

Docket Optical System - Docket No 07-AFC-6

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To: <docket@energy.state.ca.us>
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Subject: Docket No 07-AFC-6

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To Whom It May Concern,

We are strongly opposed to another coastal power plant. The current one is an eyesore to the beautiful coastline in Carlsbad. A smokestack isn't conducive to enhancing the value of real estate in the coastal area - something that all other North Coast communities enjoy. The energy generated there will be sold off to utilities and will likely not even be used by the city hosting the facility.

The new power plant should be moved inland. There is no need for the ocean to cool power plants any longer and the required industrial water can be gotten from the existing water supply system. The existing plant is a source of pollution and construction of another plant, including the required heavy equipment, will only aggravate the problem. We observed a fire by the YMCA camp area adjacent to the power plant some years ago and the fire equipment could not approach the site. They were forced to use water cannons to extinguish the fire. The same would be true of the proposed power plant.

In addition, the plant would pose a potential hazard to drivers along I-5 due to the close proximity of the power plant. High-voltage power generation facilities should be located well away from residential areas, major thoroughfares and other areas where many people are at risk of exposure to electrical hazards, pollution from burning fossil fuel and many other undesirable environmental problems.

We find it curious that the power plant in Chula Vista is planned to be de-commissioned while plans are being made to build a plant in Carlsbad. We wonder why the proposed plant not be built in La Jolla or Solano Beach. Perhaps the residents there have sufficient political clout to prevent this from happening.

It's clear that building on the existing site will save the utility a great deal of money by not having to erect new high-tension power lines as well as the infrastructure for transporting the fuel. That's called the cost of doing business in a fair democratic capitalistic society. Government commissions aren't supposed to make decisions based on a corporation's bottom line. The citizens and government of Carlsbad have voiced their opposition to this power plant repeatedly and in no uncertain terms. If you proceed with these plans in light of these facts, obviously the sovereignty of a community like ours doesn't carry much weight with state commissions.

Sincerely,

Joyce and Carl Hassell

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