

Comment Set C.174: Representative Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, U.S. House of Representatives, 25th District

HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON
25TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE
CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0525
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Judge Julie Halligan
Administrative Law Judge
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Judge Halligan,

It has come to my attention that Alternative #5 of the Antelope – Pardee 500 kV Transmission Project would negatively affect many of my constituents residing in the Agua Dulce area. Although the area is relatively small, my office has received over 70 letters of opposition to Alternative #5 and also a letter from the Leona Valley Town Council, located in the adjacent district. Many Agua Dulce residents request adherence to the route originally proposed Santa Clarita but still hope the impact on the neighboring communities of Leona Valley and Santa Clarita are considered.

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Numerous questions and issues are raised with Alternative #5 including economic impact, ecological disturbances, and the displacement of homes and businesses. My constituents' concerns about fire suppression are genuine, as is their apprehension about decreased property values. They also have reservations about possible health issues.

I am hopeful that other alternatives can be examined. As stated in a letter to you from the City of Santa Clarita dated September 29, 2006, the city opposes the entire Antelope-Pardee transmission project. The reasons listed are valid and I understand the city's rationale. In the letter, however, a reasonable alternative is also suggested that merits examination, and includes the use of monopoles and placing the transmission lines underground wherever possible. The proposed route would extend from the Pardee substation, through LA County's Pitchess Detention Facility, follow the proposed right-of-way into the Angeles National Forest and extend on to the Antelope Valley. This route would reduce or eliminate many of the negative impacts and legitimate concerns of my constituents.

C.174-2

I encourage the California Public Utilities Commission to take the time necessary to re-evaluate this project. I am confident a reasonable and satisfactory solution can be found. I appreciate your prudent consideration and welcome your questions. Please feel free to call Linda Lambourne in my Santa Clarita district office at 661-254-2111 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
Member of Congress

cc: Mayor Laurene Weste – City of Santa Clarita
Marian Kadota –US Forest Service
John Boccio – Aspen Environmental

**Response to Comment Set C.174: Representative Howard P. "Buck" McKeon,
U.S. House of Representatives, 25th District**

- C.174-1 Thank for your opinion regarding Alternative 5. Your comments will be shared with the decision-makers who are reviewing the Project and alternatives at the USDA Forest Service and the CPUC.
- C.174-2 Please see the responses to comments for the City of Santa Clarita A.8-4 and A.8-6 regarding alternatives proposed by the City.