



SDG&E's Proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project



CPUC / BLM
Second Round of
Scoping Meetings
on Alternatives for
Draft EIR/EIS

February 5 – 9, 2007

Meeting Participants & Agenda



- **Introduction of Speakers; Agenda**
(Lewis Michaelson, Katz & Associates)
- **Purpose of 2nd Round of Scoping** *(Lewis Michaelson)*
- **CPUC Process and Schedule Update**
(Billie Blanchard, CPUC)
- **BLM Process**
(Lynda Kastoll / Duane Marti, BLM)
- **Description of Proposed Project; Impacts by Link** *(Susan Lee, Aspen Environmental Group)*
- **EIR/EIS Process; Alternatives Screening Process**
(Billie Blanchard)
- **Alternatives Retained and Eliminated** *(Susan Lee)*
- **Comments from the Public and Agencies** *(Lewis Michaelson)*

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The Purpose of Part 2 of Scoping to Present Alternatives to the Proposed Project



- To inform the public and responsible agencies about the alternatives proposed for full analysis in the Draft EIR/EIS and for elimination
- To inform the public about the environmental review process and final schedule
- To solicit input regarding the alternatives to the proposed project to be fully analyzed in the EIR/EIS and those proposed to be eliminated
- To prepare a second Alternatives Scoping Report for distribution to repositories, and placed on project website

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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

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CPUC Review Process



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

- General Proceeding: Application No. A.06-08-010
- Environmental Review: the CEQA/NEPA process

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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)

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CPUC General Proceeding



General Proceeding Schedule

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| SDG&E filed CPCN Application | December 14, 2005 |
| SDG&E filed Proponent's Environmental Assessment & Amended Application | August 4, 2006 |
| First Pre-Hearing Conference (Ramona) | January 31, 2006 |
| Second Prehearing Conference and Public Participation Hearing (Ramona) | September 13, 2006 |
| Scoping Memo for General Proceeding | November 1, 2006 |
| ALJ/Commissioner Ruling on Schedule | January 26, 2007 |
| Testimony Exchanged | Begins January 26, 2007 |
| Evidentiary Hearings | Begins July 9, 2007 |
| ALJ's Proposed Decision | December 2007 |
| Final Decision by CPUC | January 2008 |

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Environmental Review Schedule



| | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Notice of Intent to prepare EIS (Federal Register) | August 31, 2006 |
| Notice of Preparation for EIR | Sept. 15, 2006 |
| First Round of Public Scoping (General) | Ended October 20, 2006 |
| First Scoping Report | November 2006 |
| Second Round of Scoping (Alternatives) | January 24 - February 24, 2007 |
| Second Scoping Report | March 2007 |
| Release of Draft EIR/EIS | July 13, 2007 |
| Public Review of Draft EIR/EIS | July 13 – October 12, 2007 |
| Final EIR/EIS | November 20, 2007 |
| EIR Certified by CPUC | January 2008 |

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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 1980 CA Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan is required — Project would deviate from BLM designated utility corridors within the CDCA (Imperial County)
- Nation to Nation Consultation Process with interested tribes
- Record of Decision: January 2008

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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 a new 40 acre 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)

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Proposed Project, cont.



- New Central East Substation
- Other System Upgrades
 - Reconductor existing Sycamore-Elliot 69 kV transmission line
 - Modify San Luis Rey and South Bay Substations
- Future phases of the project
 - Additional 230 kV circuits out of Central East Substation

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Impacts of the Proposed Project: Imperial Valley Link



Primary impacts in this link:

- Effects on agricultural land and agricultural practices
- Effects on dairy farm and land designated for future dairy use
- Effects on flat-tailed horned lizard (FTHL) management area

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Impacts of the Proposed Project: Anza-Borrego Link



Primary impacts in this link:

- Direct and indirect effects on State-designated wilderness
- Effects on recreational, biological and visual resources through ABDSP
- Effects on cultural resources in Angelina Springs District in Grapevine Canyon and the rest of the Park

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Impacts of the Proposed Project: Central Link



Primary impacts in this link:

- Effects on visual resources in the San Felipe Hills area and the Santa Ysabel Valley
- Effects on agricultural resources and pastureland in the Santa Ysabel Valley
- Effects on recreation and biology in San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park
- Potential for increased fire risk and effects on fire fighting
- Geologic impacts from crossing of Elsinore Fault

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Impacts of the Proposed Project: Central East Substation



- Erosion and effects on biological resources from substantial grading (over 100 acres) at the substation site
- Effects on visual resources of the new substation in the community of San Felipe and the San Felipe valley
- Potential effects of the Earthquake Valley Fault in vicinity of substation site
- Effects associated with future project phases (construction of up to four additional 230 kV circuits out of the substation)

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Impacts of the Proposed Project: Inland Valley Link



Primary impacts in this link:

- Construction impacts and long-term visual effects on residences in Ramona, Holly Oaks, San Diego Country Estates, and Starlight Mountain Estates
- Effects on recreation, visual, and biological resources in Mt. Gower County Open Space Preserve
- Potential for increased fire risk and effects on fire fighting

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Impacts of the Proposed Project: Coastal Link

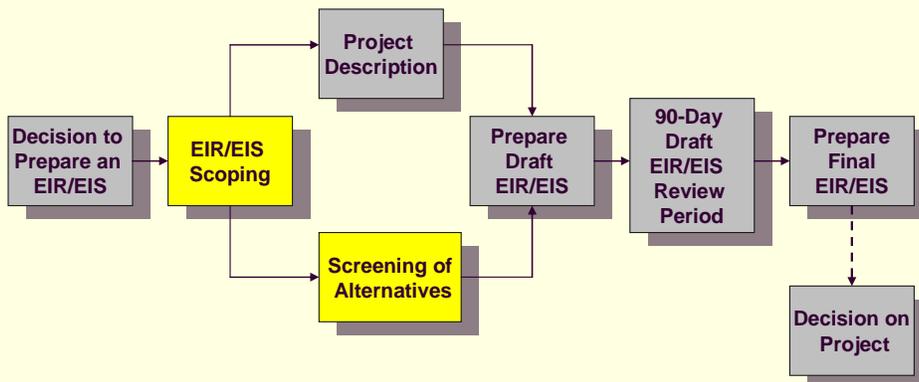


Primary impacts in this link:

- Short-term construction impacts;
- Visual and 'corona' noise effects on residences in Poway, Scripps Ranch, and Rancho Peñasquitos
- Effects on recreational, biological, cultural, and visual resources in Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve
- Effects on riparian area west of Rancho Peñasquitos Boulevard and I-15

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The EIR/EIS Process



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CEQA/NEPA Criteria for Screening Alternatives



Reasonable range of alternatives determined by:

- Consistency with most or all project objectives:
 - Reliability; access to renewables; economic benefit
- Ability to reduce or avoid significant impacts of proposed project identified through:
 - CPUC/BLM environmental team analysis
 - Agency consultation
 - Applicant's PEA
 - Data requests
 - Scoping comments
- Feasibility
 - Technical concerns (can it be built?)
 - Regulatory feasibility (could it be permitted?)
 - Legal issues (would it be allowed under law?)

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Alternatives Analysis



Sources of alternatives included:

- Alternatives suggested in scoping comments
- Reconsideration of SDG&E's PEA alternatives
- Reconsideration of alternatives eliminated by SDG&E
- Alternatives from CPUC Proceeding filings and ISO alternatives process

The following types of alternatives were considered:

- Link/route segment alternatives
- Substation alternatives
- Southwest Powerlink alternatives
- Full project route and system alternatives
- Generation and other non-wires alternatives

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Alternatives Recommended for Analysis: Imperial Valley Link



■ Recommended for retention:

- SDG&E Desert Western Alternative ** [pending feasibility input from Dept. of Defense]
- Imperial Valley FTHL Alternative
- SDG&E Bullfrog Farms Alternative
- Huff Road Bullfrog Farms Alternative

■ Recommended for elimination:

- Alternative Segments 3, 3B, 3D; Segment A/Northern Borrego Springs; Segment 1/92 kV

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Alternatives Recommended for Analysis: Anza-Borrego Link



- **Recommended for retention:**
 - Partial Underground 230 kV ABDSP Alternative (SR78 to S2)
 - Overhead 500 kV Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP) Within Existing 100-Foot ROW Alternative
- **Recommended for elimination:**
 - SR78 West of Anza; North SR78; Borrego Valley; SR78 Julian; SR78/S2 Overhead; 230 kV ABDSP; HVDC Light Underground

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Alternatives Recommended for Analysis: Central Link



- **Recommended for retention:**
 - Santa Ysabel Existing ROW Alternative
 - Santa Ysabel Partial Underground Alternative
- **Recommended for elimination:**
 - Central East to SR79; Warners Substation to S2/SR79; SR79 All Underground; San Dieguito Park; Volcan Mountain

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Alternatives Recommended for Analysis: Inland Valley Link



- **Recommended for retention:**
 - CNF Existing 69 kV Route Alternative
 - Oak Hollow Road Underground Alternative
- **Recommended for elimination:**
 - Segment 10/Inland Valley SR78; Creelman; West of San Vicente Road Underground

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Alternatives Recommended for Analysis: Coastal Link



- **Recommended for retention:**
 - Pomerado Road to Miramar Area North – Combination Underground and Underground/Overhead Alternative
 - MCAS Miramar – All Underground and Underground/Overhead Alternative ** [pending feasibility input from MCAS Miramar]
 - Rancho Peñasquitos Boulevard Bike Path Alternative
 - Carmel Valley Road Alternative
 - Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve and Mercy Road Alternative
 - Black Mountain to Park Village Road Alternative
 - Coastal Link System Upgrade Alternative

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Alternatives Recommended for Elimination: Coastal Link



Recommended for Elimination:

- SDG&E Northwest Corner Alternative, Mannix-Dormouse Road, Segment 12 Poway/Peñasquitos, Segment 13 Scripps Ranch, Segment 14 Poway, Segment 15 Warren Canyon, Segment 16 North of Peñasquitos Alternatives
- Pomerado Road to Miramar Area North
- MCAS Miramar Overhead/Underground
- Peñasquitos Substation to MP 146.5 Underground
- Scripps-Poway Parkway-Pomerado Road Underground
- State Route 56

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Alternatives Recommended for Analysis: Substations



Recommended for retention:

- SDG&E Central South Substation Alternative (used only in combination with alternative routes from the south)
- Mataguay Substation Alternative

Recommended for elimination:

- Warners Substation
- SDG&E Warners West Substation

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Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Alternatives



- **Alternatives avoiding impacts in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park**
- **Alternatives Recommended for Analysis:**
 - Route D Alternative
 - Interstate 8 Alternative
 - BCD Alternative
 - West of Forest Alternative

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Transmission System Alternatives



- **Recommended for retention:**
 - LEAPS Project or Serrano/Valley-North 500 kV Alternative
 - Mexico Light 230 kV Alternative (in combination with other upgrades)
 - Path 44 Upgrade Alternative (in combination with other upgrades)
- **Recommended for elimination:**
 - SWPL alternatives (IV to Miguel); 230 CFE; Serrano/Valley-Central 500 kV, Valley-Rainbow and alternatives, Valley-Central, 500 kV Full Loop, Northern Service Territory Upgrades, IV-Central 230 kV; HTLS composite conductor, all underground 230 kV or 500 kV

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Non-Wires Alternatives



- **Alternatives not requiring a major new transmission line**
- **Recommended for retention:**
 - New In-Area Renewable Generation
 - Resource Bundle 1: New In-Area Renewable and Conventional Generation Plus Demand Response
 - Resource Bundle 2: New In-Area Renewable and Conventional Generation, Demand Response, and Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)
 - In-Area Generation Plus Transmission Upgrades
- **Recommended for elimination:**
 - Stand-alone use of certain renewable technologies, energy efficiency, non-renewable distributed generation

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EIR/EIS Scoping Comments



The most useful scoping comments for this second round of scoping —

1. Agree or disagree with alternatives proposed for retention or elimination?
Why?
2. Suggestions for modifications to alternatives or for new alternatives?

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Written Scoping Comments Must be Postmarked by February 24, 2007



Please send comments to:

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San Francisco, CA 94104

or

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Fax: (866) 711-3106

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

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For More Information:



- Check our website:
<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspeng/sunrise/sunrise.htm>
- Information Repositories: 29 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)

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