

From: Jeff Sykes [sykes@earthlink.net]

Sent: Sunday, November 30, 2003 10:39 PM

To: Russell, Ellen

Subject: Mexicali Power Plants

I only wish I had the picture that was published earlier this year in the San Diego Union-Tribune to attach to this e-mail. It showed a cloud resulting from stubble burning in Imperial Valley. If the Imperial County leaders are really concerned about air quality in IV then why don't they stop that? And while they're at it what about all the chemicals that are applied to the crops? Fertilizers and crop dusting don't make for clean air. Oh and what about the dust generated while plowing the fields? How does that help air quality?

As for the power plants, if the interconnection to the United States is eliminated what makes anyone think that the plants will shut down? They won't they will just continue to generate electricity and ship it into Mexican markets. All that would be needed is a new lines in Mexico to Tijuana and to the east into the Mexican mainland. So what would be solved? Cleaner air? No way.

If Imperial Valley wants cleaner air they really need to clean up their current methods of operation.

Unless something dramatic has taken place recently I would think that any reduction in flow of the New River would be a benefit to the USA. All the stories I have ever seen on the New River was that is was nothing more than a sewer flowing north from Mexico into the US. Have I missed something or is Mexico really cleaning their sewage before putting it into the river?

I urge you to allow the interconnection to remain and suggest that Imperial Valley look at the things that have been causing its dirty air for more than the last 50 years. Don't blame the power plants their exhaust is cleaner than any of the farming operations in the valley.

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