

City of San Diego Planning Commission
Eric Naslund, Chairperson
Tim Golba, Vice-Chairperson
Robert Griswold
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

Commissioner Karen Douglas, Presiding
Commissioner Andrew McAllister
Commissioner Carla Peterman
Commissioner Robert Weisenmiller, Ph.D., Chair
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, Mayor Sanders, San Diego City Council
members and CEC Commissioners Douglas, McAllister, Peterman and Weisenmiller,

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.

California Energy Commission

DOCKETED
11-AFC-3

TN # 65920

JUN 25 2012

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 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
Council member
City of Santee

Nicole Capretz
Associate Director
Environmental Health Coalition

John Buse
Staff Attorney
Center for Biological Diversity

Gale Filter
Executive Director
San Diego Coastkeeper

Michael Beck
San Diego Director
Endangered Habitats League

Frank Landis, PhD
Conservation Chair
California Native Plant Society,
San Diego Chapter

Richard W. Halsey
Director
California Chaparral Institute

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

Tom Walters
Chair
Santee Taxpayers Association

Rod Simmons
President
San Diego Mountain Biking
Association

Geoffrey D. Smith
Coordinator
Wilderness4All

Robin Kedward
Publicist
Stop the Santee Power Plant

Eric Bowlby
Executive Director
San Diego Canyonlands (SDCL)

Patty Mooney
Chair
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