

Bill Ferry  
37445-b Millwood Drive  
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I am a fourth generation resident and farmer of Elderwood. My Great Grandparents came to Woodlake around the turn of the century to help build the city streets of Woodlake. They soon purchased property in Elderwood and planted the ranch to Oranges in 1913. I farm this ranch today. My forefathers chose to settle in this area for its pristine beauty. There are very few places left in California that have the intrinsic beauty of Elderwood.

I have many concerns regarding this proposed project. First of all the health issues involved with living and working in such a close proximity to the power lines.

The water availability in the Elderwood Valley is unique. There are three aquifers in this Valley the first is between 30' to 40' in depth. The second is located at 50' to 60' feet and the third is between 90' to 100' feet. The aquifers are under ground rivers that ebb and flow in different directions. Finding water in this Valley is risky and costly. You can have a good producing well in one spot and move a few feet in another direction and have a dry hole. If growers are forced to move their wells there are no guarantees that they will obtain similar water. I have a grave concern that the tower foundations may disrupt the current aquifer structure and cause problems with our neighbors that are not even close to the power lines. This has not been addressed in the current EIR.

The EIR does not address the impacts on Family farms or their employees from the reduced profitability and this route may eliminate jobs.

The reduction of the real estate values will be insurmountable. We will never be able to sell our properties for what they were once worth. Nor will the property be utilized in a profitable manner.

Route 3 is the best alternative to any of the proposed routes. Route 3 does not disrupt as much Agricultural property, livelihood or homes. The existing right of way through Stone Corral Ecological Reserve will need to be updated or repaired at some time in the future. It might as well be addressed now.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Ferry". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "F".

Bill Ferry