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March 3, 2015

Mr. Keith Casey
Vice President of Market and Infrastructure Development
California Independent System Operator (CAISO)
250 Outcropping Way
Folsom, CA 95630

Dear Mr. Casey:

The Blythe Energy Loop-In Project proposes to take existing gen-tie transmission line around the plant and create a transmission network line by segmenting the line and looping it. The project will improve system reliability, provide additional transmission interconnection options for Riverside County renewable energy projects, and stimulate economic development to support the city of Blythe. This is an example of a common-sense project that benefits all parties involved and for these reasons I ask that you give it your full and fair consideration.

According to experts, the proposed project will significantly improve high voltage issues at Julian Hinds Substation. In one instance, the project will help alleviate an over 150% load problem on a single circuit on the Julian Hinds-Mirage 230kV line, reducing it to 63%. This reduction will also support reliability downstream from the project.

Blythe continues to struggle in the aftermath of the recent economic downturn, with unemployment rates far above the national level. This project will directly create more than a dozen jobs, and may also jumpstart other projects looking to resolve interconnection issues, fostering additional economic development.

The Blythe Loop-In Project uses existing infrastructure and transmission lines and poles, which minimize its overall footprint and environmental impact. Eastern Riverside County renewable energy projects are looking for interconnection alternatives that may lower costs and ultimately make future projects more viable, without requiring significant transmission investment and resulting ecological impacts.

For job creation, system reliability, economic and renewable energy benefits, the Blythe Energy Loop-In Project is a win for our community. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Raul Ruiz".

Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress
California's 36th Congressional District