



County of Fresno

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SUPERVISOR PHIL LARSON – DISTRICT ONE

September 11, 2012

Redacted

PG&E – Governmental Relations

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Dear Redacted

Westlands Solar Farms ("WSF") project faces potential project default as a result of the ongoing California Farm Bureau Federation lawsuit. Specifically, WSF's contract with PG&E will fall into default if WSF misses critical financing or 'guaranteed milestone' resulting from delays caused by this lawsuit. I support Westlands Solar Farms' ("WSF") 18MW Solar 'PV1' project and am urging that PG&E seriously consider alternatives, including potential minor amendments to the contract, to ensure the successful completion of this project.

Fresno County has been outspoken in its continued support of this and other solar projects. I along with other members of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved Williamson Act contract cancellation for this project site in August 2011. The Fresno County Public Works and Planning department also supported this project by issuing a conditional use permit (CUP) and mitigated negative declaration (MND) for this project in October 2011. This project is important to the economy of Fresno County. The WSF's project will create much needed jobs and tax revenue for the County and will help lay the foundation for a new solar industry that will help us diversify our economy.

WSF has requested that PG&E consider strategic alternatives which will help ensure this project reaches successful completion. One option under consideration is for PG&E to allow the project to change the project address to another location 5 ½ miles west on Jayne Avenue, still within Fresno County. This new address will not change the originally proposed point of interconnection and given the very close proximity of these sites to one another the local benefits to Fresno County remain the same. As a member of the Fresno Board of Supervisors, I express my strong support for this strategy. I believe that this is a very reasonable request particularly considering that PG&E itself has shifted its own solar utility owned generation (UOG) project locations to accommodate demands from the CFBF-the same party who is now placing WSF's project at risk.

Fresno County has worked with PG&E to ensure the successful operation of multiple solar (UOG and non-UOG) projects and have also invested, and continues to invest, considerable resources to accommodate the processing of solar CUPs and CEQA documents to help PG&E meets its state RPS goals. I request that PG&E strongly consider this letter of support and grant the expressed changes requested by Westlands Solar Farms

Sincerely,

Phil Larson

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