

My name is Scott Belknap and I own and operate Belknap Pump Company. I am a third generation well driller, we drill water wells, repair pumps and I am an electrician. I have also served on the Alta Irrigation board of directors. Thank you for taking the time to hear my story.

I am very concerned about any wells, pumps, electrical panels and irrigation systems that are within 100 feet of any conductor lines. As I read through the EIR, (proposed project and the alternate road routes) I took notice to the fact that all the new poles show the bottom conductor sag at a minimum of 32ft off the ground and that many wells, pumps and irrigation stations are **under** or within 100ft of the conductor lines. In my business we use cranes, hoist trucks, pump pulling rigs. A typical well drilling rig has a height of approx 55 to 60 ft, most pump pulling rigs are 35 feet or more in height, and the flex lifts and hoists can have an extension that can go up to 90 feet. All are subject to static electricity charges. Knowing this I cannot put myself or my employees at risk by working within a 100 ft of these new proposed lines. My little pump company has 14 employees we live in communities of Dinuba, Kingsburg, Visalia, Reedley and Orange Cove and we are absolutely depend on our agriculture customers, 95% of my business is agriculture, in fact my some of my largest accounts are in the proposed Alternate routes. If these growers loose acreage I loose income, not only income now but income in the future. I know some of them will not be able to financial recover from acreage lost due to these proposed lines. Every dollar we earn from agriculture is a dollar we put back into our local community at the grocery store, the repair shop, the local barber shop all of these business depend on agriculture. It is not enough for SCE to compensate a grower, what about those who that grower supports this is why we need to leave as much farmable land in production. This is why I am asking the PUC to choose route #3. Mine and many others livelihood depends on how many farm acres remain in farming. So please choose Route # 3 it has the least amount of Prime farm land.

Sincerely



Scott F Belknap