



PO Box 6064, Chula Vista, CA 91909, (619) 425-5771

6/6/08

RE: Comments on **Cultural Resources Section** of the PSA:

We don't know who did the research for this section, but they left out the Lorenzo Anderson House, 3497 Main Street, which is less than 500 feet from the project site. It is hidden by trees, but it is exquisitely well preserved and has museum quality furnishings inside of it. It is often on the Chula Vista Historical Homes tour. This is clearly over 49



years old and of even more significance because it is one of the very, very few preserved homes in the Southwestern part of Chula Vista from its farming past. It shares the parcel of Paxton Towing. It is number 69 on Chula Vista's list of Historic Homes.

There is also a church over 100 years old, which survived the Hatfield flood. It is within a half mile of this project and is the only survivor of the Hatfield Flood. It is on the corner of Zenith and Third.

The Otay Baptist Church was built in 1890. It is at the corner of Zenith and Third Avenue in southwestern Chula



Vista. It is one of the few buildings to survive the Hatfield flood that burst the Otay Dam in 1916. It is an important reminder that there once was a thriving town of Otay. It has not been used for church services since the 1960's. It costs around \$3,000 a year in upkeep. The congregation has offered it to the city of Chula Vista. See [http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20051113/news\\_1m13church.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20051113/news_1m13church.html) for a discussion of the controversy surrounding this building. <http://content.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/kt0f59q5c0/?docId=kt0f59q5c0&layout=printable-details> There is a picture of the church taken in 1940 at this site.

These two very significant historical buildings give us the hope of one day being able to have an historical park or an old town Otay tourist attraction somewhere in this vicinity.



A polluting peaker power plant with its two 70 foot towers will not allow this to ever happen. There is also the concern that the pollution from the peaker will degrade the Anderson house, which has been so lovingly kept up over the years.

The significance of these buildings to the history of Otay town needs to be acknowledged, and there is no way to mitigate the negative effect of certifying a peaker plant so close to them.

They need to be cherished and preserved as a reminder of the past glory of the area. Placing a heavy industrial use so close-by

debases there in situ value.

CEC staff must help us preserve what is left of the heritage of our community by rejecting this peaker project at this location.

Save Our Heritage Organization (SOHO

<http://sohosandiego.org/reflections/2006-2/otay.htm> ) said

it very well, when they added the Otay City to their most

endangered historical places list in 2006:

## Otay City

The last vestiges of this once-proud western boom town, which boasted the most modern watch factory in the West, the famous Daneri winery, a Wells Fargo Office, a railroad and a street of false



front buildings surrounded by Victorian homes and farms, is being threatened by a theme-park scheme in nearby Chula Vista. Whatever was left by the Hatfield Flood of 1916 and decades of commercial development may now be wiped out by insensitivity and indifference. All that remains of this important San Diego community are four scattered Victorian houses, the brick Wells Fargo/post office and two churches. A new industrial development threatens two of the four homes and the churches, easily the most prominent landmarks, are being threatened with relocation. If these two projects are allowed to proceed, all sense of place will disappear and the knowledge of this important part of San Diego County's history will fade from memory and be lost forever.

Sincerely,

Theresa Acerro  
President of Southwest Chula Vista Civic Association.