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07-AFC-4	
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OFFICE OF COUNCILMAN RUDY RAMIREZ

Honorable Jackalynne Pfannenstiel, Presiding member
Honorable James Boyd, Associate Member
California Energy Commission
1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

DOCKET No. 7-AFC-4

RE: OPPOSITION to the Chula Vista Energy Upgrade Project (07-AFC-4) as proposed

Dear Honorable Commissioners Pfannenstiel and Boyd:

I have reviewed the materials offered during the CEC process and I wish to convey my opposition to the CVEUP as proposed. I am urging the CEC to deny the AFC for the following reasons:

1. The project is in conflict with the Chula Vista General Plan. Policy E 6.4 requires that the City avoid the location of power plants within 1,000 feet of a sensitive receptor. The proposed plant location is in violation of this explicit policy.
2. The project is in conflict with the city's zoning ordinance. The appropriate zoning for power plants is in areas designated as "general industrial use." The proposed location is in an area designated "limited industrial use," which does not allow power plants.
3. There are better alternatives. Numerous other locations exist that are located more than 1,000 feet of a sensitive receptor. The ISO stated in their testimony that replacement energy did not need to be at this location and could, in fact, be located anywhere in the service area.
4. The certification of this project would violate the California Environmental Quality Act due to the failure to conduct adequate analysis or mitigate of many areas required under the law. This new power plant would increase emissions of air pollution and of climate-changing greenhouse gas emissions by 50,000 metric tons per year over current conditions. This is in contradiction to the goals of AB32 and our goals of reducing carbon emissions.
5. The location of this large peaker plant in one of our most vulnerable low-income, communities of color is inappropriate. We adopted the state's first Environmental Justice element into our General Plan in order to make sure that we are protecting the health of the most vulnerable and impacted residents in our community.

6. Further, although the community most impacted is largely Spanish-speaking, none of the substantive materials were produced in Spanish which disenfranchised that community from meaningful participation in the process.

I request that the Commission respect our city's local land use planning and authority and deny this application as inconsistent with our local ordinances and rules and as inconsistent with the principles of environmental justice. I urge the Commission to urge the applicant to re-submit a more acceptable proposal when appropriate in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rudy Ramirez", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councilman Rudy Ramirez