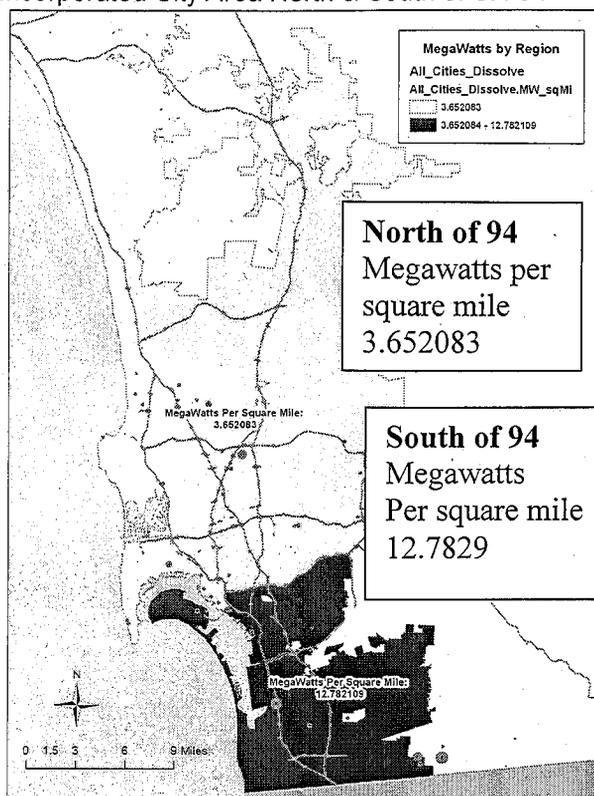


Testimony, August 15, 2008 CARB meeting in San Diego , Theresa Acerro

MegaWatts Per Square Mile Incorporated City Area North & South of SR-94



I have had solar collectors for almost 7 years. At the moment I am over-producing energy. People should be encouraged to install the largest system they can afford not the smallest that will meet their needs. The way to do this is to reform rate structure to pay people for excess generation-Feed-in-Tariff. This has been successful in Europe in increasing renewable energy. The state needs to increase their renewable portfolio to 100% by a set deadline. 33% should only be seen as a step in the right direction.

I live in southwest Chula Vista-an environmental justice community. Most of the communities in southern San Diego County are environmental justice communities. These communities in the southern part of the county have a 20% higher asthma hospitalization rate than the rest of the County.

The incorporated cities south of 94 produce almost 4 times the megawatts per hour than the incorporated cities north of 94 by burning fossil fuels.

Currently the CEC is processing another inappropriately located peaker plant of 100mw in southwest Chula Vista a mere 350 feet from people's homes - 91% of the people living within 1,000 feet are non-white or Latino (71% living within a mile.) Many of our streets look like a third world country. This is an example of how our current reliance on fossil fuels creates an environmental justice issue state wide by forcing lower-income ethnic neighborhoods to disproportionately bear the negative

health effects of relying upon peakers such as this, which will produce 7-25% of all the carbon in Chula Vista, if approved. Chula Vista has increased its carbon production over-all by 35% since 1990, even though it has a voluntary carbon reduction program, due to a horrible jobs housing imbalance caused by residential development producing "densified sprawl."

As the mayors of Solano Beach and Encinitas stated any kind of densification without concurrent rapid, efficient, inexpensive transit that will actually get people to and from their actual jobs is **NOT** SMART growth at all. (One could add that any dense development without concurrent development of near-by jobs paying living wages adequate to live in that specific development is also not at all smart.) Cities like Chula Vista simply don't get it. Their land use policies are based upon, which developers donate the most to campaigns and how much they can collect in development fees, which they don't fully understand are not a sustainable source of income.

The state needs to step in with tough land use guidelines instead of being an enabler by encouraging poorly defined "smart growth," which is not at all smart. Existing land use policies statewide are the wrong way to proceed into a future free of dependence on fossil fuels and the negative effects of climate change. The state should be rewriting land use guidelines and toughening CEQA regulations as well as phasing out these polluting peakers right now, if it is serious about making a difference in greenhouse gas production. The state should be accepting Vice President Gore's challenge to be free of fossil fuels in 10 years. This is doable. Anything less likely is the end of the human race on this planet.

Please protect our communities. DO NOT ALLOW offsets for regulatory compliance and only allow a tiny amount of offsets if any at all. The rich should not be allowed to pollute. Make it **VERY** expensive for polluters to pollute and direct most of the money to help low-income minority families and businesses reduce their carbon foot print, so they will not unfairly bear the burden of a carbon tax, which must be part of a cap and tax program. (Cap and Trade has been proven not to work, except for the polluters and the rich, in Europe.) Offsets should always be used to help negatively impacted local communities.

The effects of climate change on all habitats needs to be considered, studied and mitigated for-forests, coastal sage scrub, marshes, etc. The natural environment is an important part of the big picture and it is already showing extreme stress due to global warming.

Lastly feebaits also need to be emphasized and the size has to be larger for low-income and minority families and businesses so that everyone can afford to reduce their carbon foot print.

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