

From: Travis Smith <precycled@gmail.com>
To: <esolorio@energy.state.ca.us>
Date: 2/27/2012 5:56 AM
Subject: Quail Brush Power Plant

Dear Mr. Solorio,

I recently heard about the proposed Quail Brush Generation Plant the SDG&E is trying to build in Santee. This project would cause significant harm to both the community of Santee and the open-space preserves of Mission Trails and Sycamore Canyon.

Directly to the southwest of the proposed site is Mission Trails Park. Mission Trails Park is a one of the reasons I moved to San Diego. It has dozens of miles of hiking, biking, and horse riding trails that are used by countless residents and tourists every day. It is a true natural treasure to the people who live in and visit San Diego. Likewise, Sycamore Canyon, which directly borders the proposed site to the northeast, is a beautiful park that is used daily by hikers, bikers, and equestrians. In addition to the health and spiritual benefits that these two parks provide mankind, they also provide valuable natural habitat to many species of animals, including deer, coyotes, owls, jack rabbits, mountain lions, snakes, lizards, and even tarantulas.

To the south and southeast of the proposed site, is the community of Santee. In fact, one of Santee's most established neighborhoods and the high school that serves it is within 200 yards of the proposed site. Santee is a community that until recently, had been considered a rural community with few resources. The development that occurred during the housing boom brought new life to this otherwise forgotten town, and helped transform it into a bustling area with shopping complexes, housing developments, and even a trolley stop.

Sadly, all the things that make Santee such a great place to live are about to be eliminated if this project moves forward as planned. No longer will people want to use these beautiful parks, no longer will people want to live in these neighborhoods or send their children its schools, and no longer will Santee be viewed as a viable place to live, shop, and work. Why would they? Who wants to go use parks where the view is of tall smoke stacks emitting noxious fumes? Who wants to live in a neighborhood where the air they breath is most likely unsafe? Who wants to invest dollars in a community that has become a place that people want to escape? Would you want this power plant in your community?

With the vast open spaces that make up the majority of the county of San Diego, why can't SDG&E find a more suitable and less destructive location to build their power plant? Surely there is a location that would not cause such harm to the residents of San Diego. After all, isn't a power plant supposed to serve the needs of the community in which ti exists? That clearly would not be the case if this power plant is allowed to be built at this location. I beg of you Mr. Solorio, as a concerned resident of San Diego, deny SDG&E's request to build the Quail Brush Power Plant in Santee. This is not a project that this community wants or needs.

Sincerely,

Travis Smith
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