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From: Judi Ravetti [mailto:judi.ravetti@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2012 2:55 PM
To: Solorio, Eric@Energy
Subject: Quail Brush Generation Project Docket Number 11-AFC-3

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

July 31, 2012

Re: Docket Number 11-AFC-3, Quail Brush Generation Project

Mr Solorio:

The article, below, was copied from the San Diego Union Tribune dated Tuesday, July 31, 2012.

This is another fact of why the Quail Brush Plant is not necessary in the San Diego area.

More and more businesses and homes are going solar and less dependent on SDG & E.

There is no question that this is an unwarranted power plant. The harm it will bring the community is far greater than any insufficient benefit. Please strongly oppose this encumbrance, as do thousands of San Diegians.

Regards,
Judi Ravetti
7432 Rainswept Lane
San Diego, CA 92119

WALMART ADDS ANOTHER ROOFTOP SOLAR INSTALLATION

College Avenue store is retail giant's 100th in the state to generate its own electricity.

by Morgan Lee, U-T

Walmart unveiled its 100th California rooftop solar array Monday at a store on College Avenue in San Diego.

The retail giant is putting its outsized geographic footprint to work as a staging ground for clean energy. **Its long-term goal: become 100 percent supplied by renewable energy.**

That effort holds significant implications for Walmart's business partners in California — and potentially some instructive lessons for homeowners and businesses pursuing clean energy.

At the College Avenue store, Walmart bid out its rooftop solar permitting, installation, financing and maintenance to third-party solar companies — similar to arrangements now made by the majority of homeowners who go solar.

The partnership in this instance went to San Mateo-based SolarCity.

“We look at the cost of the power from San Diego Gas & Electric compared to the cost that SolarCity is able to offer us on a monthly basis,” explained Marty Gilbert, director of energy, speaking from Walmart headquarters in Bentonville, Ark. “If it’s break even or better, saving money for the store, then we’ll pursue it. That’s generally our philosophy.”

Built into the deal are federal tax benefits, along with state incentives funded by ratepayers.

As it negotiates rooftop solar deals, Walmart currently bargains for relatively short-term contract terms — spanning 10 years, rather than 20 or 25 — so it can renegotiate later as solar technologies and efficiencies improve.

With its latest solar installation, Walmart calculates that its California stores, including Sam’s Club locations, generate enough electricity to power about 5,400 homes.

Of 19 stores in San Diego County, 11 have solar installations. (There are four locations within San Diego city limits.)

There are 4,522 Walmart and Sam’s Club stores in the United States, including 215 retail stores in California.