

## Comment Set B0005 Anza-Borrego Foundation

### STATEMENT BEFORE CPUC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING ON DRAFT EIR/EIS – BORREGO SPRINGS, February 26, 2008

Commissioner Grueneich/Your Honor,

I am Diana Lindsay, Vice-President of Environmental Affairs for the Anza-Borrego Foundation, representing almost 1,500 members who oppose the Sunrise Powerlink going through Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP). We are a non-profit association established 40 years ago at the bequest of the California State Park and Recreation Commission. Our mission is to support the Park through land acquisitions, education, programs, and research projects.

B0005-1

- We commend the team that worked on the Draft EIR/EIS for recognizing impacts to ABDSP and other open spaces and recommending environmentally superior alternatives.
- We ask you to please respect the finding of the Draft EIR/EIS Report and support those alternatives that avoid state wilderness lands, loss of scenic view shed, and biologically and culturally sensitive sites within ABDSP. — See ATTACHMENTS
- We are also concerned about potential fire hazards that can cause irreparable damage to our park lands. We ask you not to select any proposal or alternative that increases fire threat to the backcountry and to our park lands.
- Our park is known for its pristine quality, which includes air quality. Do not support any proposal or alternative that will in any way increase pollution and lessen the quality of a park experience.

B0005-2

B0005-3

B0005-4

We ask you to respect the words of Frederick Law Olmsted who was the Director of the State Park Survey of 1928. He wrote this about Anza-Borrego Desert State Park:

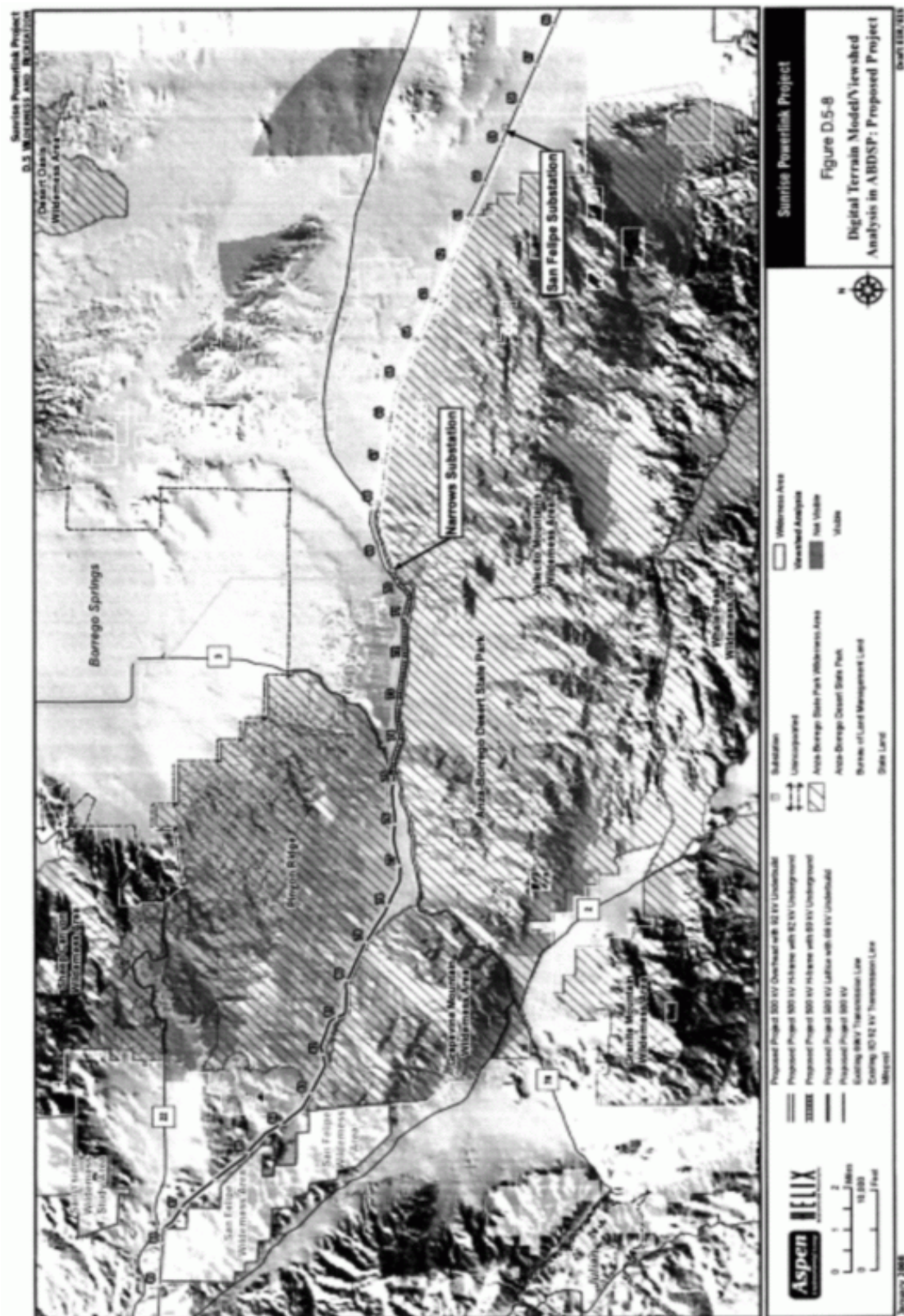
B0005-5

“Certain desert areas have a distinctive and subtle charm, in part dependent on spaciousness, solitude, and escape from the evidence of human control and manipulation of the earth, a charm of constantly growing value as the rest of the earth becomes more completely dominated by man’s activities....Nowhere else are casual thoughtless human changes in the landscape so irreparable, and nowhere else is it so important to control and completely protect wide areas.”

Let “Parks Be Forever” for future generations to enjoy, and do not destroy the integrity of this great Park.

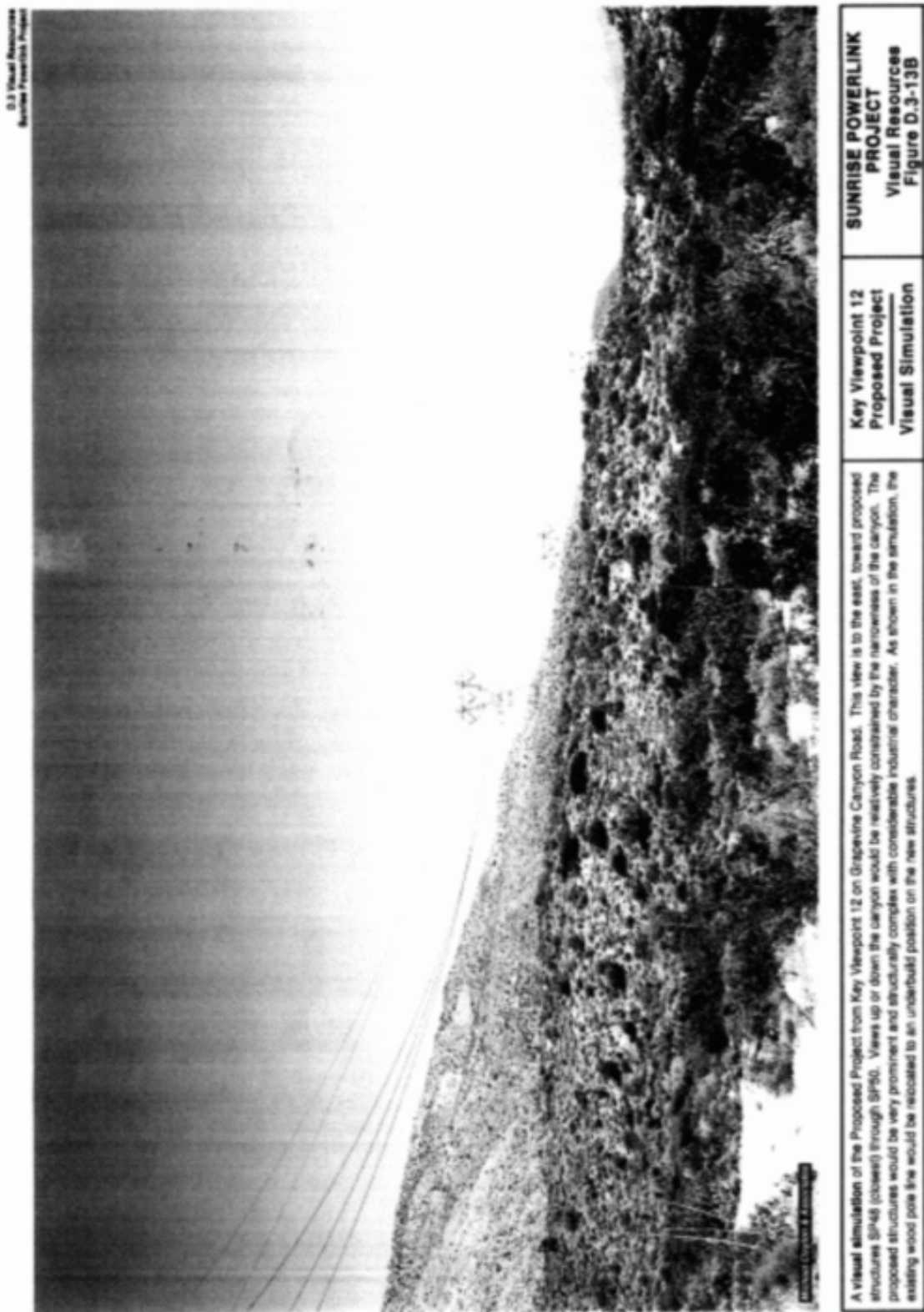
Diana Lindsay, Vice-President Environmental Affairs  
Anza-Borrego Foundation  
P.O. Box 2001, Borrego Springs, CA 92004  
760-767-0446  
[info@theabf.org](mailto:info@theabf.org)  
[www.theabf.org](http://www.theabf.org)

**Comment Set B0005, cont.  
Anza-Borrego Foundation**



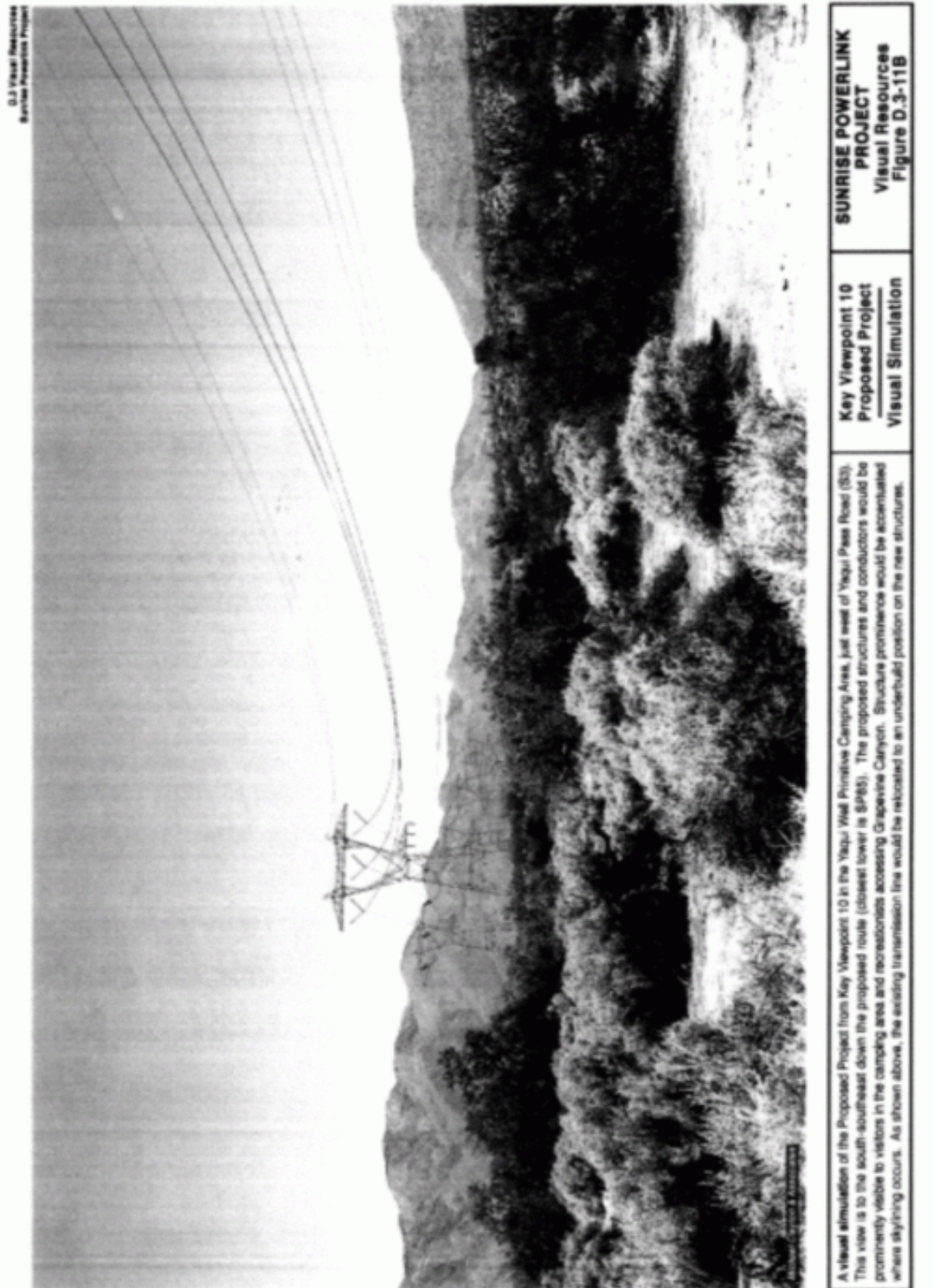
**B0005-6**

Comment Set B0005, cont.  
 Anza-Borrego Foundation



B0005-6 cont.

Comment Set B0005, cont.  
Anza-Borrego Foundation



B0005-6 cont.

Comment Set B0005, cont.  
 Anza-Borrego Foundation



B0005-6 cont.

## Responses to Comment Set B0005

### Anza-Borrego Foundation

- B0005-1      The commenter's opposition to the Sunrise Powerlink traversing the ABDSP is acknowledged.
- B0005-2      The commenter suggests alternatives should avoid loss of state wilderness lands, loss of scenic viewsheds, and impacts to biological and cultural resources in the ABDSP. Please see Section D.5.6 in Volume 2 of the Draft EIR/EIS for impacts to wilderness lands in the ABDSP, Section D.3.6 in Volume 2 of the Draft EIR/EIS for impacts to visual resources in the ABDSP, Section D.2 in Volume 1 of the Draft EIR/EIS for impacts to biological resources, and Section D.7.10 in Volume 2 of the Draft EIR/EIS for impacts to cultural resources in the ABDSP.
- B0005-3      Please see General Response GR-9 regarding fire risk and the comparison of alternatives.
- B0005-4      Air quality impacts in the ABDSP are discussed in Section D.11.6 in Volume 3 of the Draft EIR/EIS.
- B0005-5      The commenter requests that the integrity of the ABDSP be respected. This request is acknowledged.
- B0005-6      The attached Figures D.5-8, D.3-11B, D.3-13B, and D.3-14B are acknowledged.

*This page intentionally blank.*