



February 17, 2022

The Honorable James C. Hanks
President
Imperial Irrigation District Board of Directors
333 E. Barioni Blvd.
Imperial, CA 92251

Dear President Hanks:

On behalf of the Regional Access Project Foundation (RAP), I am pleased to provide this letter of strong support of Greenleaf Power and the company's biomass power plant in the Eastern Coachella Valley, Desert View Power (DVP).

As you know, Desert View Power is located on the Cabazon Reservation in the unincorporated portion of Riverside County. The facility began operating in 1992 and was acquired by Greenleaf Power in 2011. It is a woody biomass electrical generation facility, converting wood waste to supply renewable electricity to the California grid. The wood waste from agricultural operations in the Coachella Valley and throughout southern California would otherwise be sent to a landfill or burned at the source, often illegally and without a permit, a constant and growing concern in the Valley.

Each year DVP consumes between 360,000 and 390,000 tons of this woody biomass and converts that material into electricity, providing more than 325,000 megawatt hours annually, which is equal to the amount of electricity required to power more than 49,000 homes for a year, or about two-thirds of the households in the Coachella Valley. DVP has roughly 30 full-time employees who on average earn more than \$28 per hour with full benefits. The company also uses more than 100 contractors each year for maintenance work and supports another 100+ workers in jobs related to the recovery and delivery of woody waste products.

The Regional Access Project Foundation, or RAP, incorporated in 1992 as a 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation in order to address unmet needs in the areas of health, mental health, and juvenile intervention for eastern Coachella Valley residents via grants and technical assistance to non-profit service providers. We have consistently viewed Desert View Power and its operator, Greenleaf Power, as a tremendously valuable asset to our community and region. Their clear commitment to emissions reductions, and the service they provide by offering a convenient alternative for the disposal of green and construction waste has a direct impact on the health and safety of our residents. In addition, the strong economic and employment benefits they provide, are a model for industry in the region.