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09-AFC-3	
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**State of California
State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission**

In the Matter of:)
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Mariposa Energy Project)
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Docket # 09-AFC-03

**Motion to change venue and to adopt sustainable
practices in siting proceedings.**
February 10, 2011

Motion to change venue and to adopt sustainable practices in siting proceedings.

On MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011 *at the*; BYRON BETHANY IRRIGATION DISTRICT located at; 7995 BRUNS ROAD BYRON, CALIFORNIA 94514 I attended the PREHEARING CONFERENCE *for the* MARIPOSA ENERGY PROJECT. The EVIDENTIARY HEARING has been scheduled for the same location on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2011 and (if necessary) FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2011. I received an email that "any third day of hearings would be in Sacramento" on March 3 or March 7.

The present venue, 5 miles outside of the affected community of Mountain house and 11 miles from a venue that the CEC has used before in the city of Tracy California, was apparently provided by a proponent of the project the, BYRON BETHANY IRRIGATION DISTRICT. The location does not serve to promote public participation or accessibility to the hearing. There appears to be no public transportation within miles of the venue. There appeared to be no signage or posting of the Hearing. Attendees must traverse a treacherous, high speed, country road. I did not realize how close we were to

Tracy and Mountain House or I may have raised this issue at the PHC. Either community must have a more accessible and neutral location available. There appear to be several modern schools in the middle of the Mountain House Community that would be realistically accessible to the community. I have discussed this with other intervenors and they seem to agree.

Other locations would likely enjoy the opportunity for the Commission to ensure a functional P.A. system. The Irrigation District P.A. system was highly disruptive to the PHC. It is not the first venue utilized by the CEC, in which I participated, that has been plagued by sound system issues. It would benefit all, desiring to proceed expeditiously and professionally in these proceedings, to have a functional P.A. system. The technology for which, should not be, well beyond, the ability of an average Garage Band.

The present venue requires participants to leave their community and drive to the hearings. This could be an unnecessary roadblock to participation particularly for low income people, without private transportation. I see that the transportation for the "site visit" departed from the same location instead of departing from the affected community. The Commission should schedule a site visit leaving from the affected community.

It appears that there has been a decision to dispense with the facade of conducting hearings in affected communities and conduct "any third day" of the hearings in Sacramento for this matter. There appears to be no cause cited for this change. I recall no discussion, stipulation or order to this effect at the PHC. The Commission should conduct all Hearings, in the affected communities, in an accessible location for the public and if at all possible, served by public transportation.

The PHC was served by bottled water. The commission should consider sustainable practices in all of its proceedings and where possible require water that has not been bottled.

Rob Simpson