

Puente Power Plant

Stories

Huffpost, [Oxnard, California: The City That Stopped A Gas Plant](#)

Fusion news, [Oxnard residents fight for clean air](#)

[California ISO Local Capacity Alternative Study](#)

Questions

Based on your deep understanding of environmental economics, you were one of the most persuasive voices at Oxnard's city council meetings during the debate over the Puente Power Plant. Several national environmental justice organizations have asked you to reflect on your success, and provide thoughts on the original Puente Power Plant plan.

1. What externalities would have been associated with the construction of Puente? How does your understanding of these externalities affect your interpretation of the costs described in Table 1-1 of the California ISO's Local Capacity Alternative Study?
2. Do you think there was a viable economic efficiency argument for why solar energy was chosen as a renewable alternative to Puente although it was the more expensive option? Why or why not?
3. Imagine that, even after taking *all* externalities into account, building the Puente Power Plant would have been the most economically efficient option. Does economic efficiency overlook anything that the Oxnard city council needed to consider when deciding on their support for Puente?
4. Personally, why do you think Puente was stopped, when so many other power plants across the nation are approved and built without much controversy?