22950 Crescent Heights Road (mailing: P. O. Box 510) Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

Billie Blanchard/Lynda Kastoll California Public Utilities Commission/Bureau of Land Management c/o Aspen Environmental Group 235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935 San Francisco, CA 94104

## SUNRISE POWERLINK PROJECT EIR/EIS SECOND ROUND of PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS, Wynola, California 2/06/07

We submit the following as comments:

- 1. We agree with the Non-Wires Alternatives which do not require a major new transmission line to be built. There are alternatives with the Encina and South Bay powerplants already in existence and intention to repower with cleaner turbine engines (SDG&E has the option to contract long-term energy production from these 2 plants but continues to insist it is the destructive Sunrise Powerlink that they prefer.) Inland, a new Miramar power plant proposal, with ultraclean generators, is getting closer to becoming a reality.
- 2. Regarding the Future Phases of the proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project, it disturbs us that SDG&E was not forthcoming about the proposed Central East Substation construction capacity design for six 230kV circuits until data requests from your EIR/EIS team. Having attended numerous SDG&E informational community meetings since November 2005, the first revelation of this came from SDG&E during a Santa Ysabel property owners meeting in December 2006 when SDG&E was asked by an attendee if a 300 foot right of way was proposed for SRPL because additional lines were planned for the future from the new Central East Substation. Such omissions by the utility continues to foster suspicions about the actual parameters of the SRPL and associated interconnections. This piecemeal approach to transmission projects may be designed to keep the public from realizing how monstrous the end result will be for the area.
- 3. The Central Link includes beautiful Mesa Grande, where we happen to have property under the Williamson Act. Please refer to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 which encourages landowners to enter into a contract with the county whereby land is under restricted use as open space, for agricultural purposes or recreational use that benefits the public. Many of us who live on Mesa Grande are under the Williamson Act in an Agricultural Preserve. These large tracts of land also protect many species and trees from habitat elimination. The Lake Henshaw valley, just north of Mesa Grande, will be impacted by the proposed SRPL. We thought it might be of great interest to you to include the annual Christmas Bird Count figures so you can appreciate the many types of birds that inhabit our area and soar over Mesa Grande. Some of the 120' foot 230 kV towers are planned to run over the top of one of the highest soaring ridges on Mesa Grande (Cauzza/Batchelder property line).

The Central Link also contains thousand of acres of woodlands and forests which have not burned in decades and where volatility to fire remains extreme. The proposed Sunrise Powerlink increases the risk of fire during construction and patrol and from the high Santa Ana wind threat on the towers. Winds through the Santa Ysabel valley have been recorded in excess of 100 mph. Aerial fire fighting in the vicinity of transmission lines is severely hampered because of the associated wind direction and maneuvers of the air tankers to target the fireline.

- 4. Concerning the Imperial Valley renewable resources, how can Sunrise Powerlink be approved based on something that does not exist? We are referring to the Stirling Engine Systems Solar Two facility to be located on approximately eight square miles in Imperial Valley. The mirrored array in this windy, earthquake prone, desert environment has not yet been constructed. Six prototypes are being tested in the Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico for engine reliability. But will 12,000 36,000 solar dishes be reliable in this desert environment? Reportedly, the test units were experiencing engine seal leakage. How can this technology be touted as "proven" at this point by SDG&E? Their renewables component of SRPL appears to be a baseless marketing ploy for duping "green-minded" Californians.
- 5. Under G.1, where SDG&E has presented eight objectives in its PEA, siting concern seems to exist for the taking and relocation of homes and businesses (#7), but <u>not</u> for the negative affect on property values of those impacted by the blight of substations, transmission lines and access roads. Already we are hearing of property offers cancelled due to the possibility of the Sunrise Powerlink routing in certain areas. People's lives and pocketbooks are on hold while the need for this unpopular and unnecessary transmission line is being decided.

Respectfully submitted,

John and Phyllis Bremer (phone: 760-212-0578)

107 (2006-7)

## Lake Henshaw [CALH] 33.2 degrees North x -116.6833 degrees West Christmas Bird Count Count Year: 107

	Count	Year: 107		
	Number	Number /	Flags	Editorial Flags
		Party Hr.		
<u>Canada Goose</u> (Branta canadensis)	90	1.0876		
American Wigeon (Anas americana)	310	3.7462		
Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)	63	0.7613		
Northern Shoveler (Anas clypeata)	170	2.0544		
Green-winged Teal (Anas crecca)	15	0.1813		
Redhead (Aythya americana)	2	0.0242		
Ring-necked Duck (Aythya collaris)	47	0.568		
Lesser Scaup (Aythya affinis)	6	0.0725		
Bufflehead (Bucephala albeola)	5	0.0604		
Hooded Merganser (Lophodytes cucullatus)	1	0.0121	US	
Common Merganser (Mergus merganser)	5	0.0604		
Ruddy Duck (Oxyura jamaicensis)	4	0.0483		
Wild Turkey (Meleagris gallopavo)	321	3.8792		
Mountain Quail (Oreortyx pictus)	27	0.3263		
California Quail (Callipepla californica)	207	2.5015		
Eared Grebe (Podiceps nigricollis)	5	0.0604		
Western Grebe (Aechmophorus occidentalis)	507	6.1269		
American White Pelican (Pelecanus erythrorhynchos)	125	1.5106		
Double-crested Cormorant (Phalacrocorax auritus)	50	0.6042		
Great Blue Heron (Blue form) (Ardea herodias)	8	0.0967		
Great Egret (Ardea alba)	5	0.0604		

Lake	Hensnaw Christmas	Bira Count - 2000-7	
Black-crowned Night-Heron (Nycticorax nycticorax)	3	0.0363	
Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura)	4	0.0483	
White-tailed Kite (Elanus leucurus)	4	0.0483	
Bald Eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus)	2	0.0242	
Northern Harrier (Circus cyaneus)	10	0.1208	
Sharp-shinned Hawk (Accipiter striatus)	3	0.0363	
Cooper's Hawk	5	0.0604	
(Accipiter cooperii)  Red-shouldered Hawk	38	0.4592	
(Buteo lineatus)  Red-tailed Hawk	87	1.0514	
(Buteo jamaicensis) Ferruginous Hawk	11	0.1329	
(Buteo regalis)  Golden Eagle	4	0.0483	
(Aquila chrysaetos)  American Kestrel	51	0.6163	
(Falco sparverius)  Merlin	1	0.0121	
(Falco columbarius)  Prairie Falcon	1	0.0121	
(Falco mexicanus) Sora	1	0.0121	
(Porzana carolina)  American Coot	408	4.9305	
(Fulica americana)			
<u>Killdeer</u> (Charadrius vociferus)	29	0.3505	
Greater Yellowlegs (Tringa melanoleuca)	1	0.0121	
<u>Least Sandpiper</u> (Calidris minutilla)	75	0.9063	
Long-billed Dowitcher (Limnodromus scolopaceus)	35	0.423	
Wilson's Snipe (Gallinago delicata)	9	0.1088	
Bonaparte's Gull (Larus philadelphia)	425	5.136	
Ring-billed Gull (Larus delawarensis)	100	1.2085	
California Gull (Larus californicus)	101	1.2205	
Band-tailed Pigeon (Patagioenas fasciata)	221	2.6707	
(1 angivenus jusciaia)			

Lake He	enshaw Christma	s Bird Count – 2006-7		
Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura)	216	2.6103		
Barn Owl (Tyto alba)	3	0.0363		
Western Screech-Owl (Megascops kennicottii)	0	0	CW	
Great Horned Owl (Bubo virginianus)	3	0.0363		
Spotted Owl (Strix occidentalis)	1	0.0121		
Northern Saw-whet Owl (Aegolius acadicus)	1	0.0121		
Lewis's Woodpecker (Melanerpes lewis)	1	0.0121		
Acorn Woodpecker (Melanerpes formicivorus)	269	3.2508		
Red-naped Sapsucker (Sphyrapicus nuchalis)	1	0.0121		
Ladder-backed Woodpecker (Picoides scalaris)	2	0.0242		
Nuttall's Woodpecker (Picoides nuttallii)	53	0.6405		
Hairy Woodpecker (Picoides villosus)	4	0.0483		
White-headed Woodpecker (Picoides albolarvatus)	2	0.0242		
Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker (Colaptes auratus)	64	0.7734		
Black Phoebe (Sayornis nigricans)	31	0.3746		
Say's Phoebe (Sayornis saya)	26	0.3142		
Loggerhead Shrike (Lanius ludovicianus)	10	0.1208		
Hutton's Vireo (Vireo huttoni)	3	0.0363		
Steller's Jay (Cyanocitta stelleri)	92	1.1118		
Western Scrub-Jay (Aphelocoma californica)	267	3.2266		
American Crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos)	611	7.3837		
Common Raven (Corvus corax)	108	1.3051		
Horned Lark (Eremophila alpestris)	217	2.6224		
Mountain Chickadee (Poecile gambeli)	152	1.8369		
Oak Titmouse (Baeolophus inornatus)	140	1.6918		

I	Lake Henshaw Christmas	Bird Count - 2006-	7	
Bushtit (Psaltriparus minimus)	295	3.565		
White-breasted Nuthatch (Sitta carolinensis)	55	0.6647		
Brown Creeper (Certhia americana)	1	0.0121		
Bewick's Wren (Thryomanes bewickii)	46	0.5559		
House Wren (Troglodytes aedon)	2	0.0242		
Winter Wren (Troglodytes troglodytes)	1	0.0121	US	
Marsh Wren (Cistothorus palustris)	6	0.0725		
Golden-crowned Kinglet (Regulus satrapa)	8	0.0967		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet (Regulus calendula)	122	1.4743		
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea)	1	0.0121		
Western Bluebird (Sialia mexicana)	259	3.1299		
Mountain Bluebird (Sialia currucoides)	26	0.3142		
Hermit Thrush (Catharus guttatus)	8	0.0967		
American Robin (Turdus migratorius)	70	0.8459		
Wrentit (Chamaea fasciata)	25	0.3021		
Northern Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos)	3	0.0363		
California Thrasher (Toxostoma redivivum)	23	0.2779		
European Starling (Sturnus vulgaris)	932	11.2628		
American Pipit (Anthus rubescens)	62	0.7492		
Phainopepla (Phainopepla nitens)	15	0.1813		
Orange-crowned Warbler (Vermivora celata)	6	0.0725		
Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler (Dendroica coronata)	91	1.0997		
Common Yellowthroat (Geothlypis trichas)	7	0.0846		
Spotted Towhee (Pipilo maculatus)	136	1.6435		
California Towhee (Pipilo crissalis)	87	1.0514		

Lake Henshaw	Christmas	Bird	Count .	-2006-7
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<b>Lake He</b>	enshaw Christma	s Bird Count – 2006-7	
Chipping Sparrow (Spizella passerina)	3	0.0363	
Vesper Sparrow (Pooecetes gramineus)	17	0.2054	
Lark Sparrow (Chondestes grammacus)	197	2.3807	
Savannah Sparrow (Passerculus sandwichensis)	218	2.6344	
<mark>Fox Sparrow</mark> Passerella iliaca)	22	0.2659	
<mark>Song Sparrow</mark> Melospiza melodia)	30	0.3625	
<mark>Lincoln's Sparrow</mark> Melospiza lincolnii)	4	0.0483	
White-crowned Sparrow Zonotrichia leucophrys)	1664	20.1088	
Golden-crowned Sparrow Zonotrichia atricapilla)	5	0.0604	
<mark>Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco</mark> Junco hyemalis)	1115	13.4743	
Dark-eyed (Pink-sided) Junco Junco hyemalis)	1	0.0121	
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco Junco hyemalis)	1	0.0121	
<mark>Red-winged Blackbird</mark> Agelaius phoeniceus)	165	1.994	
<mark>Vestern Meadowlark</mark> Sturnella neglecta)	320	3.8671	
<mark>Brewer's Blackbird</mark> Euphagus cyanocephalus)	290	3.5045	
Brown-headed Cowbird Molothrus ater)	3	0.0363	
<mark>Purple Finch</mark> Carpodacus purpureus)	1	0.0121	
<mark>House Finch</mark> Carpodacus mexicanus)	1062	12.8338	
<mark>æsser Goldfinch</mark> Carduelis psaltria)	80	0.9668	
awrence's Goldfinch Carduelis lawrencei)	1	0.0121	
<mark>House Sparrow</mark> Passer domesticus)	17	0.2054	