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**Wednesday, November 30, 2010**

Commissioner James Boyd
Commissioner Robert B. Weisenmiller
California Energy Commission
1516 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Subject: Support for CEC approval of Oakley Generating Station

Dear Commissioners Boyd and Weisenmiller:

I am writing to express my personal support for a speedy CEC approval of the Oakley Generating Station project. Here are my reasons:

I have been following the three proposed power plants mentioned in Application-09-09-021 and believe there is ample need for the Oakley facility. This project represents an exciting and positive opportunity for adding environmentally responsible generation to the utility grid and much needed economic value for the city of Oakley.

As a young engineer out of the University of Wisconsin, I spent my first four years of professional activity working at the Oak Creek Power Plant in Oak Creek, WI. There I had the up-close view of what a modern (1960's version) generating plant can do for an area, both good, and bad. In comparison, the new Oakley Generating Station, in my view, represents the good side of the equation, with very little of the potential undesirable effects.

Later in my career, my family and I moved to California, where I spent 13 years working for the Bechtel Group on all sorts of first of a kind projects, including evaluation of a wide variety of emerging power generation technologies. In comparison to that mix of technologies, both renewable and fossil-based, the Oakley generating station represents a prudent choice with respect to process efficiency, limited emissions including carbon, and ability to furnish dispachable kilowatts when needed. The use of quick-start, rapid response technology allows the Oakley Generating Station to balance the output of current and emerging renewable technologies. The use of dry cooling minimizes impact to the Delta waterways, which are, as I am keenly aware, environmentally stressed to the breaking point. The implementation of the project will allow PG&E to replace some of its older equipment (Contra Costa Units 6 and 7) along with expanding load. While the Oakley Generating Station will not run all of the time, when it does, it will do so with a much lower carbon footprint than the older equipment it displaces.

We moved to Oakley about ten years ago, where I taught science, including chemistry, physics, and environmental science at Freedom High School along with chairing the Science Department. I have had the opportunity to learn what is important to residents of Oakley, especially in my current activities as President of the board of directors of the Delta Science Center at Big Break, (DSC). I also am a long time member of the Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed. The DSC expects to move in to new facilities very close to the proposed Oakley Generating Station. We expect that we will be good neighbors, with the benefits far outweighing any negatives.

This is my personal and professional view, representing over 40 years of experience as an engineer, educator, and resident of Oakley. If I can be of any service on this evaluation, or if you have questions relating to my letter, feel free to contact me at the above address or at srlindy@pacbell.net. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely:

Thomas E. Lindemuth, P.E.