

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



August 28, 2007

David Kates
The Nevada Hydro Company, Inc.
3510 Unocal Place, Suite 200
Santa Rosa, Ca 95403-5571

**Re: Second Request for Information Regarding Proposed Sunrise Powerlink
Transmission Project, Application No. 06-08-010**

Dear Mr. Kates:

As you are aware, the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are preparing a combined Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for SDG&E's proposed Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project. As part of the EIR/EIS preparation process, we are evaluating a wide range of potential alternatives to the project defined by SDG&E. Among the alternatives we are considering are the Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage (LEAPS) and Talega-Escondido/Valley-Serrano (TE/VS) 500 kV Interconnect Projects.

To assist in our alternatives analysis and to ensure that we can provide complete information to interested members of the public, we request your assistance with several issues. These questions are in addition to the items requested by our visual resources specialist (provided to you in an email to Rex Wait from Marisa Mitchell, copy attached as Attachment 1).

The questions below are listed in order of priority, with our requested response date provided for each question.

- 1. GIS Shapefiles for the Staff Preferred Route**, as identified in the Final EIS. We have been working closely with staff from MBA to obtain current and accurate shapefiles that show the centerline of the 500 kV route and the tower locations for the "Staff Alternative" as defined in the Final EIS. After many discussions and providing numerous iterations of incorrect data, MBA told us today that they don't believe they have shapefiles for the "Staff Alternative". It is critically important to us to get our biological and cultural resources staff into the field this week to start on required surveys, but we first need accurate GIS data. Please provide accurate shapefiles that represent the "Staff Alternative" 500 kV transmission line route defined in the Final EIS. We need this information on or before Friday, August 31, 2007, if possible.
- 2. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) "Modified Staff Alternative" Tower, Midline, and Access Road Locations for the 500 kV Loop North of Lake Substation.** The LEAPS and TE/VS Draft PEA provided to CPUC in June 2007 for preliminary review proposes to construct the "Staff Alternative" transmission line (PEA

page 1-35) as outlined by FERC in its Final EIS for the LEAPS and TE/VS Projects. It is our understanding that various TE/VS Project features have changed since publication of the Final EIS. These features are listed below:

- a. The Lake (northern) Substation is currently planned for location at a site just northeast of Interstate 15, at the Indian Truck Trail exit. The TE/VS 500 kV transmission line is currently planned as a loop out of the Lake Substation on double sets of towers interconnecting with the Valley-Serrano transmission line. Please provide GIS shapefiles for these features, as revised, and explain their current status.
- b. It is our understanding that the “Staff Alternative” transmission line route has undergone minor revisions in consultation with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Please provide GIS shapefiles showing these revisions, as well as text explaining each route change and reasons for each change.

For both a and b above, please clarify whether the changes to the “Staff Alternative” project features constitute the Project as currently proposed. We request this information by September 6, 2007.

- 3. Mailing List Update.** Please provide a complete mailing list of landowners within 300 feet of the 500 kV “Staff Alternative” transmission line corridor and all other project features (preferably in Excel format). Please identify the landowners that have been added since the list you provided in response to our first information request in January 2007. Please respond to this request by September 21, 2007.

We would appreciate your prompt responses to these requests, which will allow us to maintain our current EIR/EIS schedule. Any questions on this information 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, CPUC Legal Division
Lynda Kastoll, BLM
Susan Lee, Aspen Environmental Group

Attachment 1

LEAPS Data Needed for Visual Resource Analysis and Computerized Visual Simulations (submitted by email on 8/13/07)

Please provide the following information and drawings. If AutoCAD “.dwg” or “.dxf” files are available for any or all of these drawings, please provide data in that format, as it will save time in constructing three-dimensional models of these facilities. If any of these facilities-data are available as a 3D wireframe drawing, please submit those drawings as well, for clarity.

1. typical 500-kV lattice steel structure
2. typical 500-kV tubular steel pole
3. typical 69-kV wood pole
4. typical 69-kV tubular steel pole
5. entire layout of the proposed Lake Substation and staging areas near Indian Truck Trail Exit, including description of perimeter fencing and gate(s)
6. entire layout of proposed Santa Rosa Powerhouse, proposed Midpoint construction staging area, and proposed Midpoint Substation, including description of perimeter fencing and gate(s)
7. entire layout of proposed mitigation area between Grand Avenue and proposed Powerhouse (municipal park? botanical area? other?)
8. entire layout of North Transition Station on South Main Divide Road, including grading plans and description of perimeter fencing and gate(s)
9. grading plan of proposed Decker Canyon Reservoir and FS-required screening berm around reservoir
10. grading plan and/or perimeter boundaries of reservoir and transition-station laydown areas along South Main Divide Road
11. all above ground facilities in or near proposed Decker Canyon Reservoir, including penstocks and all underwater facilities that may show during draw-down periods
12. entire layout of North Transition Station on South Main Divide Road, including grading plans and description of perimeter fencing and gate(s)
13. exact alignment, grading plans and clearing limits of underground 500-kV transmission line
14. alignment and pole layout of 69-kV line from Pala Substation to existing 230-kV transmission line, to show the removal and relocation of existing wood poles that tie into the 230 line from Pala Substation
15. layout of 69-kV and 230-kV lines at crossing over West Lilac Road (between Pala and Lilac Substations), i.e., is 69-kV line east or west of existing 230-kV line, and how far apart will they be?