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OCPA Board of Directors

Re: Position of General Counsel

Dear Chairman Jung and Members of the OCPA Board of Directors,

I am proud to have worked closely with the member agencies, the Board and staff over the last two years to guide the Orange County Power Authority from a concept through a successful launch to a CCA that will finish its first operational year in a strong financial position as a leader in serving renewable energy to our communities. As you may know, I am an Orange County native who grew up and lived in some of the member communities including Huntington Beach and the County unincorporated area, and now Irvine. I have dedicated my 20-year legal career to utilities and government service and am a strong believer in community control, consumer choice, renewable energy and the reform of how energy is delivered to our citizens. This is why I have worked hard to help launch CCAs throughout California.

Unfortunately, the unprecedented personal attacks on myself have created a situation where the bright future of OCPA as a leader in California has been put at risk. As general counsel for OCPA, I must maintain a position of trust as a legal advisor to the Board that helps advance the interests of the organization, particularly as the Board endeavors to keep the members working together. Given the current situation, I believe that the Board will be better served with another individual in the role of general counsel, and I regret to inform you of my decision to step down as General Counsel of the Orange County Power Authority.

Nicholaus Norvell, who has general counsel experience with community choice energy and other joint powers authorities, has agreed to step into the role of interim General Counsel to help guide the agency. The lawyers of Best Best & Krieger remain available to assist with regulatory, procurement and other matters as needed.

I thank you for the opportunity to have served your Board and communities. It has been my honor and pleasure to do so.

Very truly yours,



Ryan M. F. Baron