



JERRY SANDERS
MAYOR

September 2, 2011

Secretary Steven Chu
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

RE: Energía Sierra Juarez Wind Generation Project - Sempra Generation

Dear Secretary Chu:

I urge your expedited review and approval of the Presidential Permit application submitted by Sempra Generation for the Energía Sierra Juarez (ESJ) Project. The benefits, both environmental and financial, associated with the ESJ facility are well documented.

The Energía Sierra Juarez project is an important element of a broader regional strategy to improve the diversity and reliability of San Diego County's renewable energy supply. The power from this facility will be sold to our local utility, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E). Thus, ESJ is tapping into a regional renewable resource for the benefit of San Diego residents and businesses while allowing California to move closer to meeting its 33% renewable mandate and greenhouse gas reduction goals.


As you know, President Obama and Mexico's President Calderon have called for greater cross-border collaboration on renewable energy development. ESJ is exactly the kind of project that furthers that stated objective.

California and Baja already share critical transmission interconnections, but more importantly, Southern California and Baja are economically connected. ESJ is a key project which furthers the San Diego/Imperial County/Baja economic mega-region. Projects created in Baja have positive direct and indirect effects on job creation in Imperial and San Diego Counties, and vice versa. The ESJ project will support hundreds of local construction jobs throughout the mega-region and increase local spending substantially.

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The need for renewable energy in San Diego County is clearly apparent to public agencies and the ratepayers we represent. I appreciate your attention to this important matter. Please take action now to ensure the economic prosperity and energy reliability of San Diego County and its 3 million residents.

Sincerely,



JERRY SANDERS
Mayor

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer




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