

Communication from Public

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Council File No: 25-1360

Comments for Public Posting: Dear councilmembers, This is not just about one power plant. This is about whether we follow the law and whether we protect our communities and ratepayers from long-term harm. The Environmental Impact Report admits this project will cause significant and unavoidable impacts to air quality and cumulative pollution. That means the harm is real. It also admits that the source of hydrogen is unknown and that water use cannot be accurately estimated. In plain terms, we are being asked to approve a major combustion facility without knowing how it will be fueled, how much it will cost, or how it will affect our water supply. That is not responsible planning. We are told this plant is needed for reliability. But reliability cannot be an excuse to avoid fully analyzing cleaner alternatives like storage, demand response, and distributed energy. Once this plant is built, it will operate for decades. If hydrogen is too expensive or unavailable, it will run on fossil gas. Ratepayers will be locked in, and communities will continue to breathe pollution. CEQA exists to make sure agencies fully analyze impacts and alternatives before decisions are made. It is not a rubber stamp. When an EIR says impacts are significant and unavoidable, and key information like fuel supply and water use is still unknown, that should raise serious concerns. This appeal is not anti-reliability. It is pro-accountability. We are asking you to require a complete, transparent analysis before approving a project that will shape our energy system for a generation. Please uphold the CEQA appeal and send this back for a more honest and complete review. Thank you.