

Comment Set A.17: County of Los Angeles, Fire Department

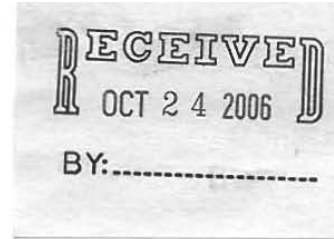


COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

(323) 890-4330



P. MICHAEL FREEMAN
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN
October 19, 2006

Mr. John Boccio/Ms. Marian Kadota
Project Manager
CPUC/USDA Forest Service
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
30423 Canwood Street, Suite 215
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Dear Mr. Boccio/Ms. Kadota:

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON'S APPLICATION FOR ANTELOPE-PARDEE 500-KV TRANSMISSION PROJECT – APPLICATION NO. A.04-12-007, SCH NO. 2005061161 (LACO) FFER 200600217

The Draft Environmental Impact Report has been reviewed by the Planning Division, Land Development Unit, and Forestry Division of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department. The following are their comments:

PLANNING DIVISION:

The discussion of public service impacts in Section C.11.5 appears to assume that these services are provided only to resident populations and hence, only a project that causes population increase directly or indirectly would have an impact. Fire protection service is provided to transient occupants, structures, and wildland vegetation as well as to the resident population of an area. Hence, this project may increase the demand for service.

A.17-1

As stated in our August 2, 2005 comment letter on the notice for this project (Reference No. 200500123), the Fire Department has a developer fee program to finance new fire stations in growth areas such as the Antelope Valley. The fee is a set amount per square foot of new construction and applies to all residential, commercial, and industrial roofed structures. According to the project description on page B-22, the Fire Department fee would be applicable to the new Mechanical Electrical Equipment Room in the Antelope Substation and to any portion of the 205' by 300' fenced area for additional improvements to that substation which consists of roofed structures.

A.17-2

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

- | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------|------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| AGOURA HILLS | BRADBURY | CUDAHY | HAWTHORNE | LA MIRADA | MALIBU | POMONA | SIGNAL HILL |
| ARTESIA | CALABASAS | DIAMOND BAR | HIDDEN HILLS | LA PUENTE | MAYWOOD | RANCHO PALOS VERDES | SOUTH EL MONTE |
| AZUSA | CARSON | DUARTE | HUNTINGTON PARK | LAKELAND | NORWALK | ROLLING HILLS | SOUTH GATE |
| BALDWIN PARK | CERRITOS | EL MONTE | INDUSTRY | LANCASTER | PALMDALE | ROLLING HILLS ESTATES | TEMPLE CITY |
| BELL | CLAREMONT | GARDENA | INGLEWOOD | LAWNDALE | PALOS VERDES ESTATES | ROSEMEAD | WALNUT |
| BELL GARDENS | COMMERCE | GLENORA | IRWINDALE | LOMITA | PARAMOUNT | SAN DIMAS | WEST HOLLYWOOD |
| BELLFLOWER | COVINA | HAWAIIAN GARDENS | LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE | LYNWOOD | PICO RIVERA | SANTA CLARITA | WESTLAKE VILLAGE |
| | | LA HABRA | | | | | WHITTIER |

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LAND DEVELOPMENT UNIT:

1. The County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Land Development Unit appreciates the opportunity to comment on this project.
2. This project does not propose construction of structures or any other improvements at this time which would have a negative impact on emergency response issues. Any modifications to substations will be reviewed at building and fire plan check phase to address requirements.
3. Should any questions arise regarding subdivision, water systems, or access, please contact the County of Los Angeles Fire Department – Land Development Unit's EIR Specialist at (323) 890-4243.

A.17-3

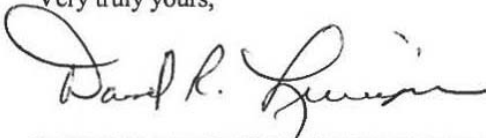
FORESTRY DIVISION – OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

1. The statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Forestry Division include erosion control, watershed management, rare and endangered species, vegetation, fuel modification for Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones or Fire Zone 4, archeological and cultural resources, and the County Oak Tree Ordinance.
2. The areas germane to the statutory responsibilities of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Forestry Division have been addressed.

A.17-4

If you have any additional questions, please contact this office at (323) 890-4330.

Very truly yours,



DAVID R. LEININGER, CHIEF, FORESTRY DIVISION
PREVENTION SERVICES BUREAU

DRL:sc

Response to Comment Set A.17: County of Los Angeles, Fire Department

- A.17-1 Impacts to fire protection services and the demands on fire protection services resulting from increased risk of wildland fires due to the new transmission line are discussed under Impact P-2 in Section C.11 of the EIR/EIS. It is determined that with regular maintenance, as proposed by SCE, the potential for risk of fire would not substantially increase and result in a corresponding increased demand for fire protection on non-NFS lands. Therefore, impacts were determined to be less than significant (Class III). However, on NFS lands, the maintenance proposed by SCE was determined to be insufficient in reducing the risk of wildland fires. Mitigation Measure F-2 (Develop and Operation and Maintenance Plan with the Forest Service) would reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level (Class II).
- A.17-2 Thank you for the information on the Fire Department's developer fee program. This information will be shared with SCE.
- A.17-3 Thank you for your input. It is consistent with the findings of the EIR/EIS.
- A.17-4 Thank you for your input.