BIOCOM

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June 14, 2012

Mr. Eric Solorio
Siting, Transmission and Environmental Protection Division
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street, MS-2000
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Solorio:

This letter is to inform you of BIOCOM's support of the Quail Brush Generation Project being proposed for eastern San Diego County. BIOCOM is a life science trade association representing more than 560 member companies including biotechnology, medical device, diagnostics and biofuel companies; universities and basic research institutions and service support firms. A priority for BIOCOM and its members is a reliable electrical supply system, and we believe the Quail Brush project will help boost electric reliability and in so doing, enable more renewable resources to come online.

With respect to reliability, the purpose of Quail Brush is to provide electricity to San Diego County's homes and businesses when demand is high. Without this type of peaker facility, we could experience power outages on hot summer days and at other peak times. While a great inconvenience to many businesses, the impact on life science companies can be much more dramatic. Research projects, some of which are months or years in the making and representing hundreds of thousands of dollars of work, can be ruined in a very short period of time if temperature and other factors are not kept within very narrow boundaries.

BIOCOM also supports the increased use of renewable energy. Quail Brush and plants like it will help stabilize the regional grid as more renewables come online. We strongly support renewable energy because it will provide numerous benefits that enhance quality of life for people who live and work in San Diego County.
Again, thank you for the opportunity to express BIOCOM's support for the Quail Brush peaker plant. We are hopeful that the California Energy Commission will ensure that San Diego County has access to reliable and renewable energy by approving this important project once the environmental studies are complete.

Thank you,

Joseph Panetta
President and CEO
BIOCOM

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