

James Fargo
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
Office of Energy Projects
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Mr. Fargo,

As a concerned Elsinore Valley citizen, I must object to the proposal by The Nevada Hydro Company and Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District to construct and operate the Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage (LEAPS) project. I and many others in this area stand together in firm opposition to the project. It is not the appropriate solution and would not only permanently alter our beloved Lake Elsinore, but also irreparably damage our Cleveland National Forest.

From the information provided in the Environmental Impact Statement, this project clearly does not meet the conditions discussed in the Foreword of the document (per 16 U.S.C. §803(a)), and therefore should not be granted a license. A pumped-storage hydroelectric project in the arid Southwest is a poor choice for supporting our energy grid.

We believe that Southern California's largest natural lake, the San Jacinto River and Santa Ana River watersheds, the Santa Ana Mountains / Cleveland National Forest, local wildlife, and the quality of life for people in the Inland Empire will be negatively impacted by the LEAPS project as it is currently envisioned. Neither the Applicant's Proposal nor the Staff Alternative make sense. Even though we are the fastest growing area of California, we have not written off the natural and aesthetic environment of the Inland Empire, and we hope that the decision makers in our nation's capital will not do so either.

Please deny the hydroelectric license. I urge you to look much more closely into the financial, environmental and quality-of-life detriments of this project.

Sincerely,