

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



October 4, 2011

Mr. Patrick T. Lee
Vice President
Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Project
8315 Century Park Court CP 33A
San Diego, CA. 92123

RE: CPUC Approval for SDG&E to Resume Helicopter Operations on the Sunrise Project

Dear Mr. Lee:

As you are aware, a CPUC Stop Work Order was placed on SDG&E Sunrise helicopter operations on September 27, 2011 that outlined the CPUC's safety concerns over the number of recent helicopter incidents. Also, the Order listed the required remedial actions necessary for the resumption of helicopter operations on Sunrise.

On September 30, 2011, SDG&E submitted a response letter to the Stop Work Order. In the letter SDG&E submitted their proposed documentation for compliance with the CPUC remedial actions for a safety stand down, rigging training, necessity of helicopter operations vs. ground transportation, and incident reporting procedures. CPUC Energy Division staff person Billie Blanchard and her consultants Aspen Environmental Group reviewed the SDG&E submittal along with several follow-up responses to the Helicopter Operations Framework Item 3 and Incident Reporting Procedures Item 4 (See Attachments 1-3). In addition, CPUC monitors attended the training sessions in compliance with the CPUC required remedial action items 1 and 2.

Based on the SDG&E submittals and actions in response to the CPUC required remedial actions, the CPUC has determined that SDG&E can resume helicopter operations on the Sunrise Project upon receipt of this letter. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Arocles Aguilar'.

Arocles Aguilar
Assistant General Counsel
Public Utilities Commission of the State of California
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Attachments 1- 3

cc: Daniel Steward, BLM El Centro Field Office
Tom Zale, BLM El Centro Field Office
Robert Hawkins, US Forest Service
Susan Lee, Aspen Environmental Group
Vida Strong, Aspen Environmental Group
Anne Coronado, Aspen Environmental Group
Fritts Golden, Aspen Environmental Group
Alan Colton, SDG&E
Mary Jo Borak, CPUC Supervisor
Ken Lewis, CPUC Acting Program Manager
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Laura McDonald, SDG&E
Todd Voorhees, SDG&E
Frank Lindh, General Counsel
Jason Reiger, CPUC attorney
Nicholas Sher, CPUC attorney
Paul Clanon, CPUC Executive Director
Terrie Prosper, CPUC
Billie Blanchard, CPUC Sunrise Project Manager