



Ohlone Audubon Society, Inc.

*A chapter of the National Audubon Society  
Serving Southern Alameda County, CA*

December 27, 2008

Mr. Weyman Lee, P. E.  
Senior Air Quality Engineer  
Bay Area Air Quality Management District  
939 Ellis Street  
San Francisco, CA 94109

RE: Proposed Statement of Basis and Proposed Permit Conditions for amended PSD Permit. Application #15487, Russell City Energy Center

Dear Mr. Lee,

Ohlone Audubon Society has serious concerns about several ecological impacts of the proposed gas-powered energy plant that is to be built in close proximity to the Hayward area shoreline. This is a vicinity of high quality habitat for shorebirds, some of them endangered or threatened. When the power plant was first proposed in 2001-2002, some of the pollutants were not studied. The amounts of Nitrogen Oxides, Carbon Monoxide, and Particulate Matter that would be emitted would appear to pose a threat to the nearby bird population, the plant communities and to the residents in the immediate areas as well. In addition it seems quite possible, even with the tall smoke stacks, that some of these pollutants would find their way to the Central Valley which already has an impacted air quality.

When the Russell City power plant was first proposed, global warming did not seem to pose the very serious threat it does currently. Solar panels were less available and less affordable than they are today. Instead of building that monstrous power plant that will pollute and heat the air, would it not be better to consider a more environmentally friendly solution to our energy needs-namely solar power?

Ohlone Audubon Society urges the Bay Area Air Quality Management District to help Hayward be clean and green by promoting solar power and not a gas-fired power plant.

Yours truly,

*Evelyn M. Cormier*  
Evelyn M. Cormier, President  
Ohlone Audubon Society  
31020 Carroll Avenue  
Hayward, CA 94544

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MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

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