

MOTION ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

On June 30, 2006, the City of Vernon applied to the California Energy Commission for certification to build a 943 megawatt combined-cycle power generating facility in Vernon (CEC docket number 06-AFC-4). Vernon's certification proceeding is ongoing.

The proposed power plant will produce much more energy than required for the City of Vernon's power needs. In addition, introduction of a fossil fuel-fired power plant will most certainly have a negative impact on air quality for generations.

Vernon's Application for Certification states that the proposed power plant, when operational, will emit 432,248 pounds of nitrogen oxides, 32,431 pounds of sulfur oxides, 119,864 pounds of volatile organic compounds, 453,431 pounds of carbon monoxide and 294,133 pounds of PM10 particulates per year. These emissions are dangerous; they are associated with smog, cancer, asthma and other respiratory diseases. The South Coast Air Quality Management District, moreover, has estimated that emissions from the power plant will result in an increase in annual adult mortality of 4-12 persons in the area that would be typically modeled as part of the preparation of a health risk assessment.

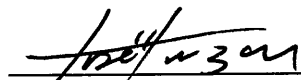
These power plant emissions will not only affect the residents of Vernon, they will directly and dangerously affect children and families of neighboring communities including Boyle Heights. The unpredictability of prevailing winds are such that emissions from the power plant are very likely to blow towards the City of Los Angeles. Many neighborhoods in eastern and southern Los Angeles are already heavily impacted by pollution from industrial facilities, diesel trucks and other harmful emission sources.

It is imperative that the City of Los Angeles protects the interests, health and well-being of its residents. We have consulted with the City Attorney who strongly supports the City's intervention in the ongoing proceedings.

I THEREFORE, MOVE that the Los Angeles City Council oppose development of the City of Vernon's proposed new 943-megawatt power plant due to the likelihood of increased adverse health impacts on children and families in Los Angeles due to the increased toxic emissions produced by the proposed power plant;

I FURTHER MOVE that Council authorize the City Attorney to intervene, on behalf of the City of Los Angeles, in California Energy Commission docket number 06-AFC-4 (City of Vernon power plant) for the purpose of insuring that toxic emissions from the proposed Vernon power plant are reduced and mitigated to the maximum extent possible using Best Available Control Technologies to ensure the health and welfare of our City's residents are being protected.

PRESENTED BY:



JOSE HUIZAR
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY: