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May 31, 2012

Mr. Eric Solorio Project Manager California Energy Commission 1516 Ninth Street, MS-2000 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: CONNECT Supports the Quail Brush Peaker Plant

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Dear Mr. Solorio:

As President of CONNECT, I would like to take this opportunity to express my support for the Quail Brush peaker plant being proposed by Cogentrix for the City of San Diego. CONNECT is a regional organization that supports the creation of innovative technology and life sciences products in San Diego County by providing resources to inventors and entrepreneurs. We have assisted in the formation and development of more than 3,000 companies since 1985.

CONNECT has a strong track record of supporting infrastructure projects that enhance the overall reliability of SDG&E's electric grid. San Diego's existing businesses and start-up ventures depend on reliable electricity to power their operations and continue growing. As a result, our region's economic prosperity hinges on the approval of additional peaker plants such as Quail Brush. With older generation facilities being retired and SONGS currently shut down, this project is absolutely essential.

We also support Quail Brush because it will help us make the transition toward renewable energy. Natural gas-fired peaker plants are the cleanest, most effective way to provide local businesses and homes with electricity when wind and solar resources are not available. If we are serious about renewable energy, we need to get serious about back-up generation projects.

On behalf of CONNECT, I urge the Commission to give serious consideration to the Quail Brush project. San Diego County stands to realize tremendous benefits if this plant is approved. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Camille Saltman
President

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