



## CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **New Analysis Provides Further Evidence California Must Move Forward With Clean Energy Alternatives to Power Plants** *Environmental Justice Advocates Respond to CAISO Cost Analysis and Urge CEC to Reject Proposed Puente Power Plant*

**Sacramento, CA | September 5, 2017** — Following the release of a study by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) last month on the feasibility of clean energy alternatives to the proposed Puente power plant in Oxnard, a [new analysis by Green Tech Media](#) shows CAISO's inflated estimates were based on outdated 2014 market information and that energy storage options are substantially cheaper.

The CAISO study confirms what environmental justice communities have been saying all along -- that the Puente power plant is unnecessary and costly, and that there are cleaner energy alternatives such as energy storage to meet the region's needs. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) instead should require Southern California Edison to immediately reinstate a preferred resources RFO for the Moorpark subarea. An RFO will allow the market to identify the true costs of these preferred resources.

It is now upon our regulators and legislators to take greater responsibility and bring all communities into the clean energy future. Now, the California Energy Commission, CPUC, and CAISO have an obligation to procure as many preferred resources as possible before dumping another power plant in a low-income, majority Latino community for another 40 years.

"The CAISO study has confirmed that there are viable alternatives to the Puente Power Plant. We need to look forward to cleaner energy alternatives. We have an amazing opportunity to take a step towards the future — for our environment, our health, and our economy."

— **Assemblymember Monique Limon**

"The CAISO study and recent cost analysis show that the Puente power plant must be rejected and California must move forward with clean energy alternatives like energy storage. New investments should meet local needs and reliability concerns with resources that fulfill our state's policies requiring less reliance on fossil fuels like natural gas. We're at a critical and exciting threshold of a clean energy future, including clean energy jobs and healthier communities, and environmental justice communities must be first in line to receive these benefits."

— **Gladys Limon, Executive Director, California Environmental Justice Alliance (CEJA)**

"There is clear evidence that clean energy alternatives can cost-effectively meet the energy needs of our region without continuing the legacy of pollution and injustice in Oxnard. The people of Oxnard are demanding that the California Energy Commission do the right thing and choose a better future for the health and well-being of our community."

— **Lucas Zucker, Policy & Communications Director, Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE)**

“The CAISO study has confirmed what we have long known -- we don’t need obsolete power plants to meet our 21st century energy demands. Cleaner alternatives, like energy storage, must be considered to not only protect Oxnard residents from harmful pollution, but also propel the city into the clean energy future. It’s time for the CEC to stand up to the special interests pushing this dangerous project and invest in the future, health and environment of Oxnard and its residents.”

— **Tom Steyer, President of Next Gen America**

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[California Environmental Justice Alliance](#) is a statewide, community-led alliance that works to achieve environmental justice by advancing policy solutions. We unite the powerful local organizing of our members in the communities most impacted by environmental hazards – low-income communities and communities of color – to create comprehensive opportunities for change at a statewide level. We build the power of communities across California to create policies that will alleviate poverty and pollution. Together, we are growing the statewide movement for environmental health and social justice.

[www.caleja.org](http://www.caleja.org)



