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City of San Diego Planning Commission
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Tim Golba, Vice-Chairperson
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Michael Smiley
Susan Peerson
Mary Lydon
Stephen Haase
1222 First Ave, 4th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

City of San Diego Council and Mayor
Mayor Jerry Sanders
Sherri Lightner
Kevin Faulconer
Todd Gloria
Tony Young
Carl DeMaio
Lorie Zapf
Marti Emerald
David Alavarez
City of San Diego Administration Building
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

California Energy Commission
DOCKETED
11-AFC-03
TN 70914
MAY 21 2013

Commissioner Karen Douglas, Presiding
Commissioner Carla Peterman
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: City of San Diego Project # 270282, **Quail Brush** Community Plan Amendment Initiation, CEC Docket Number 11-AFC-03
OPPOSE

Dear San Diego Planning Commissioners, San Diego City Council members and CEC Commissioners Douglas and Peterman,

We the undersigned environmental organizations and officials together represent thousands of residents that live, work or recreate in the San Diego River watershed and Mission Trails Regional Park. We urge you to oppose changes to "laws, ordinances, standards and regulations" (LORS) needed to site the "Quail Brush Power Plant" within Mission Trails Regional Park expansion area and one-half-mile from the San Diego River.

At the turn of the century, the San Diego region's leading environmental organizations urged local, state and federal agencies to invest in the expansion of Mission Trails Regional Park, a State Conservancy for the San Diego River and a regional Multiple Species Preserve. Millions of public funds have since been invested in all of these symbiotic efforts. The effort to expand Mission Trails Park within East Elliot has resulted in the acquisition of approximately 35 parcels in excess of 700 acres. Public investment is ongoing and parcels acquired in 2011 resulted in the acquisition of 70 acres in East Elliot alone. The sum of these efforts represents a massive investment in public resources such as endangered wildlife habitat linkages, public recreation, sources of clean water, flood protection and visual relief that links regional parks. The site chosen for the power plant would significantly degrade this investment and threaten the public health and safety of the schools and neighborhoods located within a mile from the site.

Significant adverse impacts would include the following:

- Toxic air emissions harmful to public health that also produce acid rains favorable to invasive plant species.
- Habitat loss for endangered species such as Quino checkerspot butterfly.
- Noise and visual impacts to rock climbing areas and trails directly adjacent to the site.
- Lower water quality entering the San Diego River and its tributaries.
- Industrial land use incompatible with the surrounding open space, park, schools and single-family residential designations.

These impacts need to be avoided – not mitigated. Therefore, we respectfully request that you safeguard the public health and investment in natural resources adjacent to the site by rejecting any proposed changes in laws, ordinances, regulations and standards sought for siting of a Quail Brush Power Plant.

Sincerely,

Van

Van K. Collinsworth, M.A.
Resource Analyst/Executive Director
Preserve Wild Santee

Donna Frye
Former Council member
City of San Diego

John Ryan
Council member
City of Santee

Rep. Bob Filner
51st District
U.S. House of Representatives

Jack E. Dale
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Nicole Capretz
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Gale Filter
Executive Director
San Diego Coastkeeper

Michael Beck
San Diego Director
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Frank Landis, PhD
Conservation Chair
California Native Plant Society,
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Richard W. Halsey
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California Chaparral Institute

Lane Sharman
Co-Founder & Chairman
San Diego Energy District Foundation

Tom Walters
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Santee Taxpayers Association

Rod Simmons
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Stop the Santee Power Plant

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San Diego Canyonlands (SDCL)

Patty Mooney
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Save Mission Trails

Jack Shu
President
Cleveland National Forest Foundation

Duncan McFetridge
Founder & President
Save Our Forests & Ranchlands

Richard Gadler
Representative
Mountain Defense League

David Morrison
Chairperson
Green Party of San Diego

John Stump
Chair
Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter

cc:
Santee City Council
Supervisor Dianne Jacob