Billie Blanchard, CPUC/ Lynda Kastoll, BLM c/o Aspen Environmental Group 235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935 San Francisco, CA 94104-3002 Fax and Voicemail: (866) 711-3106

Email: sunrise@aspeneg.com

Dear CPUC and BLM,

This letter is in response to the proposed Modified Route D Alternative for the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project. Homeowners for the Preservation and Enhancement of the Mountain Empire (H.O.P.E.) oppose this alternative and are sending this letter to notify you of the reasons. H.O.P.E. is a grassroots organization of about 75 local residents and business owners whose purpose is to look into important issues affecting our community, examine possible solutions, encourage broad-based community input, petition elected officials and support candidates for office. H.O.P.E. is registered with the Secretary of State and the County Registrar of Voters as a Primarily Formed Committee that can raise and spend contributions in support of candidates and issues. We find that the modified Route D Alternative is in direct violation of all that we stand for and oppose it in its entirety.

Although we take no position on other alternatives, the Modified Route D Alternative is too close to residential areas and is a threat to the peaceful country setting our citizens have come to enjoy. Furthermore, it cuts through sensitive cultural, biological and geological areas such as "the narrows" and the Hauser Primitive Area. The Narrows is one of the most visited bird watching areas in the County and the Hauser Primitive Area is so sensitive that it is off-limits to even the Border Patrol. Finally, I would remind you that the Kitchen Creek Fire in 1970 started from a power line near where this proposal is designated to go through the Cleveland National Forest. That fire nearly burned all the way to San Diego and the devastation in the backcountry was terrible. Fire in Hauser canyon has claimed eleven lives in the past and it remains a dangerous tinderbox of heavy growth vegetation. Let's not cause a repeat of history.

H.O.P.E. feels the modified Route D Alternative is a bad idea on many levels and should be eliminated quickly in order to focus time and resources on more viable alternatives.

Sincerely.

Randy Lenac Chair

Chairman

H.O.P.E. of the Mountain Empire

P.O. Box 188

Campo, CA 91906 (619)478-5403

Copy to: Dianne Jacob **Duncan Hunter**

Bob Filner

Denise Ducheny