

Oppose Calpine power plant.txt

From: Natasha Minsker  
Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2009 4:59 PM  
To: Weyman Lee  
Subject: Oppose – Calpine power plant

Dear Mr. Lee,

As a resident of Alameda County, I am very concerned about the proposed Calpine Russell City power plant that may be built in South Hayward. I strongly urge you to deny the PSD permit that the corporation is seeking at this time. The power plant will have negative consequences for the Alameda County community, our environment, and will undermine Hayward City policies for sustainability.

There are several reasons why this power plant is the wrong thing for our community.

**Environmental racism and classism:** Too often, dangerous plants are placed in areas where they most impact low income people and people of color. This power plant would severely harm the air quality in the Hayward area, potentially affecting tens of thousands of people as well as negatively impacting the air quality throughout the entire Bay Area. But it will be working class people and people of color who will suffer most.

**Toxics in the air:** Among the toxics the power plant will dump into the air are hundreds of thousands of pounds of nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter. Carbon dioxide emissions are expected to be in excess of millions of pounds.

**Wildlife and Water:** A power plant situated near the Hayward shoreline threatens the health of wildlife and will jeopardize recently restored wetlands and has the potential to negatively affect overall water quality as well. Today's New York Times has a disturbing article about the toxins already being dumped into our drinking water across the country, and the routine failure of regulators to enforce the clean water laws. Now is not the time to build a new potentially dangerous plant but to step back and ensure that all plants are abiding by the law.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. Please deny the PSD permit as not in the best interest of the people or environment of Alameda County.

Sincerely,

Natasha Minsker  
Oakland, CA 94609