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California Energy Commission

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9191 Towne Centre Drive
Suite 410
San Diego, CA 92122

www.cleantechsandiego.org

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Scripps Institution
of Oceanography

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Latham & Watkins

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Special Advisor

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JASON ANDERSON
Vice President

MARTY TUROCK
Greening San Diego

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

RE: Comments on Status Conference for Quail Brush Generation Project

Dear Mr. Solorio:

CleanTECH San Diego is a private, non-profit member organization formed in 2007 to position the San Diego region as a global leader in the cleantech economy. We have a broad and diverse membership that includes private sector companies, local governments, nongovernmental agencies and universities and research institutions.

CleanTECH San Diego supports the Quail Brush Generation Project (Quail Brush) because it will help advance our region's renewable energy goals by supporting renewable energy generation and provide reliability in meeting the region's energy needs not just daily, but hourly without any interruptions. On behalf of CleanTECH San Diego, I would like to take the opportunity to clarify these issues in advance of the California Energy Commission's status conference on October 16. I understand that you will be evaluating Quail Brush with respect to public convenience and necessity at that time.

In looking at the status of renewable energy in San Diego County, it is clear that stable, reliable electricity remains absolutely critical. Our region is a leader in renewable energy, but these resources are intermittent and do not produce electricity continuously. The variable nature of wind and solar production will require on-demand response systems such as Quail Brush to equalize power supply at peak periods. Without this type of facility to come online quickly when renewable generation ceases, it will be impossible to maximize our region's potential for developing sustainable power projects without sacrificing reliability.

While the intermittency of renewable energy presents a serious challenge to electric reliability, the San Onofre nuclear plant is an additional source of concern. San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) and its customers were able to prevent a crisis this summer, but if San Onofre remains shut down next year that could change. San Diego will not have access to the Huntington Beach plant that provided back-up power in 2012, highlighting the need for reliable in-basin generation facilities. Quail Brush will fill that critical role in the long term, providing up to 100 megawatts of electricity when consumption peaks with one of the most advanced and fuel-efficient peaking engine technologies available.

Thank you very much for giving the public the opportunity to comment on the need for Quail Brush. We look forward to continuing to participate in this dialogue as the project moves forward and ask the Commission to keep CleanTECH San Diego's input in mind on October 16 as well as during the final vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Anderson".

Jason Anderson