

Comment Set B.14: Greater Antelope Valley Association of Realtors



Greater Antelope Valley Association of REALTORS®

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October 2, 2006

John Boccio/Marian Kadota  
CPUC/USDA Forest Service  
c/o Aspen Environmental Group  
30423 Canwood Street, Suite 215  
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Re: Draft Environmental Impact Report/EIS for the Proposed Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project (Report)

Dear Mr. Boccio and Ms. Kadota:

I am writing in response to the above stated Report on behalf of the 2,198 members of the Greater Antelope Valley Association of REALTORS®. The Association understands the need to increase electrical transmission capacity by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and that transmission of this power will occur through the Antelope Valley. However, we believe the CPUC and USDA Forest Service should do so with minimum impact to property owners. There are several alternatives presented in the Report, with Alternative 5 being the most egregious to homeowners in the Leona Valley and Aqua Dulce communities, requiring an additional 18.8 miles of right of way acquisition to complete the project.

Previously, the Association and a number of our customers participated in the extensive community forums conducted by Southern California Edison (SCE) while developing their proposal for the Antelope Transmission Project. SCE incorporated many of the community's suggestions and provided the CPUC with alternatives that minimize the right-of-way acquisition required (2.5 miles) and eliminates the taking of existing homes. This is in stark contrast to alternatives presented in this Report, which had no public input prior to the Public Comment Period, and provides alternatives which require nearly 20 miles of right-of-way acquisition, some of which transverse existing backyards of residences in both the Leona Valley and Aqua Dulce areas. Placement of the lines on private property outside of all Forest Service land, rather than aligning with the current route through Forest Service land will have an adverse effect in terms of property values and usage by all private properties involved. Additionally, the unneeded disturbance to species habitat and possible use of eminent domain make this an unacceptable option to our members.

B.14-1

B.14-2

We hereby request the CPUC and USDA Forest Service consider alternatives on the Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project that: 1) minimize the amount of new right-of-way acquisition that is required, and 2) ensure no homes will be taken or destroyed by this project. Furthermore, for these reasons, the Association is opposed to Alternative 5 as a viable alternative for this project. If you require additional information or clarification please feel free to contact me at the Association office.

B.14-3

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Edward Luman'.

Edward Luman, President  
Greater Antelope Valley Association of REALTORS®, Inc.

## **Response to Comment Set B.14: Greater Antelope Valley Assoc. of Realtors**

- B.14-1 Please see General Response GR-4 regarding alternatives identification, screening, and analysis. Please also refer to the Alternatives Screening Report in Appendix 1 of the Draft EIR/EIS for complete details.
- B.14-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding effects on property values and General Response GR-2 regarding property acquisition.
- B.14-3 Thank you for your opinions and comments regarding the Project. They will be shared with the decision-makers who are reviewing the Project and alternatives at the USDA Forest Service and the CPUC.