
From: Lord, Dennis [mailto:DLord@semprautilities.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 26, 2008 7:29 AM
To: ceqacomments@portla.org
Subject: Pacific LA Marine Terminal LLC Crude Oil Terminal

RE: Public Comment Hearing, June 26, 2008

To whom it may concern:

Our Company has long been an advocate for providing energy to our customers safely, reliably, and at the lowest possible cost. To do so requires a commitment to the natural increase in population of those customers to serve their energy needs. While some attempt to limit market growth, the reality in Southern California is that our Company adds approximately 60K to 70K meters to our system every year and we now have 20 million customers served through nearly 6 million meters.

As you near a decision on this project, it is helpful to remember that until our economy finds and accepts cost-effective energy alternatives, there is one basic premise. Energy fuels economic growth. Societies that fail to recognize that risk economic decline beyond the natural ebbs and flows of the economy. There is always someone out there willing to compete, make a better offer, and in many cases move business elsewhere.

The Clean Air Action Plan and the Clean Truck Program have components within them to clean this region's air. Regarding this proposed facility, I am not aware of anything that this project's team is not willing to do to meet the environmental standards required of them. We support implementing projects that are backed by known science and result in measurable improvements to our air quality.

To that end, we will continue to support the effort to improve air quality in the greater Port area through the thoughtful implementation of our own Compressed Natural Gas Truck Demonstration Project and support of other projects that produce similar results. Simple economics in this global competition for energy includes bringing additional supplies, and alternatives, to a market that is demanding downward pressure on pricing.

Dennis C. Lord
Public Affairs Manager
The Gas Company