

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



February 5, 2008

Randy Voepel, Mayor  
City of Santee  
10601 Magnolia Avenue  
Santee, CA 92071-1266

**Re: Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project EIR/EIS and San Diego Community Power Project**

Dear Mayor Voepel,

Thank you for your letter of January 23, 2008 to Commissioner Dian Grueneich stating your concern about placing a new fossil-fueled power plant on Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) Miramar property adjacent to the City of Santee.

In the scoping process for the EIR/EIS, both agency and private parties recommended that the EIR/EIS consider an in-basin generation alternative. Therefore, the Draft EIR/EIS for the Sunrise Powerlink Project considers two typical - or representative - "non-wires alternative" packages to the proposed Sunrise Powerlink transmission line. These alternatives include a combination of gas-fired and/or renewable generation in San Diego County.

The draft EIR/EIS does not propose the siting of any power plant. The ongoing status of energy projects in the San Diego area has made it difficult to develop a fixed scenario of specific gas-fired power plants, so the decision was made to define a **typical or representative set of generation options**. Consistent with this approach, the Draft EIR/EIS explains that **"The projects considered in this EIR/EIS are representative of reasonable generation scenarios, and are not intended to depend on the progress of contracts for individual utility projects."** Impacts of this power plant are considered to be representative of other baseload plants.

The CPUC/BLM environmental team is fully aware of the City's position in opposition to the MCAS Miramar location. On page E.6-11 (Section E.6.1.4), the EIR/EIS describes the unclear status of the San Diego Community Power Project (SDCPP) and notes the City of Santee's stated opposition to this power plant:

"ENPEX believes that MCAS Miramar is attractive from a land use compatibility standpoint because of undeveloped areas that could provide a buffer for populated areas. The City of Santee, however, opposed the power plant in early 2007 based on a proposal to develop 1,380 homes on land east of the SDCPP site (the Fanita Ranch development).

The SDCPP's development status is unclear, but it is identified in the CAISO transmission interconnection queue. In April 2006, a Siting and Feasibility Study for the Proposed Electrical Generating Plant at MCAS Miramar was prepared for the Marine Corps. The SDCPP has not submitted an application for certification (AFC) to the CEC."

We are grateful for your comments on this issue and will give them full consideration as part of our review of the Draft EIR/EIS.

Regarding the upcoming Public Participation Hearings, two additional meetings have recently been added in the area:

- Downtown San Diego: February 25, 2008 at 1:30 p.m.
- Town of Julian: February 27, 2008 at 10:30 a.m.

Further information on the Public Participation Hearings can be found on the project website at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/aspen/sunrise/sunrise.htm>.

Sincerely,

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cc: ALJ Weissman  
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