



Date: 8/14/09

To: **Peter Lowitt**

Cc: Neil Angus

From: Doug Sheadel

RE: Review of the Cavanaugh Tocci Associates Sound Wall Report, August 11, 2009

Peter,

I have reviewed the Cavanaugh Tocci Assoc. / Evergreen Solar facility letter that was submitted to address the Sound Barrier Wall feature of the Evergreen noise mitigation. The letter presents some foundational understanding of how sound barriers work to reduce sound propagated from a source to receiver. In the letter, Mr. Tocci argues that the 20 foot barrier at the edge of the pavement would produce less noise reduction performance than the taller walls closer to the sound producing equipment. This is consistent with my testimony before the Commission that the originally proposed wall is not enough and may not be the best treatment for the facility sound. Evergreen elected to replace the wall with local enclosures on smaller sources along with huge enclosures on the larger sources such as the Dust Collector system and the VOC equipment. Based on my earlier modeling and later observations of the mitigation performance, the installed solution is far more effective than the originally proposed wall. It is my opinion that the installed barriers at the facility effectively take the place of the originally proposed wall system required by DEC resolution. I concur that the performance of the installed wall exceeds that of the original design and has gone far to move the facility noise signature toward compliance with the DEC Noise Requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this analysis.

Sincerely,
Modeling Specialties,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas L Sheadel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Douglas L Sheadel
Principal Scientist