

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



February 16, 2007

Mr. Kevin O'Beirne
San Diego Gas & Electric Company
8830 Century Park Court – CP32D
San Diego, CA. 92123

**Re: Data Request #8 for the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project,
Application No. 06-08-010**

Dear Mr. O'Beirne:

The California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) Energy Division has reviewed the documents and materials that SDG&E has provided including the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (dated August 4, 2006), the Application Supplement Materials (dated September 1, 2006), and SDG&E's Response to Data Requests No. 1 through 6 (responses to DR7 are pending). During the analysis of the aforementioned materials and in our preparation of EIR/EIS sections, we have identified additional items that require information from SDG&E. Additional data requests may be necessary to address alternatives and other CEQA/NEPA topics. This letter constitutes Data Request No. 8.

We would appreciate your prompt response to this request, which will allow us to maintain our current EIR/EIS schedule. We request that the response to this request be provided to us by February 26, 2007.

Please submit one set of responses to me and one to Susan Lee at Aspen in San Francisco, in both hard copy and electronic format. Any questions on this data request should be directed to me at (415) 703-2068.

Sincerely,

Billie C. Blanchard, AICP, PURA V
Project Manager for Sunrise Powerlink Project
Energy Division, CEQA Unit

Attachment

cc: Sean Gallagher, CPUC Energy Division Director
Ken Lewis, CPUC Program Manager
Steve Weissman, ALJ
Traci Bone, Advisor to Commissioner Grueneich
Nicholas Sher/Jason Reiger, CPUC Legal Division
Lynda Kastoll, BLM
Susan Lee, Aspen Environmental Group

Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Line Project

Data Request No. 8

- ALT-72 A complete record of power outages due to fire along the SWPL is necessary to assess fire risk for the southern alternative routes for the Sunrise Powerlink Project. Several data gaps were identified in the information on fire occurrence and outages provided previously by SDG&E. In order to complete the data record on wildfires along the SWPL route, please address the following specific requests.
- a. Please provide specific locations of the following incidents recorded in *DR1-Fire Table-SDG&E-highlighted.pdf*: the August 1986 fire, the July 1987 fire, the July 1995 fire, the September 1995 lightning fire, the September 2000 lightning fire, the October 1 2003 fire, and the July 2005 lightning fire.
 - b. Please provide date, duration, reason, and description of the October 2005 fire located between Campo Reservation and the Otay Valley Wilderness and appearing on the map entitled *Map-Fires.pdf*.
 - c. Please specify whether the precautionary outages on July 23, 1996 and July 17, 1998 were precautions taken due to nearby fire. No reason is given other than “safety”, and the outages are described as “precautionary”. Please clarify whether these forced outages were made as a precaution against imminent fire outage or against some other threat.
- ALT-73 Please provide preliminary engineering (including tower locations and access roads) for the alternative alignment suggested by David Batchelder for the area north of his property near Mesa Grande Road.
- ALT-74 During the second round of scoping meetings, the public identified concerns associated with the width of the existing ROW through Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Several commenters stated that there are a number of areas along the existing ROW where the ROW width is reduced to as narrow as 24 feet. In addition, the PEA (pages 5.1-15 and 5.1-17) references three segments (totaling less than 1 mile) of the existing SDG&E ROW that are 24 feet wide.
- Please identify all areas within the overall park boundaries where the ROW is less than 100 feet. For each area, identify whether the areas immediately outside of the ROW are private land or Park land. At the identified locations, please identify the width of the SDG&E ROW.
- ALT-75 Regarding the Route D Alternative (the ALT-7 routing provided by SDG&E), please refer to mapbook pages 42 through 54, and explain why there is such an extensive length of separation between the existing SWPL and the new 500 kV line. Campo Reservation lands do not extend west of Sheet 45, yet the second 500 kV line remains south of the first through Sheet 54, several miles to the west.