



San Dieguito River Valley
Regional Open Space Park
18372 Sycamore Creek Road
Escondido, CA 92025
(858) 674-2270 Fax (858) 674-2280
www.sdrp.org

**JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair Ed Gallo
Escondido City Council

Vice-Chair Dianne Jacob
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Jerry Finnell
Del Mar City Council

Betty Rexford
Poway City Council

Pam Slater-Price
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Brian Maienschein
San Diego City Council

Scott Peters
San Diego City Council

Dave Roberts
Solana Beach City Council

Dr. Philip Pryde
Citizens Advisory Committee

Becky Bartling
22nd District Agricultural Assoc.

Dick Bobertz
Executive Director

January 29, 2007

Billie Blanchard, CPUC / Lynda Kastoll, BLM
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104-3002

RE: SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project

Dear Officials:

On January 19, 2007 the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority (JPA) approved attached Resolution No. R07-01 regarding the proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dick Bobertz
Executive Director

Cc: Laura McDonald, SDG&E

RESOLUTION NO. R07-01

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE
PARK JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGARDING THE
PROPOSED SUNRISE POWERLINK PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Santa Ysabel Valley is a scenic viewshed with visual resources that should be protected, and a long-history of established pioneer ranches some of which have been family-owned for over a century over several generations, and

WHEREAS, the Santa Ysabel Valley is a treasured landmark with regionwide public significance, and

WHEREAS, the Sunrise Powerlink transmission towers (up to 150 feet high) would cause visual blight to this scenic landscape and along a scenic drive of Highway 78/79, and

WHEREAS, the proposed transmission towers would cause a potential fire danger in an area susceptible to wildland fires, and

WHEREAS, SDG&E has already proposed undergrounding lines in Ramona and Penasquitos as part of the Powerlink project, and

WHEREAS, the 55-mile long Coast to Crest Trail is planned through this area, which will attract many recreational users who want a unique recreational and aesthetic experience, and the Coast to Crest Trail is both a State (California Recreational Trails Plan) and County (County General Plan) recognized regional public trail corridor, and

WHEREAS, adoption of this resolution shall not be inferred as support for the Sunrise Powerlink Project; and

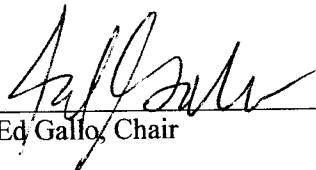
WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority ("Board") does not believe adequate information to justify the Project has been provided to date,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

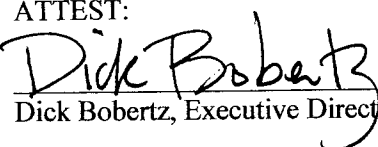
- 1) The Board opposes placement of transmission lines for the Powerlink Project within the River Park's Focused Planning Area; and
- 2) The Board urges that SDG&E underground the proposed transmission lines in the Highway 79 utility corridor through Santa Ysabel.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 19th DAY OF January, 2007
BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 8
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1
ABSTAIN: 0



Ed Gallo, Chair

ATTEST:


Dick Bobertz, Executive Director



1391 Engineer Street • Vista, California 92081-8836
Phone (760) 597-3100 • Fax: (760) 598-8757

February 16, 2007

Billie Blanchard, CPUC / Lynda Kastoll, BLM
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104-3002

**Subject: Proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project
Opposition to the Reintroduction of the Mataguay Substation Alternative**

Dear Ladies & Gentlemen:

The Vista Irrigation District appreciates the opportunity to review the Alternatives being considered for the Proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project in advance of the preparation of the Draft EIR/EIS in July. These Alternatives are described in your undated Notice of Second Round of Scoping Meetings.

The District strongly opposes the reintroduction of the Mataguay Substation Alternative (page 18 of the Notice). During our initial coordination period with SDG&E, both the District and SDG&E eliminated that option in favor of a site we referred to as "Top of the World", about one half mile west of the current Proposed Central East Substation, but still on property owned by the District. SDG&E actively considered the Top of the World site until they became aware of and eventually purchased the large private parcel now planned for the Proposed Central East Substation.

The District opposes the Mataguay Substation Alternative for several reasons. Foremost among these is the tremendous visual impact a Mataguay Substation would have on the entire Warner Valley. Due to the conserving influence of the District's ownership of 43,000 acres in the Warner Valley, the valley has retained its nearly pristine rural character. A 40 acre substation, with switchgear as tall as 135 feet, would be prominently visible from the District's recreational facilities at Lake Henshaw, from the new casino being built by the Santa Ysabel Band of Diegueno Indians, from many miles of Highways 76 and 79, and indeed, from most of the valley as well. It would significantly impair the opportunity for a primitive wilderness experience for thousands of Boy Scouts as they pass in close proximity to this site on their way to their flagship

Board of Directors

Howard S. Williams, *President*
Paul L. V. Campo
Paul E. Dorey
Jo MacKenzie
Robert R. Mendez

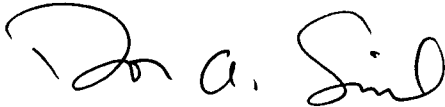
Administrative Staff

John A. Amodeo
General Manager and Chief Engineer
Roy A. Coox
Assistant General Manager / Treasurer
Lisa R. Soto
Board Secretary
Elaine L. Chan
General Counsel

Mataguay Scout Reservation. The Mataguay Substation Alternative would permanently and significantly degrade the rural character of the Warner Valley.

The development of the Mataguay site would also eliminate valuable grazing land and reduce habitat available to the endangered Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*). Given these impacts and the availability of far less disruptive alternatives (either at the Proposed Central East Substation or at the "Top of the World" site), the Vista Irrigation District strongly endorses the elimination of the Mataguay Substation Alternative from further consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don A. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Don" being the most prominent.

Don A. Smith
Director of Water Resources

cc: John Amodeo, General Manager
Roy Coox, Assistant General Manager



San Dieguito River Valley
Regional Open Space Park
18372 Sycamore Creek Road
Escondido, CA 92025
(858) 674-2270 Fax (858) 674-2280
www.sdrp.org

**JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Chair Ed Gallo
Escondido City Council

Vice-Chair Dianne Jacob
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Jerry Finnell
Del Mar City Council

Betty Rexford
Poway City Council

Pam Slater-Price
Supervisor, County of San Diego

Brian Maienschein
San Diego City Council

Scott Peters
San Diego City Council

Dave Roberts
Solana Beach City Council

Dr. Philip Pryde
Citizens Advisory Committee

Becky Bartling
22nd District Agricultural Assoc.

Dick Bobertz
Executive Director

February 26, 2007

Billie Blanchard, CPUC
Lynda Kastoll, BLM
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104-3002

**Subject: Comments regarding Notice of Second Scoping Meetings
Sunrise Powerlink Project**

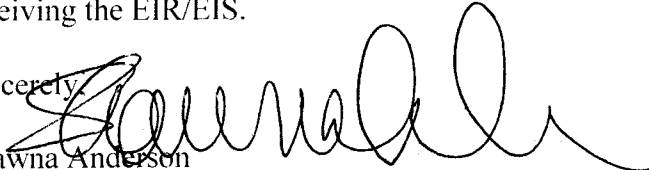
Dear Officials:

We are pleased to see several more alternatives added to the Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS that address the San Dieguito River Park JPA's concerns. The attached JPA Board resolution and our first NOP comment letter reflect the JPA's concerns.

Regarding the Second Notice, we strongly support your recommendation that the EIR/EIS address in detail the Santa Ysabel Partial Underground Alternative as it would eliminate or reduce many significant environmental impacts identified for the Santa Ysabel valley. In addition, we strongly agree that the SDG&E San Dieguito River Park and Volcan Mountain alternatives be eliminated from further consideration. The Non-Wires alternatives described in the Notice should also be thoroughly evaluated and seriously considered as these alternatives emphasize energy conservation and renewables, as well as recognize other components of a systemwide energy package. We hope that the CPUC will take a progressive approach and set the example for energy conservation rather than relying on traditional approaches to energy consumption at the expense of severely damaging our natural and historic resources.

Thank you for considering the JPA's concerns and we look forward to receiving the EIR/EIS.

Sincerely,


Shawna Anderson
Environmental Planner

Attachments

RESOLUTION NO. R07-01

**RESOLUTION OF THE SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE
PARK JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGARDING THE
PROPOSED SUNRISE POWERLINK PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Santa Ysabel Valley is a scenic viewshed with visual resources that should be protected, and a long-history of established pioneer ranches some of which have been family-owned for over a century over several generations, and

WHEREAS, the Santa Ysabel Valley is a treasured landmark with regionwide public significance, and

WHEREAS, the Sunrise Powerlink transmission towers (up to 150 feet high) would cause visual blight to this scenic landscape and along a scenic drive of Highway 78/79, and

WHEREAS, the proposed transmission towers would cause a potential fire danger in an area susceptible to wildland fires, and

WHEREAS, SDG&E has already proposed undergrounding lines in Ramona and Penasquitos as part of the Powerlink project, and

WHEREAS, the 55-mile long Coast to Crest Trail is planned through this area, which will attract many recreational users who want a unique recreational and aesthetic experience, and the Coast to Crest Trail is both a State (California Recreational Trails Plan) and County (County General Plan) recognized regional public trail corridor, and

WHEREAS, adoption of this resolution shall not be inferred as support for the Sunrise Powerlink Project; and


WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority ("Board") does not believe adequate information to justify the Project has been provided to date,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1) The Board opposes placement of transmission lines for the Powerlink Project within the River Park's Focused Planning Area; and
- 2) The Board urges that SDG&E underground the proposed transmission lines in the Highway 79 utility corridor through Santa Ysabel.

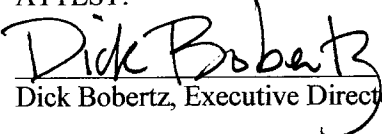
PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 19th DAY OF January, 2007
BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 8
NOES: 0
ABSENT: 1
ABSTAIN: 0



Ed Gallo, Chair

ATTEST:



Dick Bobertz, Executive Director