CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

PUBLIC OUTREACH WORKSHOP

REGARDING THE QUAIL BRUSH GENERATION PROJECT

DOCKET
11-AFC-3
DATE
RECD. MAR 26 2012

Artist's Depiction of the Quail Brush Generation Project

Viewpoint From Mission Gorge Road

Purpose of Tonight's Public Outreach Workshop

- This workshop is being held in response to the amount of public comments submitted to the Energy Commission. The purpose of the workshop to inform members of the public about the proposed Quail Brush Generating Project application (11-AFC-3) and the Energy Commission's environmental review and power plant licensing process.
  - **The *Proposed* Quail Brush Generation Project**
    - **100-megawatt natural gas-fired, reciprocating engine power plant**
    - **Proposed to be located on a 21-acre site south of the Sycamore Landfill and north of State Route 52 in the City of San Diego**
- You are welcome to provide comments about the proposed project and ask questions of the Energy Commission's technical experts responsible for reviewing the project application.
- You will also be informed of additional public workshops for the project application and the various ways you can participate in the Energy Commission's power plant licensing process.

Tonight's Agenda

5:00 p.m. **Introductions**

5:05 p.m. **Overview of how the question and answer sessions are organized**

5:15 p.m. **Presentations and Discussion**

- Energy Commission Staff—power plant siting process
- Energy Commission Staff—technical experts provide overview of their environmental review of the project

6:15 p.m. **Public Comments and Questions of Energy Commission Staff**

7:30 p.m. **Break (30 minutes)** Beverages are available in the lobby and food will be available from 6:00 p.m. until the end of the workshop (or until its gone).

9:00 p.m. **Applicant (Quail Brush Genco, LLC) Q/A Session w/ Public** (will start sooner if Q/A with staff finishes earlier)

10:00 p.m. **Workshop Adjourned** (end time depends on number of comments)

Energy Commission Staff's Respectful Request for Everyone's Cooperation

We Respectfully Request Everyone's Cooperation During Tonight's Workshop

- Energy Commission staff have received nearly 80 written, public comments opposing the proposed Quail Brush Generation Project. The written opposition is community based, raises environmental and public health concerns, and expresses a wide range of emotions, including frustration and anger.
- Our objectives for tonight include giving **everyone** an opportunity to provide comments and ask questions of the Energy Commission's staff who are responsible for reviewing the project application.
- Please allow every presenter and each public speaker an opportunity to be heard without interruption. There will be no tolerance for heckling, yelling, cursing or any type of abusive behavior.

Hearing Public Comment and Questions

Public Comments and Questions for CEC Staff

- Public comment will be taken in the following order:
  - 1.) The order that "requests to speak" (blue cards) are submitted;
  - 2.) The order that participants are logged into WebEx (raise hand electronically); and
  - 3.) Callers on the phone (alphabetically)
- Depending on the number or requests to speak, Energy Commission staff will respond to all questions either immediately after each speaker finishes or respond periodically as called upon by the workshop facilitator (me). <u>All questions will be answered.</u>

Public Comments and Questions for Applicant

- Will be done in the same order as above AFTER the CEC staff completes their presentation and Q/A session.

Energy Commission's Role

- Energy Commission has permitting authority over thermal power plants that are 50 megawatts or greater.
- The Commission is the lead state agency for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review and ongoing compliance. The Commission review, staff assessment, and approval process is carried out under the Commissions certified regulatory program.
- There are five members of the Energy Commission. The Commission has appointed Commissioners Douglas (Presiding Committee Member) and Peterman (Associate Committee Member) to oversee the licensing process for this project.
- Staff produces a Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and Final Staff Assessment (FSA), including recommendations regarding the proposed project.
- The Committee will issue a Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD) that makes a recommendation to the full Commission to approve, reject, or amend the proposed project.

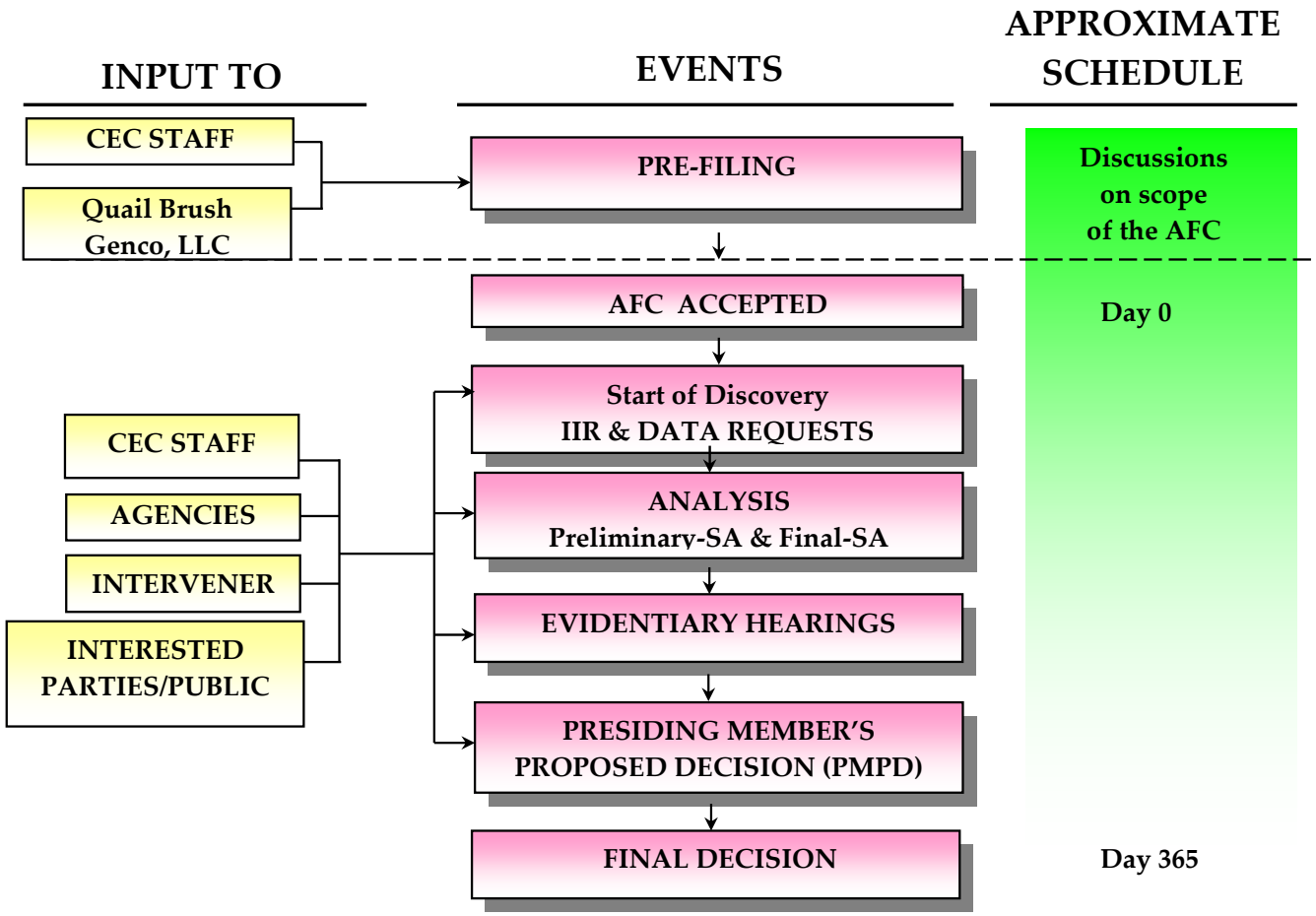
Local, State and Federal Coordination

- Energy Commission staff work closely with local, state and other federal agencies, for example:
  - Local: City of San Diego
  - Regional: San Diego County, San Diego Air Pollution Control District
  - State: Department of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Office of Historic Preservation, Native American Heritage Commission
  - Federal: Environmental Protection Agency, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service

Overview of Licensing Process

1. **Data Adequacy**
   - Minimum requirements to accept application
2. **Staff Discovery and Analyses**
   - Issues Identification
   - Data requests
   - Public Workshops
   - Preliminary Staff Assessment and public comment
   - Final Staff Assessment
3. **Committee Evidentiary Hearing and Decision**
   - Evidentiary Hearings on FSA and other information
   - Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD) and public comments
   - PMPD hearing and Commission decision

Flow Chart of Licensing Process



Discovery and Analysis Process

- Determine if the project proposal (AFC) complies with Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, Standards (LORS)
- Conduct engineering and environmental analysis
  - ✓ identify issues;
  - ✓ identify environmental impacts and mitigation measures;
  - ✓ evaluate project alternatives and
  - ✓ recommend conditions of certification.
- Facilitate public and agency participation
- Staff products: Preliminary Staff Assessment (PSA) and Final Staff Assessment (FSA)
- Make recommendations to the Committee

Evidentiary Hearing & Decision Process

- **Committee conducts hearings on all information**
- **Issues Presiding Member's Proposed Decision (PMPD). The PMPD contains findings relating to:**
  - Environmental impacts, public health, engineering
  - Project's compliance with LORS
  - Recommends conditions of certification
  - Recommends whether or not to approve the project
- **Full Commission issues a Final Decision**
- **Energy Commission monitors compliance with all conditions of certification, for the life of the project and closure**

Public Participation and Sources of Information

- **Open Public Process**
  - ✓ Workshops/Hearings are noticed at least 10 days in advance
  - ✓ Mailing lists
  - ✓ List Server: www.energy.ca.gov/listservers
- **The Application for Certification is available for public review at the following libraries:**
  - ✓ Central Library in San Diego, San Carlos Library, College-Rolando Library, Allied Gardens/Benjamin Library, Tierrasanta Library and the Scripps Miramar Ranch Library.
- **All project documents are available for public review at:**
  - ✓ Energy Commission Web site: http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/quailbrush/index.html
  - ✓ Dockets Unit at the Energy Commission
    1516 9th Street, MS - 4
    Sacramento, CA 95814-5512

Energy Commission Contacts

- **Committee**
  - Commissioner, Karen Douglas, *Presiding Member*
  - Commissioner, Carla Peterman, *Associate Member*
- **Hearing Officer**
  - Raoul Renaud, Commission's Hearing Officer
    - (916) 651-2020, e-mail: rrenaud@energy.ca.gov
- **Commission Staff**
  - Eric Solorio, Project Manager
    - (916) 651-0966 e-mail: esolorio@energy.ca.gov
- **Public Adviser's Office**
  - Jennifer Jennings
    - (916) 653-5898 or (800) 822-6228
    - e-mail: PublicAdviser@energy. ca.gov

Air Quality

Joseph Hughes, Air Quality Engineer

Air Quality Analysis

- Setting / Ambient air quality
- Project technology and emission rates
- Emissions and modeled impacts
- Mitigation
- Recommendations
- Conditions of Certification

Air Quality

Joseph Hughes, Air Quality Engineer

Setting: Ambient Air Quality

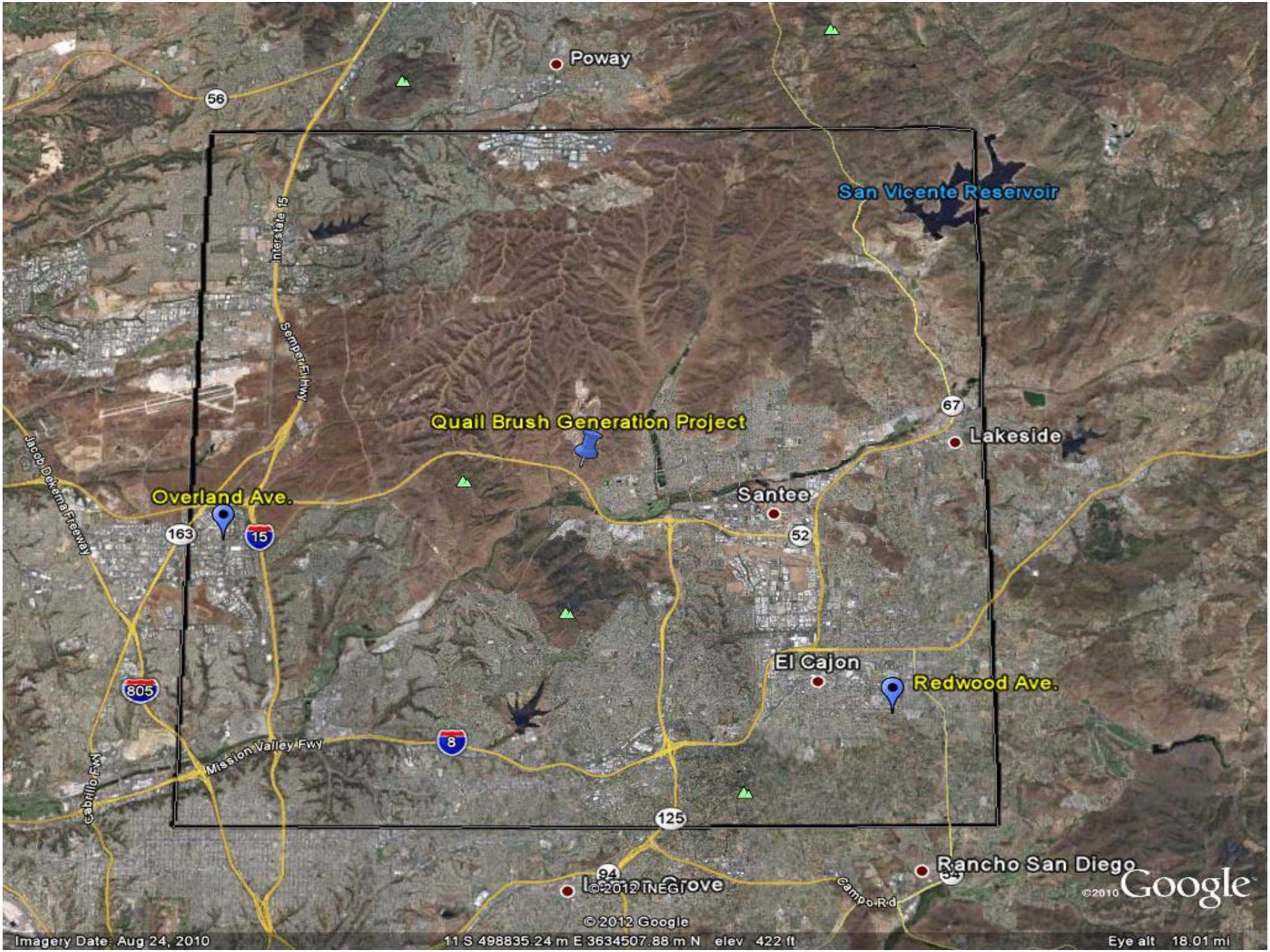
- US EPA and ARB - set health protective ambient air quality standards
  - Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2), Ozone (O3), Sulfur Dioxide (SO2), Particulate Matter less than 10 microns in diameter (PM10), Particulate Matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter (PM2.5)
  - Often state standards are more stringent than federal standards
- ARB and District
  - monitor status of region attainment of standards
  - District permits most stationary sources
  - ARB responsible for most mobile sources

Air Quality

Joseph Hughes, Air Quality Engineer

Analyzing a new emission source:

- Estimate reasonable worst case project emissions;
- model emissions to determine emission concentrations from stack – ie, "impacts";
  - The approved model is intentionally designed to over-predict project impacts.
- Determine representative worst case background concentrations of criteria pollutants; and
- Add impacts to representative worst case background concentrations to predicted worst case modeled project impacts, even if background from different conditions, seasons, or days.


Poway
56
San Vicente Reservoir
Interstate 15
Semper Fi Hwy
Quail Brush Generation Project
67
Lakeside
Jacob Dekema Freeway
Overland Ave.
Santee
163
15
52
El Cajon
Redwood Ave.
805
8
Mission Valley Fwy
Cabrillo Fwy
125
94
Rancho San Diego
Campo Rd
©2010 Google
© 2012 Google
Imagery Date: Aug 24, 2010
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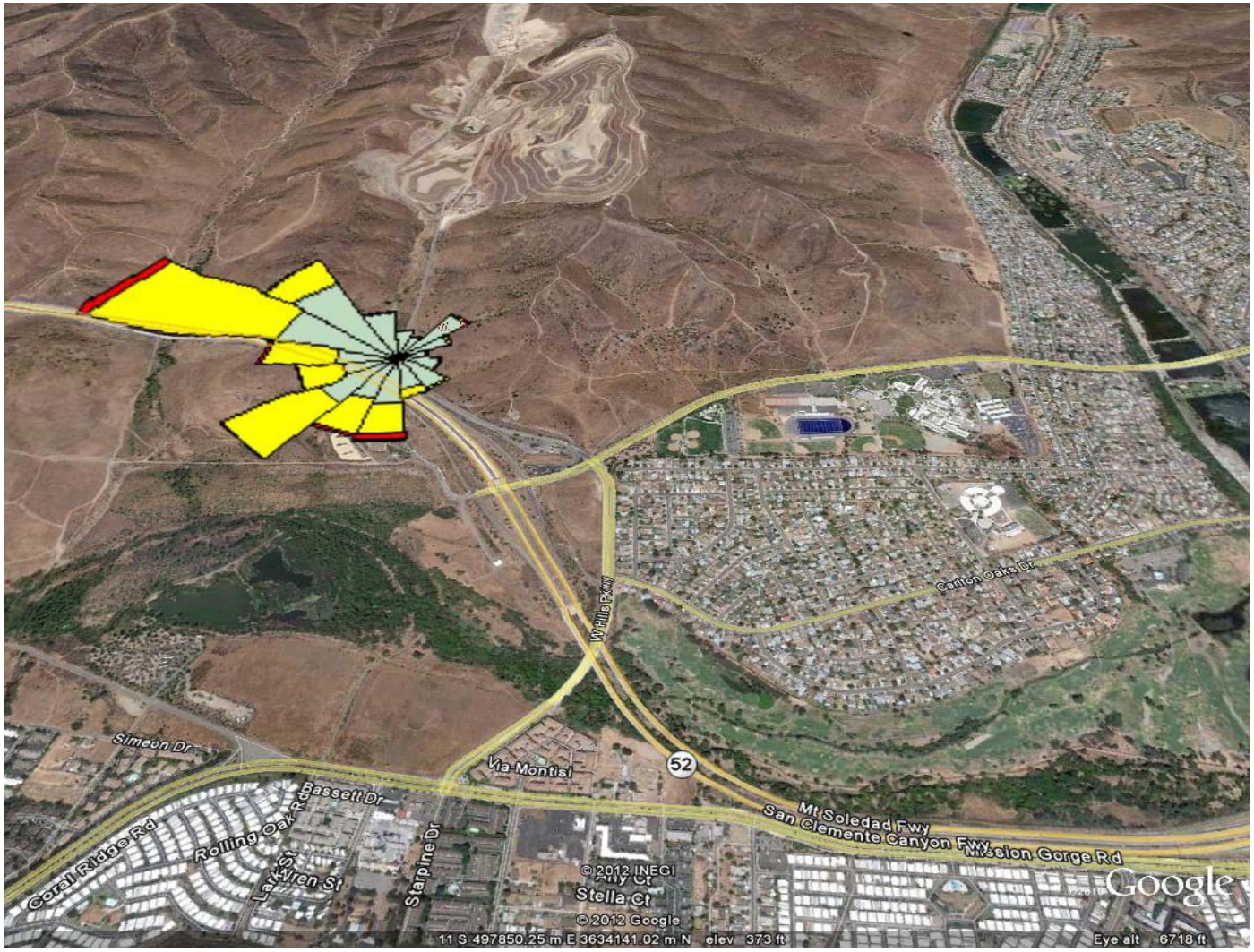
Air Quality

Joseph Hughes, Air Quality Engineer



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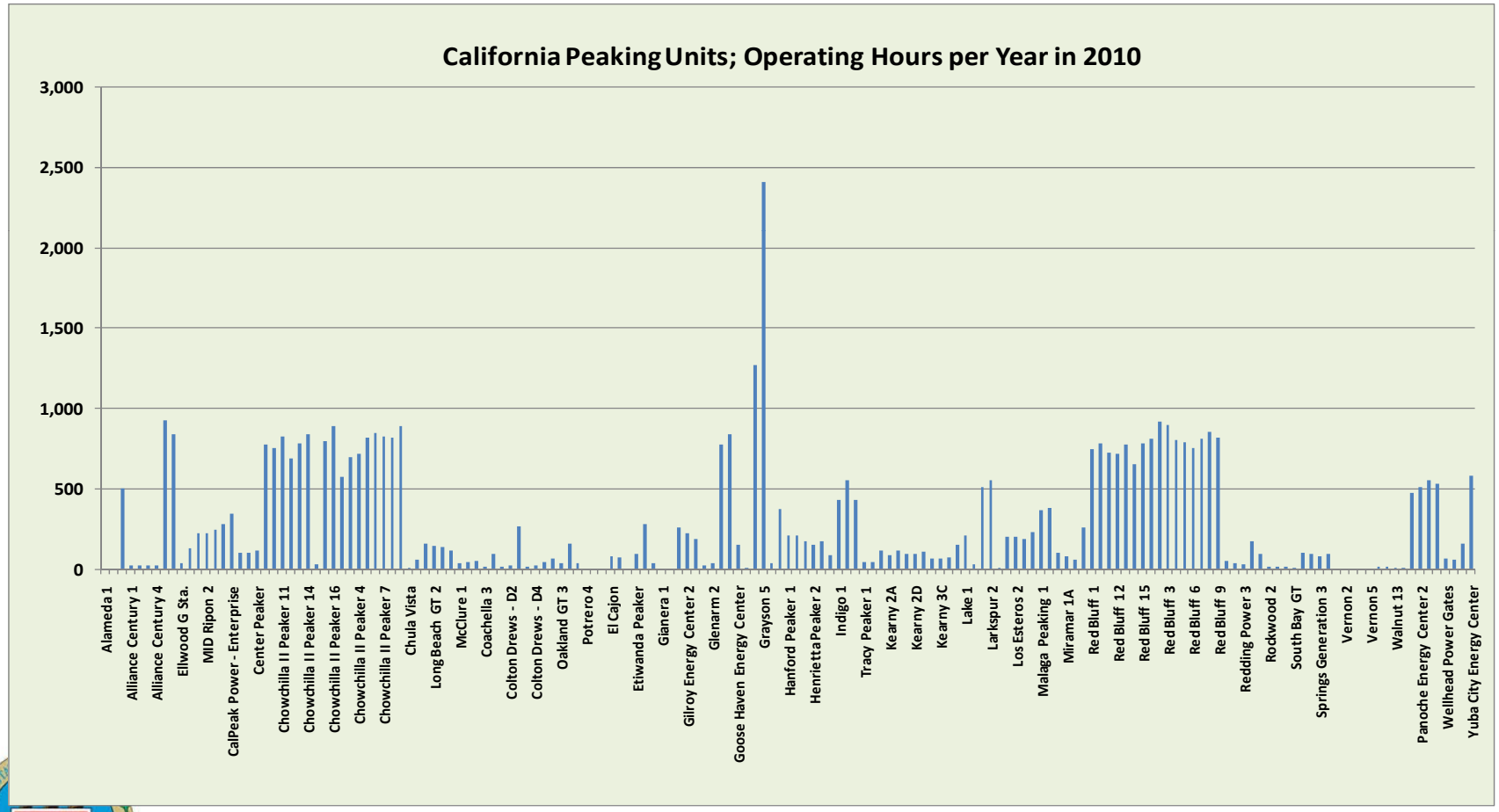

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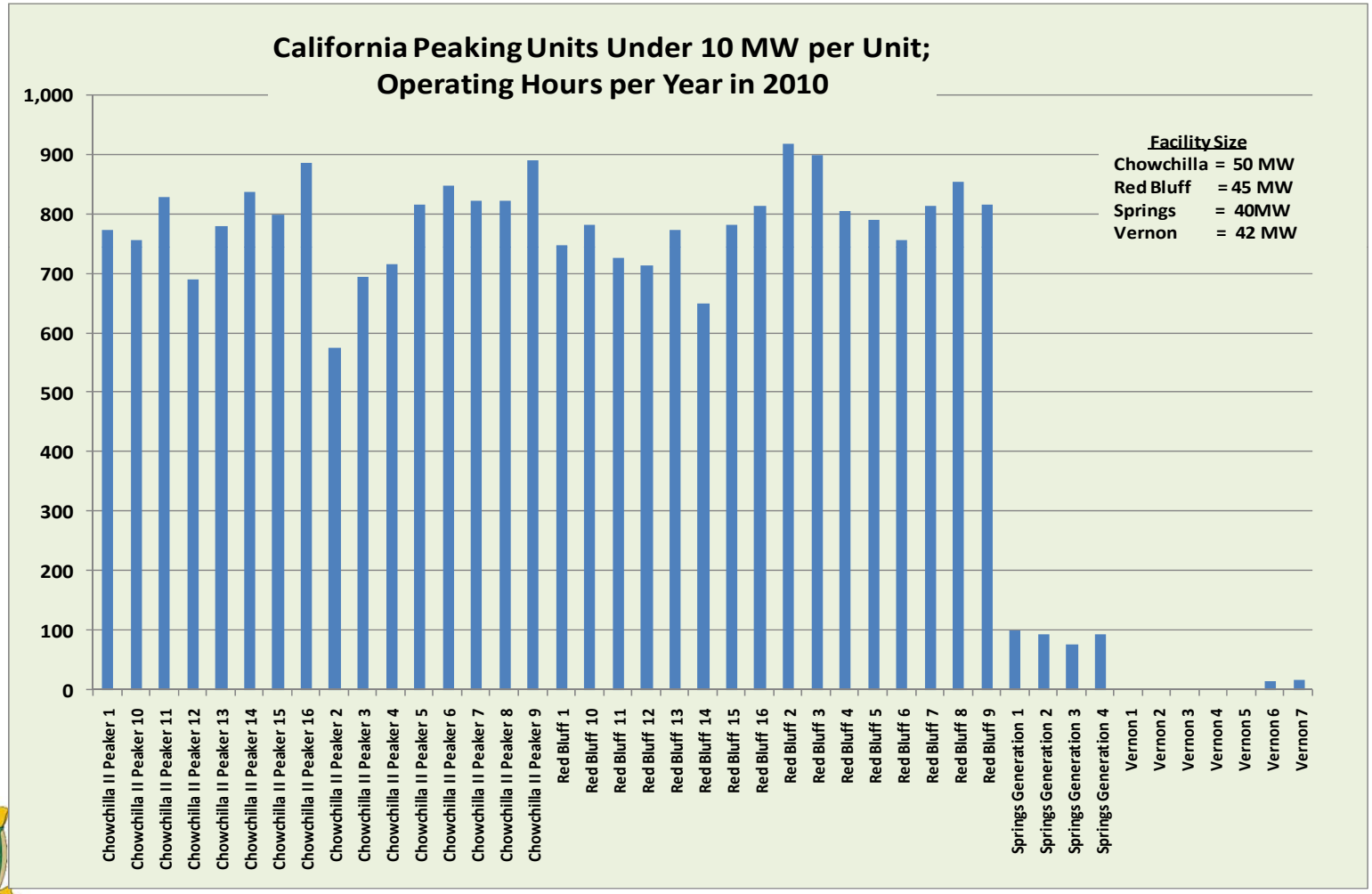


Air Quality

Joseph Hughes, Air Quality Engineer

Greenhouse Gases

- GHG and global climate change – project effects not local but global, so impacts are considered cumulatively
  - Carbon Dioxide (CO2), and Methane (CH4), Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF6), Chlorofluorocarbon (CFCs), Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) and Nitrous Oxide (N2O)

- Project GHG compliance:
  - Report GHG emissions to US EPA and ARB
  - Obtain emissions "allowances" for each ton of GHGs emitted per year

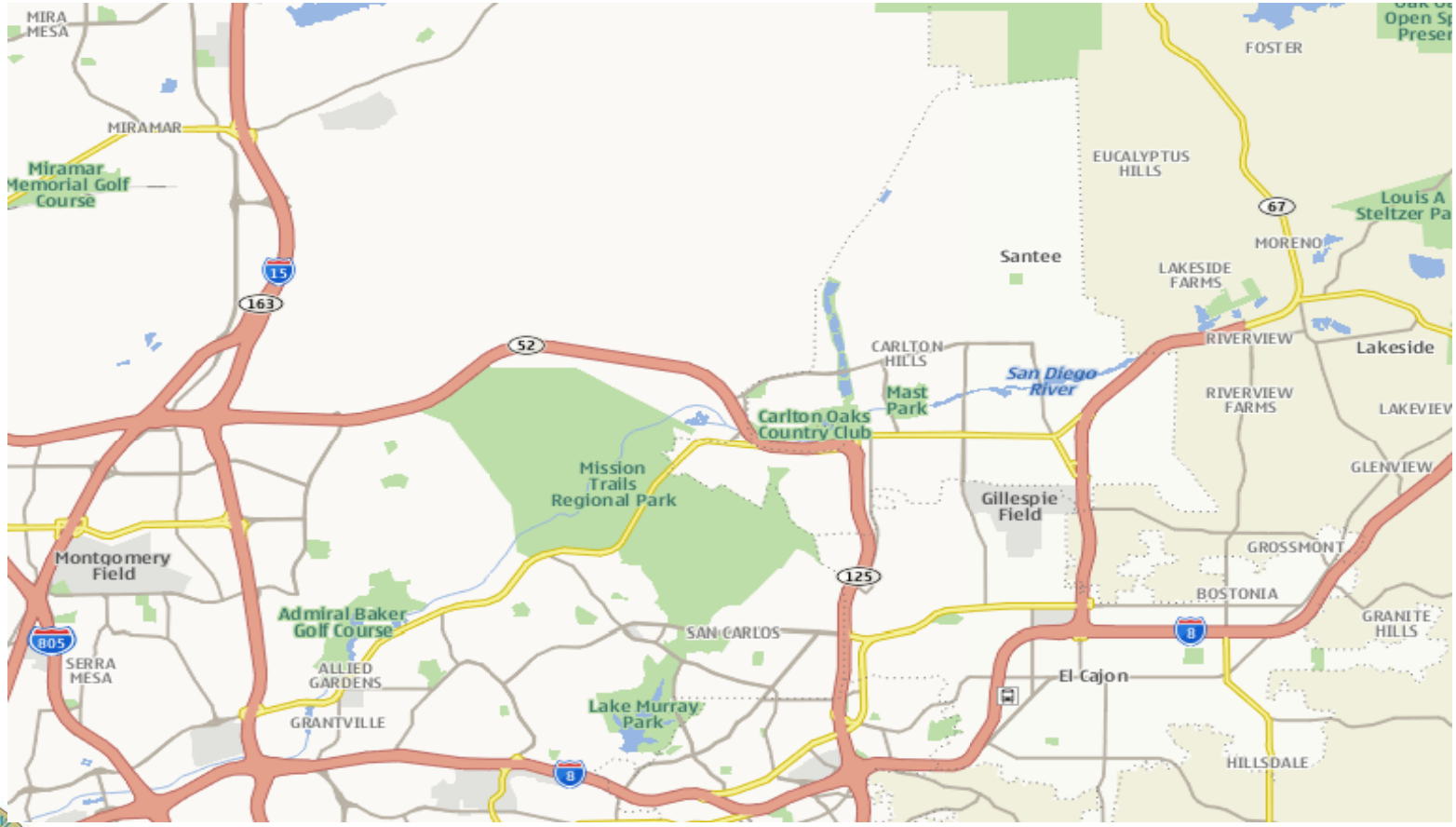
Biological Resources

Andrea Martine, Staff Biologist

- Laws, Ordinances, Regulations and Standards:
- Agency Coordination; and
- Potential Issues

Cultural Resources

Thomas Gates, Cultural Resources Specialist



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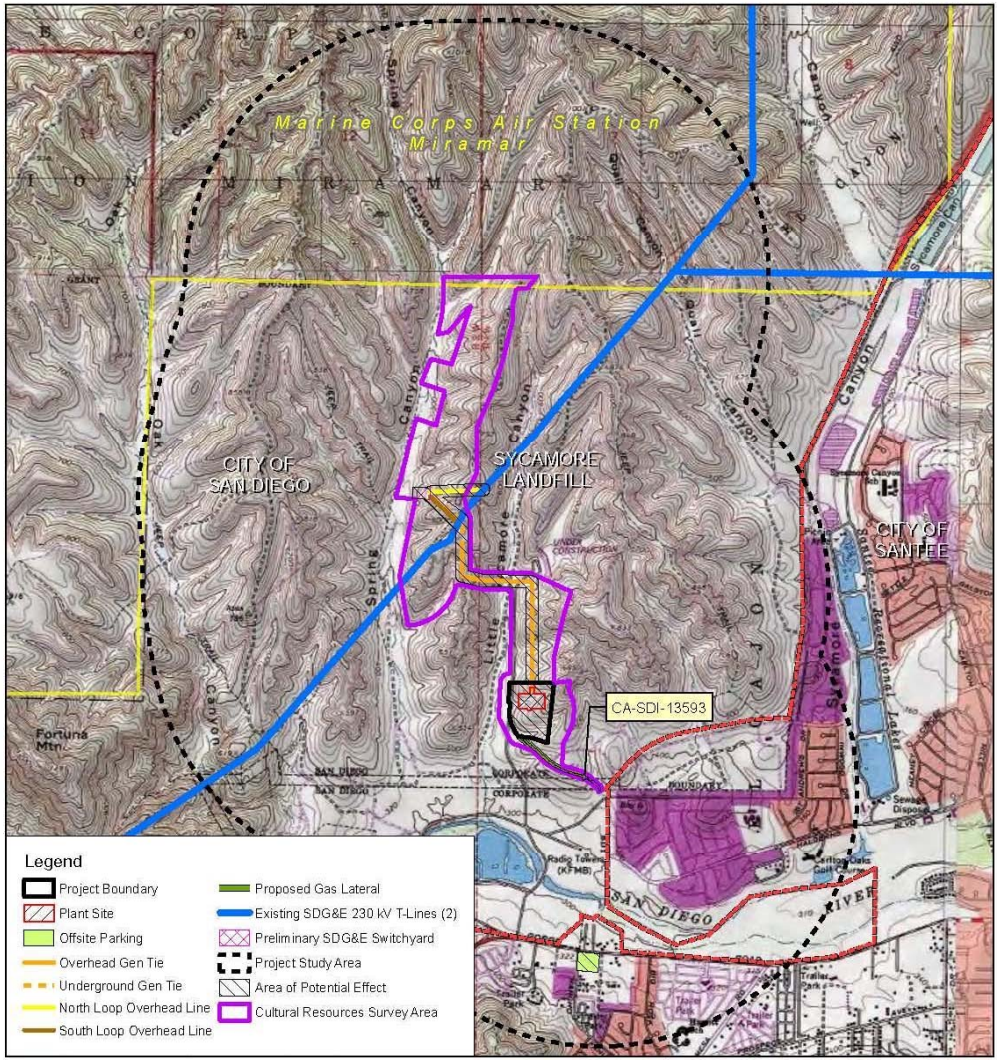

Cultural Resources

Thomas Gates, Cultural Resources Specialist

CHRIS Record Search Results

- 62 archaeology sites within Project Study Area/1 mile Buffer
- 56 isolates within Project Study Area/1 mile buffer
- However only 2 archaeological sites and 4 isolates located in Project Area

Cultural Resources

Thomas Gates, Cultural Resources Specialist

Breakdown of Sites/Isolates Previously Recorded in Project Site/Area

- 1 archaeological site outside the Project Site, but within the 200 foot buffer
- 1 archaeological site no longer exists due to past non-project related grading, paving and landscaping
- 3 isolates not relocated during survey
- 1 isolate no longer exists, as the findings were collected by previous surveyor

Cultural Resources

Thomas Gates, Cultural Resources Specialist

Project Applicant's Consultant Survey - New Findings

- 6 new isolates found (similar lithic and debitage as past documented sites + old volkswagons)
- None of the 6 isolates in the Project Site

Cultural Resources

Thomas Gates, Cultural Resources Specialist

NAHC Response

- Native American cultural resources are known to exist on west side of the project. Site type and location information not released by NAHC.
- 2 Native American responses: both recommended Native American monitoring during project construction. Project related cultural resources surveys had Native American monitors present.

Cultural Resources

Thomas Gates, Cultural Resources Specialist

CEC Staff Response to Applicant's Survey and Report

- CEC staff requested more intensive survey and more ground cover removal to enhance surface visibility. CEC staff has yet to review results of the additional survey efforts. CEC staff continues to work with the Applicant's cultural resources consultant and affiliated Native Americans to learn more about cultural resources in the project area.

Hazardous Materials

Rick Tyler, Senior Mechanical Engineer

Hazardous Materials Management

- Materials Stored and Used;
- Hazards;
- Applicable Regulations;
- Potential for Impacts;
- Mitigation Methods; and
- Local Agency Review

Public Health

Obed Odoemelam, Ph.D., Toxicologist

- Analyze the potential impacts of the project's toxic air pollutants at the projected emission levels;
- Examine the health impacts of particular concern and the potential for occurrence in the proposed project area;
- Assess whether the project proponents have properly analyzed such impacts in their application for certification; and
- Make Specific Recommendations to the Commission to either permit or not permit the facility based on our findings.

Land Use

Amanda Stennick, Supervisor of Land Use (Unit I)

LORS:

- City of San Diego General Plan;
- East Elliott Community Plan;
- Zoning Ordinance
- Steep Hillside Guidelines
- Mission Trails Design District
- Ordinance and Design Manual
- Multi-Species Conservation Program (MSCP) – City of San Diego MSCP Subarea Plan

Land Use

Amanda Stennick, Supervisor of Land Use (Unit I)

Methodology:

- Appendix G of CEQA Guidelines for Land Use and Planning

Land Use

Amanda Stennick, Supervisor of Land Use (Unit I)

Issues:

- Inconsistency with current General Plan designation (Park, Open Space, and Recreation)
- Inconsistency with current Community Plan designation (Open Space)
- Inconsistency with current zoning (Single-Family Residential, RS-1-8)
- Project located within the Multi-Habitat Planning Area of the City's MSCP Subarea Plan. Would need to obtain a boundary line adjustment of the Multi-Habitat Planning Area to exclude the project site and include another site.
- Coordination with Mission Trails Regional Park Master Plan Update, which identifies a trail at the northeast corner of the project site

Soil & Water Resources

Paul Marshall, Engineering Geologist

Water supply:

- Who and how it would be supplied for project construction and operation
- Construction = 5.2 Million Gallons in the first three months for grading
- Operation = 1.6 Acre-Feet per Year
- Trucked in from a nearby fire hydrant controlled by the City of San Diego
- Drinking water would be bottled water

Soil & Water Resources

Paul Marshall, Engineering Geologist

Wastewater:

- Domestic Wastewater - Septic tank and leach field
- Industrial Wastewater – On-site storage and subsequent hauling by a licensed provider

Soil & Water Resources

Paul Marshall, Engineering Geologist

Storm Water:

- Evaluate stormwater management design to ensure:
  - No significant increase in discharge around the site
  - Adequate onsite management of flows

Socioeconomics

Lisa Worrall, Land Use Planner

Applicable Laws, Ordinances, Regulations, and Standards:

- Federal (none)
- State (school impact fee)
- Local (none identified as yet)

Methodology used in analysis:

- Induce population growth?
- Displace people and/or existing housing?
- Impact acceptable levels of service for law enforcement, schools, emergency medical response, and parks?
- Have cumulative impacts?

Traffic

David Flores, Supervisor Land Use (Unit II)

- Compliance with state and local LORS
- Current traffic operations on project-area roadways and intersections to be used by project traffic;
- Traffic operations during Construction and Operation phases of the proposed project;
- Potential impact to traffic from heavy trucks and worker vehicles;
- Potential impacts to bicyclists and pedestrians;
- Potential impacts to traffic operations based on city of Santee, city of San Diego, and Caltrans standards and service levels;
- Potential impacts on aviation operations at Gillespie Field and Miramar Marine Corps Air Station; and
- Required mitigation as necessary.

Visual Resources

Mark Hamblin, Visual Resources Specialist

Laws, Ordinances, Regulations and Standards Review

- Staff evaluates if the proposed project (publicly visible buildings, structures, and equipment) would be inconsistent with applicable federal, state, and local enacted/adopted laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS) pertaining to the following:
  - (1) architectural treatment (e.g., mass/scale, form/proportion), landscaping, outdoor lighting, surface treatment (e.g., color, reflectivity, texture), etc.; and,
  - (2) public view preservation of a recognized scenic resource(s) and scenic vista on the project site and in the surrounding area.

Visual Resources

Mark Hamblin, Visual Resources Specialist

Our Environmental Review Using a Key Observation Point

- Staff evaluates a selected "key observation point" for a proposed project for the purpose of addressing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines; specifically, would the proposed project "*substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the project site and its surroundings*" as viewed from the key observation point (KOP) (14 California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Article 20, Appendix G, I. Aesthetic, c.)

Visual Resources

Mark Hamblin, Visual Resources Specialist

- "Aesthetic" issues identified in the California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, Article 20, Appendix G, I. Aesthetic (a.k.a., the CEQA Checklist) are included in the evaluation of significant environmental effects (impacts) in the visual resources section, and include the following:
  - Would the project have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?
  - Would the project substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?
  - Would the project substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?
  - Would the project create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

Waste Management

Ellie Townsend-Hough, Chemical Engineer

Waste Management Analysis

- Evaluate the potential for impacts from Quail Brush Generating Project Construction and Operation activities. Impacts possibly associated with the handling, storage and disposal of non-hazardous and hazardous waste.
- Establish that the environment is protected from contamination and protects facility workers and the surrounding community from exposure to both non-hazardous and hazardous waste, including any potential exposure to unexploded ordnance from the Former Camp Elliot-East.
- Determine that the project owner will comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations and standards. Decide what mitigation measures are required for the project.

Worker Safety and Fire Protection

Rick Tyler, Senior Mechanical Engineer

Worker Safety / Fire Protection

- Workplace Standards / OSHA Regulations
- Fire Protection

Fire Protection Regulations

- Review of Plans by Local Fire Department
- Evaluation of Potential for Impacts / Potential CEQA Issues / Fire and EMS Response
- Request for Fire Needs Assessment
- Potential for Types of Incidents

Public Questions and Comments

- Take a break and collect blue cards.