

August 25, 2009

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dr. Richard Wright, Chair and Members of the Board
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123-4340

Dear Chairman Wright and Members of the Regional Board:

SUBJECT: NPDES Permit Application for Renewal of NPDES Waste Discharge Requirements for permit No. CA0001368, Order No. R9-2004-0154 for Dynegy South Bay, LLC- South Bay Power Plant

PLEASE DENY THE REISSUANCE OF THE NEW NPDES WATER DISCHARGE PERMIT FOR THE SOUTH BAY POWER PLANT. IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO!!

I am a long time Southbay and Chula Vista resident. My request is for my family, my children, my grandchildren, my neighbors and nearly all of my fellow Chula Vista Southbay citizens who are entitled to get back our beleaguered and fragile bay that we gave up fifty years ago for the energy needs of our region. Please know, I represent the view of many, many residents of this area. I am an informed citizen who researches items well before taking a position. I served as the Chairman of Chula Vista's General Plan Update Committee over the last several years and currently serve on the Chula Vista Planning Commission. I spent twelve years as a senior manager in local government in the region, am a former SVP with Bank of America and currently am a successful local businessman and engaged citizen. I have weighed the many sides of this issue and come to the same conclusion no matter from which perspective I look at it.

The speedy closure of this unneeded plant is critical to our ability to finally have the bay front we deserve. It is also essential to the long-term economic prosperity of our South Bay sub-region as it has been one of the biggest deterrents to our ability to develop our bay front for quality use and enjoyment. Chula Vista is a very modest income community and we desperately need economic opportunities for our area to succeed and this site and subarea is one of the keys to our future.

Notwithstanding the several economic and public reasons that I have cited, your public responsibility is to protect the quality of our water! The water for which we speak is in the very shallow section of San Diego Bay, which is as fragile as any water resource your Board will consider. The enormity of the terrible history of placing this facility in a very fragile environment needs to be recognized. There are few worse places the SBPP could have been placed fifty years ago than this location. Water circulation is very poor at the end of the bay. The fact that this plant heats and processes nearly 20% of all the bay water south of J Street each and every day is horrific. The bay needs to be allowed to rejuvenate itself from the ravages of 50 years of plant operation. I would like to see a part of the natural habitat restored before I die and I want my children and grandchildren to be able to enjoy the bay I have never had the opportunity to experience. WE WANT OUR BAY BACK!!!!

I beg each of you to put yourselves in our place and think about your decision. There was a time when it could be argued that we needed this plant for our regional energy needs. We now have adequate energy resources that are friendlier to our environment and more efficient. The SBPP's time to operate needs to cease. There is no justifiable reason for you, as public officials with the important responsibility of preserving and protecting water quality, to allow the continuation of this invasive water cooling and treating operation for another five years. The use of the sensitive bay waters for cooling the power plant

is destructive. Its continued operation delays and undermines any possible recovery of the Bay each and every day it remains open. Its devastating impact on the fish nursery function of South Bay as well as the bay's role in protecting water fowl is undeniable. While not within your purview, the plant's air emissions also continue to contribute to poor air quality in our community and frustrates important economic development activities, as mentioned earlier.

Again, I strongly urge you to vote for our South Bay water and for the residents of the South Bay by: 1) not approving any extensions to the current permit, and; 2) denying the 5-year NPDES renewal for the South Bay Power Plant once it expires this November.

Thank you for consideration in this matter of great importance.

Sincerely,



Mitchell Thompson
760 Arroyo Court
Chula Vista, CA 91910

cc. Mr. John Robertus, Executive Director
Honorable Mayor, Chula Vista, Cheryl Cox
Jim Sandoval, City Manager
Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Natural Resources
California Natural Resources Agency
Ocean Protection Council, Chair