January 1, 2021

Rob Peterson, CPUC c/o Tom Engels Horizon Water and Environment, LLC 266 Grand Avenue, Suite 210 Oakland, CA 94610

Re: Opposition to SE-PLR-2, Templeton - S. River Route Alternative

Dear Dr. Engels,

I oppose the S. River Route Alternative for the following reasons:

Transmission lines in a Wildfire area will greatly increase our risk of fire. Santa Ysabel Ranch is located within a High Fire Hazard Zone. Both the Camp Fire in Nov. 2018 (that burned Paradise) and the Kincade Fire in Oct. 2019 were determined to have been caused by PG&E transmission line. Please don't put us further at risk by allowing this route to proceed.

This project should be forward-thinking and an example of what can be done to solve energy needs in California. Why would the CPUC consider using 19th century technology when the 21st century technology of energy storage would solve the problem?

In case of a fire on S. River Road, evacuation of SYR would be extremely limited as 2 of the 3 SYR exits flow onto S. River Road. Residents of all 146 lots of SYR + the 100 non-resident vehicles (average, per day) would have to evacuate through the single-lane Hanging Tree gate. How long would that take? How would emergency vehicles get into the Ranch?

For the sake of public safety and wildlife preservation, please do not put a transmission line along S. River Road.



CC:
County Supervisor Peschong
State Assemblyman Cunningham
Templeton Community Service District Board of Directors

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Our resident Golden Eagles (and visiting Bald Eagles) would be endangered by high power lines on S. River Rd., a known wildlife migration path. There are several Golden Eagle nests on SYR. We have photos of young in the nests for 4 of the past 5 years. Construction of the lines on S. River is estimated to take 9 months. The eagles may be killed due to electrocution / collision with the power lines.

The energy required for our area, Paso Robles 1107, is small enough that it can be accomplished with battery or thermal storage. Templeton has no capacity for substantial residential or commercial growth, and a power line on S. River Rd. is contrary to the California policy targeting "non-wire" alternatives. This is such a high cost to our neighborhood, our wildlife, and our fire safety, for the local need being so small at .53MW.

For the sake of public safety and wildlife preservation, please do not put a transmission line along S. River Road.



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