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TIMOTHY R. HEALY
PRESIDENT, ARB INDUSTRIAL

California Energy Commission
DOCKETED
13-IEP-1D
TN 71991
SEPT 20 2013

September 20, 2013

California Energy Commission
Dockets Office, MS-4
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Via: docket@energy.ca.gov; Mike.Jaske@energy.ca.gov

Re: Docket No. 13-IEP-1D

Dear Sirs:

ARB is a California company involved in the building of California's energy infrastructure since 1946. Our organization is dedicated to a balanced approach to maintaining a healthy energy environment in every respect, and as such we support responsible power development. ARB employs approximately 2,000 Building Trades craft in California full-time, and we all believe that all forms of energy are necessary to maintain California's Grid Reliability. Fast Start, flexible, state of the art conventional generation resources in load centers are needed along with renewables and transmission projects, but conventional resources are essential to integrate all of the renewable imports into the load centers. With the closure of San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, we are very concerned about the reliability of our power supply. The economic environment depends vitally on that reliability. Nearly every industry depends on power as a basic need. Our employees and members of the unions representing our workforce are also consumers whose households rely on a reliable supply of power for their safety, health and comfort.

While conservation and transmission projects may help fill some of the gap, they are not a substitute for the solid reliability in the form of conventional power plants. The growth in renewable plants like wind and solar is encouraging but weather is not predictable and no one can ensure those resources will be there when you need them. There remains a need for gas-fired generation to provide an uninterrupted supply of power. Our organization works to ensure the public can rely on the power plants we build, and our employees receive fair wages and benefits for their work.

Power plant construction projects create hundreds of jobs, stimulate local economies, and add to the tax base. The jobs created are high-paying, high-skilled jobs at a time when real estate, manufacturing and other industrial trades are still recovering from the downtown in the economy. We stand ready to do our part to ensure the State of California can count on a reliable supply of power. We ask that you consider the positive effects that power plant construction can have on the communities they serve, and we ask the Commission to work closely with the other regulatory authorities in the state to expedite the approval of proposed power purchase agreements and other approvals necessary to keep California moving forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns and our viewpoint.

Sincerely,

Timothy R. Healy