Energy Project) Nov 29 Staff Assessment Workshop
) Air Quality, Alternatives, Social
) Economic Effects on Mountain House
_____) (By Rajesh Dighe)

Date: Dec 04-2010

From: Rajesh Dighe

During the Nov 29 Public Workshop around CEC Staff Assessment at Byron Irrigation District lot of issues were identified and are categorized and mentioned below.

Air Quality

During evening Air Quality session with Mountain House residents, below serious concerns were identified.

- a. The CEC Air Quality Staff admitted running the “Air Dispersion Models” using data points provided by the applicant based on Tracy Airport’s meteorological data.
- b. Mountain House and Tracy have huge difference in Wind Patterns throughout the year.
- c. Air modeling done using Tracy meteorological data will not accurately depict “Air Quality effects” because of Mariposa emissions on Mountain House community.
- d. CEC Air Quality staff admitted that difference in meteorological data set between Tracy and Mountain House is interesting to model.
- e. Also during the morning session, it was mentioned by CEC staff that cumulative Air Quality modeling for 3 power plants- Mariposa, East Altamont, Cogen power plant is still in progress. This need to be done using proper meteorological data set around Mountain House
- f. Rajesh Dighe further advised CEC Air Quality Staff to research more to get the correct meteorological data for Mountain House. One of the Mountain House resident attending Nov 29 workshop also gave an idea to approach Mountain House, Fire Department. They were supposedly capturing some wind pattern data. Rajesh Dighe also insisted that applicant do their part of research and explore alternatives to capture correct and accurate data set around Mountain House to help CEC do accurate Air Quality Dispersion modeling for Mariposa.
- g. When applicant provides the new meteorological data to be used for Air Dispersion Modeling to CEC, Rajesh Dighe definitely wants to review and re-run the Air Dispersion models along with Mountain House Community local experts.

- h. Mountain House residents are concerned over the Air Quality modeling analysis and requested re-analysis of Air Quality in the evening session of the Staff Assessment.
- i. Mountain House residents also explained interesting strong wind patterns during summer with velocities having potentials to rip off home roofs.
- j. During evening session, Intervener Morgan Groover representing MHCSO also requested CEC Air Quality Staff to detail out more non-technical explanations around Air Quality in CEC Staff Assessment which he could use to explain Mariposa Air Quality concerns to his community residents when they come to pay water bills. CEC Air Quality Staff agreed to help him with his request.
- k. Mountain House resident- Jass Singh who will take office as an newly elected Board of Director this month insisted on not compromising on Air Quality modeling studies and offered help to his own capacity. He also suggested collecting meteorological data from Livermore, Mountain House, Tracy, Stockton and to analyze differences in data sets during Air Modeling studies.
- l. In the morning session, CEC staff also agreed to send the latest Air Quality Modeling files to Interveners Rajesh Dighe and Robert Sarvey for their individual analysis.

Mountain House boundary incorrect in Staff Assessment

During the Evening session, Morgan Groover, MHCSO Staff and Intervener to Mariposa Project identified that the Air Quality Modeling picture had incorrect Mountain House boundary and he currently is not comfortable with current analysis of the Air Quality effects of emissions on Mountain House community. He also had an interesting conversation with Public Health Doctor during the evening session along with residents. Both Mr Groover and Mountain House residents kept on expressing their Air Quality concerns and how regional effects of emission on Mountain House Community remained unclear to them from the Staff Assessment. One of the Mountain House resident also requested CEC Staff to present the community with GHG emission (detail gases and their side-effects and potential mitigations like planting Trees, etc to explain in the Staff Assessment).

Social Economic Effects on Mountain House

Rajesh Dighe mentioned in the morning session that the Social Economic in Staff Assessment was far from complete and needs re-work. He has docked his analysis in the CEC 09-AFC-03 docket system.

http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/mariposa/documents/others/2010-11-23_Rajesh_Dighe_Social_Economic_Effects_TN-59044.pdf

Alternatives

Rajesh Dighe mentioned in the morning session that the Alternatives section in Staff Assessment still had lots of queries from Mountain House residents. Below areas need definite elucidation

- a. Carbon Capture of Mariposa emission. Rajesh wants applicant to do detail costing for installing this system and to what level it could reduce Air Quality emissions. Rajesh is curious to see how Air Quality Tables 20 (regional) and Table 21 (macro) in Staff Assessment will look very different if Carbon Capture and Storage is implemented. Such an analysis around GHG emission control using Carbon Capture and Storage cannot be missed as we continue to improve our Air Quality here in California.
- b. Rajesh also suggested study of combined cycle engine to reduce GHG emissions in this plant. Again how will Air Quality Table 20 (regional) and Table 21 (macro) look if combined cycle engines were considered as part of Mariposa power plant design. Applicant has not done this.
- c. Rajesh also showed concerns around applicant's suggested 2 alternative sites which are also about 2.x miles close to Mountain House. It is not convincing to Mountain House residents and Rajesh Dighe on why an alternate site further away from residential communities was not considered by the applicant during alternative site research. Mountain House demands more alternative sites being investigated by the applicant which are further away from residential communities. Infact, above mentioned Mountain House elected official Jass Singh talked about how State of California should start mandating power plant applicants on site away from residential communities. Rajesh Dighe also has docketed in his "Social Economic Effect on Mountain House" a quote from Mayor Abram Wilson on how strongly he feels around not having Mariposa Power Plant close to Mountain House Community. Below is reference to docket article from the Mayor who has opposed this power plant.

http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/mariposa/documents/others/2010-10-26_Letter_from_Abram_Wilson_Opposing_Proposed_location_of_MEP_TN-58876.pdf

- d. Rajesh Dighe also mentioned having Peaker Power plants with no Carbon capture technology goes against AB 32 California Solar Initiative.
- e. Since Mountain House Community is aggressive and forward looking technologically and advocates Solar Panel installations, Rajesh Dighe also suggests applicant studying more Solar Panel technologies and analyzing how many of these Solar Panels over homes and offices would be required in San Joaquin County to reduce Peak Power usage in summer. As many homes and offices start installing Solar Panels we should see lesser needs for Mariposa like Peaker Power Plants. Note : The amount of power generated by sq ft of Solar Panels will keep on improving as Solar technology advances.
- f. According to Rajesh Dighe, it is not far when Solar Panels will potentially replace "GHG emitting Peaker Power Plants" as Solar and Energy Storage research keeps improving in the coming decade.

Applicant's Mitigation with San Joaquin Air Quality and Mountain House

During Evening session, Morgan Groover, Intervener also mentioned that it unclear how mitigation of around \$640K was done by the applicant with SJ Air Quality with no clear understanding of impacts to his Mountain House community.

Above mentioned Mountain House resident- Jass Singh also showed huge concerns around this mitigation and expressed worries around zero mitigation money coming into his Mountain House community. The Staff needs to work with SJ Air Quality to investigate this further.

Byron Airport

It is a non-towered airport. Rajesh Dighe commented and showed concerns around CEC Staff's statement which is:

"It is pilot's responsibility to avoid the Mariposa Power Plant during landing into Byron Airport".

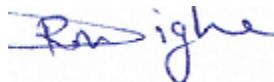
Rajesh Dighe also mentioned bad weather, Altamont Mountains and Wind Mill distraction causes high probability for accidental oversights during landing into Byron Airport.

Detailed annual glider patterns and frequencies around Mariposa Power need to be studied and documented in the Staff Assessment. Staff clearly admitted that these studies were not done.

Because of all the above serious outstanding issues identified in the Staff Assessment, Intervener Rajesh Dighe and entire Mountain House community requests CEC Staff for 2nd Public Workshop after the Supplemental Staff Assessment. Such a workshop will help CEC Staff and Mountain Resident's to brainstorm more on CEC's Supplemental Staff Assessment.

Mountain House Community also requests CEC Staff to conduct the 2nd Public Workshop inside Mountain House Community District (Possibly inside MHCS Board Room).

Thanking you
Sincerely



Rajesh Dighe

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

State Energy Resources

Conservation and Development Commission

In the Matter of: [DOCKET NUMBER 09-AFC-03]

[MARIPOSA ENERGY PROJECT] DECLARATION OF SERVICE

I, [Rajesh Dighe](#) declare that on Dec-04-2010, I served and filed copies of this document dated Dec-04-2010. The original document, filed with the Docket Unit, is accompanied by a copy of the most recent *Proof of Service* list (most recent version is located on the proceeding's web page at: <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/mariposa/index.html>)

The document has been sent to both the other parties in this proceeding (as shown on the *Proof of Service* list) and to the Commission's Docket Unit, in the following manner:

For service to the applicant and all other parties:

sent electronically to all email addresses on the Proof of Service list;

by personal delivery or by depositing in the United States mail at [Sacramento, California](#) with first-class postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed as provided on the *Proof of Service* list above to those addresses **NOT** marked "email preferred."

AND

For filing with the Energy Commission:

sending an original paper copy and one electronic copy, mailed and emailed respectively, to the address below (preferred method);

OR

depositing in the mail an original and 12 paper copies, as follows:

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

Attn: Docket No. [\[09-AFC-03\]](#)

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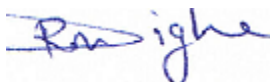
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

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I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Rajesh Dighe

Dec-04-2010





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APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION
FOR THE **MARIPOSA ENERGY PROJECT**
(MEP)

Docket No. 09-AFC-3

PROOF OF SERVICE
(Revised 10/20/2010)

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