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TO: \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: KIRKWOOD GENERAL CON

FAX: 6194450550

TEL: 6194453555

COMMENT:

**WALTER and SUZANNE KIRKWOOD  
10177 OAK GROVE DRIVE  
PO BOX 638  
DESCANSO, CA 91916**

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October 8, 2007

Billie Blanchard, SPL Project Manager  
Lynda Kastoll, BLM  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298  
Via fax: 866-711-3106

Re: Sunrise Powerlink Modified Route D Alternative

Dear Ms. Blanchard and Ms. Kastoll:

We are 35 year residents of San Diego County, the last 11 of which we have resided in the beautiful, rural mountain community of Descanso. We are horrified that Sempra Energy/SDG&G has proposed running the Sunrise Powerlink lines through our community. We oppose both the Modified Route D Alternative and the entire Sunrise Powerlink project. Our concerns include the following:

1. Energy experts do not agree that the transmission line is necessary, and have offered alternatives that are much more cost efficient and environmentally agreeable.
2. Much of the electricity carried by the Sunrise Powerlink will go to Los Angeles and Orange Counties, and will not directly benefit San Diego.
3. Lack of communication regarding the proposed Modified Alternative Route D, which did not give the affected communities enough time to gather information, hold meetings and for residents to respond, which suggests that if SDG&E feels no responsibility to notify the community about a project that affects us so intensely, they would most likely not assume any responsibility for any negative impact the project will have on our community.
4. The planned route for the new Modified Route D Alternative runs through extremely rugged terrain that is difficult to access during even mild weather conditions. If service was interrupted due to weather or wildfire, many customers would lose power for extended periods of time.
5. The proposed route runs through rugged backcountry that is extremely susceptible to wildfire. The proposed power lines would put firefighters at risk, working around the high voltage lines.
6. The Center for Biological Diversity has submitted extensive comments regarding Modified Route D Alternative, listing all the negative impacts to sensitive lands and species. Wildlife corridor and habitat throughout the backcountry will be interrupted and adversely impacted by this project.
7. The proposed route impacts nearly 400 acres of USFS Scenic Designated Area.
8. The project will destroy the value of homes and property in the community, including our own. We moved to this community because we wanted a quiet, rural lifestyle. Looking at 80 foot electric towers, listening to the droning hum of the lines will ruin our lives and our investment.

The Sunrise Powerlink project is reminiscent of the Owens River water grab in 1913. Los

Suzanne Kirkwood  
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Angeles officials faked a drought to scare residents into approving an aqueduct to benefit Los Angeles, much as Sempra is trying to scare San Diego residents about an energy shortage. Sempra has everything to gain by completing the project. San Diego residents, especially those of us who would be directly impacted by the power lines, have everything to lose: the scenic beauty of our backcountry, our quiet, country lifestyle, property values, and much more.

Sincerely,  
Walter and Suzanne Kirkwood

CC: Supervisor Dianne Jacob  
Representative Brian Bilbray  
Representative Bob Filner  
Representative Duncan Hunter  
Representative Susan Davis  
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Senator Dennis Hollingsworth  
Senator Christine Kehoe  
Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny  
Assemblyman Joe Anderson  
Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Senator Dianne Feinstein