CAPITOL OFFICE: STATE CAPITOL SACRAMENTO CA 95814 TEL (916) 651-4039 FAX (916) 327-2188

SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 TEL (619) 645-3133

FAX (619) 645-3144

2445 5TH AVENUE, SUITE 200

California State Senate

## SENATOR

THIRTY-NINTH SENATE DISTRICT

CHRISTINE KEHOE



February 22, 2008

Commissioner Dian Grueneich California Public Utilities Commission 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Commissioner Grueneich,

• ARTS MEMBER:

· CALIFORNIA CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL ENDOWMENT

EMERGENCY SERVICES AND HOMELAND SECURITY

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND COMMUNICATIONS, CHAIR

 LOCAL GOVERNMENT • NATURAL RESOURCES AND

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HOUSING JOINT COMMITTEES: • LEGISLATIVE BUDGET COMMITTEE

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· CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER CAUCUS

- · LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS
- · SEA GRANT ADVISORY PANEL
- · BROADBAND TASK FORCE

On behalf of the San Diego region, thank you for adding a Public Participation Hearing on February 25<sup>th</sup> within the City of San Diego, in addition to the hearings being held in the East County. From the beginning, the Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project has generated a significant amount of interest not only along the proposed route for the transmission line but within the entire region. That's because the alignment preferred by San Diego Gas and Electric threatens the very heart of California's largest park - Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

In recent years, we in San Diego County have found that our state parks are under ongoing and potentially devastating threats by big, major infrastructure projects proposed at every level of government.

Earlier this month the Coastal Commission took a courageous stance in rejecting a proposed toll road that would have forever changed the world renowned San Onofre State Beach and its famed Trestles surf beach. The federal government continues to work on a triple border fence that will damage a unique natural preserve rich with a rich archaeological and cultural heritage at Border State Park.

It is time for the state to place our parks and open space preserves off limits for major infrastructure projects. Too often, our parks seem to have become the path of least resistance. I will continue to lend my voice to those who oppose any route that damage's our state's legacy to future generations our state parks.

Thank you again for conducting an open process that is responsive to the public in gathering information about the proposed transmission line.

Sincere!

strie belle Senator, 39th District

CK:ds