Timothy Walker, Mayor, District 3 Ben Benoit, Mayor Pro Tem, District 1 Bridgette Moore, Council Member, District 4 Dustin Nigg, Council Member, District 2 Marsha Swanson, Council Member, District 5

Gary Nordquist, City Manager



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The Honorable Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE Washington, DC 20426

RE: Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumping Storage Project Project Number 14227 Comments to: The Nevada Hydro Company's May 31, 2017 Notification of Intent to File License Application

November 29, 2017

Honorable Secretary Bose,

It has come to the attention of the City of Wildomar, California that the Nevada Hydro Company has submitted a Notification of Intent to File License Application for their previously rejected Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage Project, and that as part of that submittal, have asked not to be required to hold new scoping meetings or produce a new environmental planning document. The purpose of this memo is to request an update to those planning documents.

The City of Wildomar shares its north border with the City of Lake Elsinore and the unincorporated areas of County of Riverside. To the west of our City are the beautiful Santa Rosa Mountains and Cleveland National Forest. There are many concerns regarding the pumped storage project, specifically the string of 170 foot power line towers and the 32 miles of 500 kv transmission lines.

Last month, the City of Wildomar was threatened and even evacuated residents as a precaution to avoid the devastating impacts of a wildland fire, now referred to as the "Wildomar Incident". This fire, which eventually consumed over 1,000 acres was on the ridge of mountains just west of the City in the Cleveland National Forest. The fire incident required 959 firefighters, 118 fire engine companies, 5 helicopters and 5 air tankers to get it under control. On the first night of the incident, the night water drops by the helicopters are credited with saving the City and preventing the fire from spreading down the ridge to the City. Without the efforts of the airborne fire fighters the residents of the City could have sustained significant damage to lives and property. This projects placement of power towers and transmission lines could be an impediment to successful firefighting and a limitation on the use of airborne assistance.



In addition there are other areas of concern with this project such as lake water quality, dam safety issues, visual and public safety impacts from transmission lines in the valley and disturbance of multiple sensitive habitat areas. The environmental planning documents need to be updated to consider the changes that have been made since this project was last denied.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Timothy Walker Mayor, City of Wildomar

cc: Wildomar City Council Members City Manager City Attorney Nevada Hydro Company Inc.

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