

February 20, 2007

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

Dear Ms. Blanchard, Ms. Kastoll, and other EIS/EIR reviewers,

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project as a whole, and specifically the West of Forest Alternative in the Southwest Powerlink Alternatives.

My home is located just north of WF-19 where existing 69kV lines run 160 feet from my house. (The access road is 50 ft from my house.) This new proposed route would put additional 230kV lines (or larger) running near the existing ones. These lines would come up through the Harbison and Dehesa valleys where I would see them running across WF-15 through WF-20 for several miles.

I do not believe SDG&E will properly maintain these poles and roads since they have not done so to the poles and roads that already exist on my property, my neighbors, and the surrounding areas. Please look at the enclosed photos as proof. We have contacted Keith Richards, from SDG&E, many times in an attempt to get them to properly maintain these roads and poles with no proven success while he writes, "These areas outside our access road are the responsibility of property owners. However, SDG&E is responsible for its access roads and the management of water that flows across, along, and under them." How will they possibly maintain new ones in more remote areas? Would you allow your property to be destroyed by SDG&E like the photos show? I am requesting that an Environmental Impact Study and Report be done specifically addressing my concerns if this area is chosen as a route.

The proposed area involved violates SDG&E's own objectives in its PEA #1 "Avoid sitting Proposed Project parallel to SWPL for long distances especially avoiding areas with fire history or fire potential." The Cedar and Laguna fires have definitely proven this is a high fire area. The terrain near my house is very steep and rocky as well as extremely windy. The sheer speed that a fire can travel up and down the steep mountainsides puts this area at increased risk. Firefighting would be impacted as well. Firefighters consider areas under and near power lines as "undefensible." Fires would not be fought by aircraft because of the danger due to height of the towers. This is the only way most of the fires are fought in this area due to the existing lines and terrain.

In addition, residents in the surrounding areas are listed as losing the only staffed fire department near them, leaving the closest fire station over 8 miles away. Further, homeowners near this alternate route are not only at risk of losing their homeowner's insurance due to the fire risk from the power poles themselves, but also for creating a risk in fighting fires near these lines. Would you allow yourself or your own family to be forced to live with these circumstances?

SDG&E's objective # 8 "Minimize the need for new or expanded transmission line ROW in urban or suburban areas of the SDG&E territory already traversed by multiple high voltage transmission facilities and, to the extent feasible, assist in implementing local land use goals." I only have detailed maps of WF 13-20 but within these maps, SDG&E will be creating new ROWs or increasing ROWs to 48 properties! This is a small fraction of where the power lines will go. In addition, these lines will go through the Sycuan Peak Ecological Preserve, within ½ mile of the Crestridge Ecological Preserve, and through designated open space. Native plants and animals would be affected by this route including threatened and endangered ones. People and animals live in, near, and travel throughout these areas. Crest/Dehesa/Granite Hills/ Harbison Planning Group have unanimously voted against allowing this to happen in this region. Would you allow yourself or your family to be subject to these conditions?

The health risk is great. While research is inconclusive for healthy individuals living near power lines, studies have shown individuals with ill health are adversely affected. Current laws say all power lines like these must be at least 150-350 feet (depending on size) to edge of ROW from all schools and hospitals because of the health concern. These health concerns exist in homes that are located near power lines as well where children and their families spent the majority of their time. Would you allow your own family a risk such as this?

FCC regulations are strict in the interference with radio waves. The magnitude of 230kV or 500 kV lines running that near to houses are great. Has SDG&E proven that there is no interference from these lines? Would you allow your own TV, radio, cell phones, etc this kind of interference on a constant basis?

My property value has already been negatively impacted because of the possible of these larger power lines coming through my property. By law I will now have to disclose anything associated with power lines that will affect my property. Will I and everyone else affected by these power lines be guaranteed unbiased appraisals and compensation for new and expanding ROW or purchase of properties? Property values will not only dramatically decrease for homeowners that SDG&E will be dealing with, but also anyone that has a view of these lines. The varied terrain allows for people to see these power poles for miles. Increase cost or cancellation of homeowner's insurance is a huge financial burden. Will SDG&E compensate us for these costs year after year?! Would you want to loose \$200,000-300,000 right now because SDG&E could be allowed to do this?

If you are going to allow SDG&E to do this Proposed Project then I want other viable alternatives looked at and researched as well. There are many alternates to this West of Forest alternate. We recommend using the I-8 corridor as a viable alternate route which is already proposed and could be put underground at any point where it could possibly negatively impact property/views/etc. Further if you must use this West of Forest route, please consider the following options:

1. Use the proposed route from the Loveland substation until you reach the area near the 3-way stop at Dehesa Road and Harbison Canyon Raod. At this point you could then go all the way along Dehesa Road (3.2 miles) following existing double power lines that connect to huge power line towers out by Singing Hills

Cemetery. These huge lines then follow an existing ROW to I-8. (pictures included) This route could also be put underground until it goes to the huge power lines that already exist.

2. Going from the Loveland substation traveling along Tavern Road (2.8 miles) underground
3. Following Harbison Canyon Road underground to I-8 (3.1 miles)

Finally, I believe that SDG&E has not proven that we need these additional power lines, that these lines are economically feasible for San Diego taxpayers, and that SDG&E has seriously considered the alternates to the dirty fuel burning power it wants to bring up from Mexico.

Use of the Non-Wire alternates in the proposed project including the options that already exist make more sense. Reliable wind and solar options that are currently being used successfully elsewhere and the use of the existing Encina and South Bay power plants could address San Diego's need for more power. It would allow San Diego to act responsibly toward getting power that is environmentally friendly as opposed to allowing Sempra Energy to continue to rely on and produce dirty power in Mexico where there are few regulations. Pollutants from the power plants in Mexico can drift back into California, Arizona, and beyond. Would you allow your family to breathe this toxic air? It is happening to many other families already.

Don't let a private business come in and use 1.4 Billion dollars of taxpayer money (or more), take over and destroy private and government lands forever, as well as risk the health of thousands all because of money. This project makes no sense. None of us could come in as private citizens or companies and do the same thing. **Please do the right thing and say NO to the Sunrise Powerlink Project as well.**

Since I am an affected property owner at this point, I expect to be contacted regarding any changes, additions, etc. regarding this Proposed Project. I am also available to answer any questions you may have.

Respectfully,



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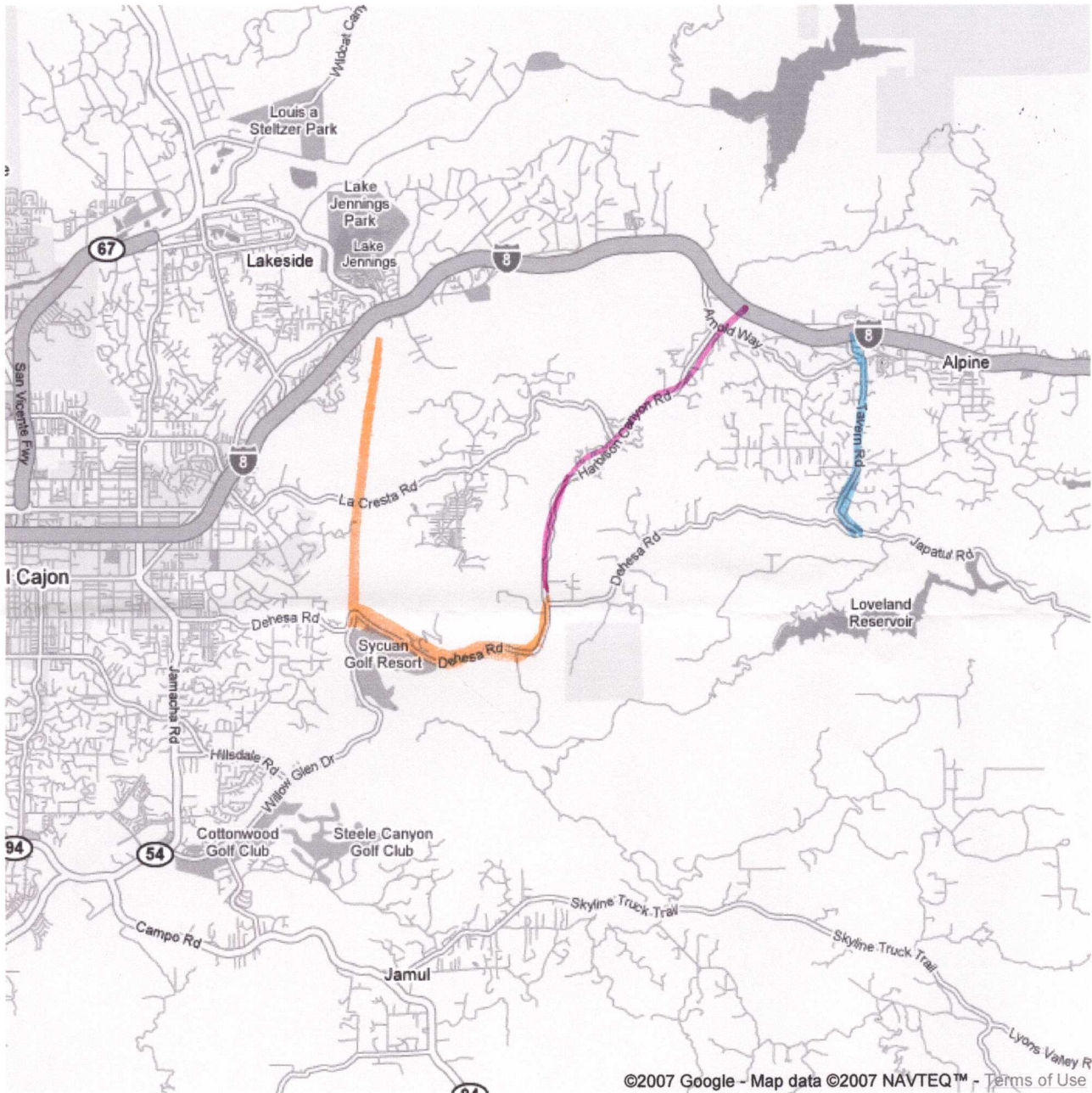
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Existing Powerline that crosses I-8
- Proposed West of Forest Alternate Route





Notes Alternates for West of Forest
 Alternate-Dehesa Road to huge
 power lines by Singing Hills
 Cemetary 3.1 mi or Harbison
 Canyon Road to I-8 3.4 mi
 underground or Tavern Road to I-
 8 underground 2.4 miles



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