

10/18/2020

Port of Stockton Commissioners
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Dear Commissioners,

I am a member of the Executive Committee of the Delta Sierra Group, Sierra Club and a member and co-founder of a local interfaith environmental organization known as EcoInterFaith, which partners with Faith in the Valley, San Joaquin and California InterFaith Power and Light.

In past years I have taken the boat tours sponsored by the Port. During those tours the guides repeatedly emphasize the concern that the Port has for the health of the environment and for the Delta Ecosystem.

However, those statements seem insincere in light of the Port's actions. Major projects and expansions at the Port seem to be unveiled with little public notice and little regard for transparency. The Port does not seem interested in engaging in public outreach with its neighbors, who breath some of the most polluted air in the country. Environmental impact reports seem an annoyance that the Port minimizes at every opportunity, and the public is given little opportunity, if any, to comment on them.

If the Port truly cares about the local air and the environment it needs to: improve the transparency of its actions and deliberations; post the minutes of its meetings; initiate and engage in more public outreach; and stop the behavior of granting categorical exemptions for large scale projects.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

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