

October 1, 2014

**Via Email**

Mayor James C. Ledford Jr. and  
Members of the City Council  
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**Re: Appeal from Planning Commission Decision on Site Plan Review 14-003 for  
KCS West Application to Develop a Manufacturing/Assembly Facility  
(Kinkisharyo)**

Dear Mayor Ledford and Council Members:

We are writing to express our concern regarding the application by KCS West to develop a manufacturing/assembly use consisting of a 427,507 square feet facility and rail tracks.

In 2012, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority Board of Directors approved an \$891 million contract to purchase over 200 rails cars for the Metro system from Kinkisharyo International. Nearly two years later, this company sought permission from the City of Palmdale to build a manufacturing plant in Palmdale to implement their contract. Now, it wants the City to approve the project based on decades-old environmental documents that never envisioned this project.

The California Environmental Quality Act requires local agencies to follow a protocol of analysis and public disclosure of environmental impacts of proposed projects and adopt measures to mitigate those impacts. In this case, the Proposal raises serious issues of air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and water resources that have never been disclosed in a CEQA document.

We strongly believe that the City of Palmdale must exercise a thoughtful and deliberate approach in evaluating the Kinkisharyo Project. We urge the City Council to comply with CEQA and analyze and mitigate real and potential impacts from the Project before the

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City considers approving the Project. We urge the City of Palmdale to protect the public health and the environment by through a transparent and thoughtful adherence to CEQA.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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