

Sacramento News and Review, February 05, 2010

PG&E kicks reporter out of Prop 16 debate

I heard [this crazy story](#) from a reporter at the **San Francisco Bay Guardian** recently. I tried to get David Townsend's version, but he didn't respond.


In a nutshell, local political consultant **David Townsend**—the man who got KJ elected mayor—agreed to a debate with state senator **Mark Leno** about the merits of **Prop 16**. That's the measure PG&E put on the June ballot to make it nearly impossible for public utilities like **SMUD** to start up or expand.

The event was held at a meeting of the **Northern California Power Association**, which represents public power providers in California.

The Bay Guardian figured the meeting—of public power providers, about a public ballot measure, with public officials in attendance—would be, you know, public. In fact, Senator Leno invited the Guardian's reporter, **Brady Welch**, to drive up to lovely Sacramento to check it out.

But then Townsend had the poor reporter bounced from the meeting, and the NCPA went along with it. A perfectly newsworthy event, but PG&E didn't want media coverage, so that was it. Amazing. Leno later told the Guardian, "With all due respect to David Townsend, I don't see why a consultant wouldn't want to discuss the themes of his campaign in public. I think his decision not to allow the press to hear him speaks for itself."

Again, read the whole thing [here](#).

::posted by Cosmo Garvin @ 2010-02-05 11:24 AM [2 comments](#)  [permalink](#)

Reader Comments

Posted 02/05/2010 1:05PM by **bbbbmer**

Hmm... This sort of exclusion seems to be a consistent theme in Townsend's tool box – the same sort of thing occurred at one of KJ's l'il campaign thingies when he was running last year where notes from a very well respected community member (and well known Fargo supporter) in attendance were summarily grabbed and tossed by one of KJ's henchmen...er, um... assistants, a la Steve Maviglio, to what end, other than simply harassment, I... [MORE](#)

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Posted 02/09/2010 6:08AM by **2112**

oh goodie, cosmo and bbbmer are together again. nice of the two idiots of this site to be holding hands and singing their liberal praises to each other. bbbmer, did you see one of "KJ's henchmen" take the paper? probably not. it bet it was one of those i heard from a guy, who heard from someone, who happen to tell my dog while he was outside urinating on the bush in the front yard,... [MORE](#)

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