

Meeting Participants & Agenda



- **Introduction of Speakers; Agenda Summary**
(Lewis Michaelson, Katz & Associates)
- **Purpose of Scoping** *(Lewis Michaelson)*
- **Description of Proposed Project** *(Susan Lee, Aspen)*
- **CPUC Process and Schedule**
(Billie Blanchard, CPUC)
- **BLM Process and Schedule**
(Lynda Kastoll / Tom Zale, BLM)
- **EIR/EIS Process** *(Susan Lee)*
- **Comments from the Public and Agencies**

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

The Purpose of Scoping



- To inform the public and responsible agencies about an upcoming project for which an EIR/EIS will be prepared
- To inform the public about the environmental review process
- To solicit input regarding the potential alternatives to the proposed project and the appropriate scope of issues to be studied in the EIR/EIS
- To identify issues of concern and areas of potential controversy
- Scoping Report will be prepared and distributed to repositories, and placed on project website

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Key Players and their Roles in the CEQA/NEPA Process



- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC):
Lead Agency under California Environmental
Quality Act (CEQA)
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM): Lead
Agency under National Environmental Policy
Act (NEPA)
- San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E):
the Applicant
- Aspen Environmental Group: Environmental
contractor for CPUC/BLM

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Description of the Proposed Project



Major elements of SDG&E's Sunrise Powerlink Project:

- 500 kV Portion
 - New 500 kV line starting at Imperial Valley Substation and
ending at new Central East Substation
 - 91 miles long
- 230 kV Portion
 - About 60 miles of new 230 kV transmission lines
 - Overhead double circuit and single circuit lines
 - Two underground segments (Ramona, Rancho
Peñasquitos)
- New Central East Substation
- Other System Upgrades

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Need for the Proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project



SDG&E's goals for the SRPL:

- Maintain Reliability
- Promote Renewable Energy
- Reduce Energy Costs

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Need for the Proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project



SDG&E's objectives for the SRPL:

1. Ensure SDG&E's transmission system satisfies minimum reliability criteria
2. Provide a transmission facilities that allow for prudent system expandability and supports regional expansion of the electric grid.
3. Provide transmission capability for Imperial Valley renewable resources
4. Reduce the above-market costs associated with maintaining reliability in the San Diego area
5. Improve regional transmission system infrastructure
6. Obtain electricity generated by diverse fuel sources and decrease the dependence on increasingly scarce and costly natural gas.
7. Avoid the taking and relocation of homes, businesses or industries in the siting of the transmission and substation facilities.
8. Minimize the need for transmission line ROW in urban or suburban areas.

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

CPUC Review Process



The CPUC has two parallel review processes for this SDG&E Application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN):

- General Proceeding: Applications # A.05-12-014 and A.06-08-010
- Environmental Review: the CEQA/NEPA process

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

General Proceeding for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN)



Led by:

- Assigned Commissioner Dian Grueneich and Administrative Law Judge Steve Weissman

Scope (defined by Public Utilities Code Section 1002):

- Determine need for the project (facilities are necessary to promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of the public)
- Consider community values, recreational and park areas, historic and aesthetic values
- Review environmental impacts as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

CPUC General Proceeding



General Proceeding Schedule	
First Pre-Hearing Conference (Ramona)	January 31, 2006
Second Prehearing Conference and Public Participation Hearing (Ramona)	September 13, 2006
Scoping Memo for General Proceeding	October 2006
Testimony Exchanged	To be determined
Evidentiary Hearings	To be determined
ALJ's Proposed Decision	To be determined
Final Decision by CPUC	To be determined

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Environmental Review Schedule



SDG&E filed CPCN Application	December 14, 2005
SDG&E filed Proponent's Environmental Assessment	August 4, 2006
Notice of Intent to prepare EIS (Federal Register)	August 31, 2006
Notice of Preparation for EIR	Sept. 15, 2006
Public Scoping for EIR/EIS	Closes October 20, 2006
Public Review of Draft EIR/EIS	To be determined
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 90 Day Comment Period ■ Public Consultation 	
Final EIR/EIS	To be determined
EIR Certified by CPUC	To be determined

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

BLM Process



- SDG&E filed application for a Right-of-Way (ROW) on November 2, 2005.
- A ROW must be granted to cross BLM-administered lands:
 - 31.4 miles in Imperial County
 - 1.3 miles in San Diego County
 - Anza-Borrego Desert State Park
- Amendment to the CDCA Plan (1980) is required — Project would deviate from BLM designated utility corridors within the California Desert Conservation Area (Imperial County)
- Nation to Nation Consultation Process with interested tribes

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

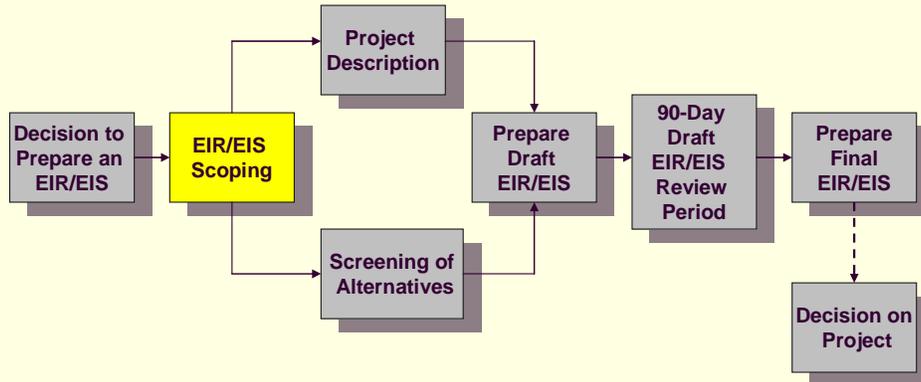
Other Key Agencies and Tribes



- CA Department of Parks & Recreation
 - Anza-Borrego Desert State Park — 22 miles
- Cities and Counties along the route
 - Imperial & San Diego Counties
 - Cities of San Diego, Poway
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- Interested tribes
- CA Department of Fish & Game
- Department of Defense: MCAS Miramar
- CA State Historic Preservation Office
- CA Coastal Commission

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

The EIR/EIS Process



Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

General Contents and Purpose of an EIR/EIS



Contents:

- Describe the environmental setting of the project area
- Disclose the potential environmental impacts of the project and alternatives
- Propose measures to reduce or avoid significant environmental impacts (mitigation measures)

Purpose:

- Provide technically sound information for decision-makers to consider in evaluating the proposed project

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Major Elements of an EIR/EIS



- Detailed Project Description
- Description of Alternatives Screening Process and Alternatives Carried Forward
- Impacts of Proposed Project
- Impacts of Alternatives
- Mitigation Measures
- Cumulative Impacts, Indirect Impacts, Growth Inducing Effects
- Mitigation Monitoring

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Environmental Disciplines Included in an EIR/EIS



- Aesthetics
- Agriculture
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Environmental Justice
- Geology & Soils
- Hydrology & Water Quality
- Land Use
- Noise
- Paleontology
- Public Health & Safety
- Recreation
- Socioeconomics
- Transportation & Traffic
- Utilities

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Alternatives Analysis



Reasonable range of alternatives determined by:

- Consistency with most project objectives
 - Meeting all objectives is not required
- Ability to reduce or avoid impacts of proposed project
 - Scoping comments will help identify impacts
- Feasibility
 - Technical concerns (can it be built?)
 - Regulatory feasibility (could it be permitted?)
 - Legal issues (would it be allowed under law?)

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Alternatives Analysis



Screening of alternatives analysis will include:

- Routing alternatives
- Generation alternatives
- Non-wires alternatives (demand reduction, etc.)
- Reconsideration of SDG&E's PEA alternatives
- Reconsideration of alternatives eliminated by SDG&E
- Alternatives suggested in scoping comments
- Alternatives from CPUC Proceeding filings and CPUC Workshop for Parties – October 13, 2006

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

After EIR/EIS Completion



CPUC:

- Commission will vote on the project
- EIR is referenced in the Decision
- If the project or an alternative is approved, the Decision will require monitoring of adopted mitigation measures and definition of mitigation monitoring procedures.

BLM:

- 30-day comment/protest period following publication of Final EIR/EIS
- 60-day Governor's Consistency Review
- Prepare Record of Decision

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

EIR/EIS Scoping Comments



The most useful scoping comments —

1. Identify the location and extent of environmental impacts of the proposed project.
2. Recommend alternatives that would avoid or reduce impacts of the proposed project.

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

Written Scoping Comments Must be Postmarked by October 20, 2006



Please send comments to:

**Billie Blanchard/Lynda Kastoll
CPUC/BLM**

c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

or

E-mail: sunrise@aspeneg.com

Fax: (866) 711-3106

** Please be sure to include your name, address,
and phone number on all comments.

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS

For More Information:



- Check our website:
<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspensunrise/sunrise.htm>
- Information Repositories: 18 area libraries and offices have project information
- E-mail us at: sunrise@aspeneg.com
- Call the Project Information Line: (866) 711-3106 (voice or fax)

Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS