

Comment Set C.156: William Herriott

WILLIAM HERRIOTT

September 30, 2006

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BY:.....

Dear Mr. John Boccio:

This letter is being addressed to you so as to document our opposition to the Alternate 5 Route of the proposed 500,000 Volt Transmission Line belonging to SCE to be erected near our home. I have worked in the Electrical Utility Industry since 1984. I am currently an Assistant District Superintendent for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power... I have both knowledge and hands on experience working on and around circuits with voltages up to 1 Million DC. I choose to work in this field it was not forced upon me. I understand the effects of Electro Magnetic Fields on the human body. The argument of the dangers will always be around however, the medical evidence can not be ignored. Even though adults are less susceptible to the harmful effects due to a slower metabolism than children I have witnessed colleagues become ill and sometimes die from cancers such as brain, bone, and throat. Studies in urban areas where housing encroached on existing transmission lines showed a dramatic increase in diseases such as childhood Leukemia.

C.156-1

My wife and I worked for many years to save up enough to purchase a home here in Leona Valley. We had an option to buy a home for less money on a larger property near the East end of Leona Valley but chose not to purchase the home. Are decision was based on the proximate of the house to an existing transmission corridor near the entrance to the Ritter Ranch Development. We chose the home we reside in now because there was a view of this beautiful Valley without the obstruction of 500,000 Volt towers. I work around power facilities 5-6 days a week and I do not want to spend my only day off listening to the crackling of 500,000 Volt lines while the wind blows the marine layer across the conductors buy my home. I also still have young children at home and their health and safety is paramount to both me and my wife Monica. My youngest is eleven and her metabolism is at a much faster pace than mine. My neighbor's homes will be shadowed by these proposed towers. Some of these neighbors just recently moved to own town for the very same reasons my family did in 1995. They have young children whom they are bound and obligated to protect.

We are aware that there is existing Utility Easements that can be widened to accommodate these structures. Having worked around towers myself I am fully aware of the research and engineering involved with conductor size, span length, line loss, soil analysis, grades and footings for the structures etc... If SCE has an existing 66,000 Volt Sub-transmission line along an existing corridor that tie switching stations to receiving stations, then that is where the new 500,000 Volt lines should be placed. If the Government wants the utilities to prove that they are providing 20% minimum consumer consumption of Green Power then the Government (Angeles National Forest) should provide space for the Utilities to move that power...

C.156-2

I have attached a page that I printed off of the internet I believe you could benefit from reading. It was taken from 'Wikipedia' which is a free encyclopedia on the net. After you read this description of Leona Valley close your eyes for just one moment and picture yourself standing here in this Beautiful Valley. Picture the colors of fall, the brisk winter mornings with frost covered tress and rooftops, Spring bouquets of Poppies, Lupine, Buttercups, Owl's Clover, Baby Blue, Sunflowers and sage; Summer days with children riding their horses, hiking, playing, laughing. Can you picture the many visitors who drive for hours with their families to spend a day in the country picking fresh cherries, pears or peaches?

Now close your eyes once more and imagine yourself there again yet this time picture 200 foot tall towers and bundle conductors of 1.75 MCM dissecting this pristine valley. Ask yourself this question. Is this the legacy I want to be remembered for, for leaving behind?

Sincerely,

William K. Herriott

Transmission Distribution District Supervisor  
Resident of Leona Valley California

## Leona Valley, California

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

**Leona Valley** is a town located in the geographic Leona Valley of Los Angeles County, California, just west of Palmdale, California. The town has a population of about 2,200.

### Geography

Leona Valley is located about 10 miles West of the Palmdale Civic Center in Southern California. Leona Valley is located in its namesake valley of Leona Valley. This valley is a long narrow valley separated from the Antelope Valley by the San Andreas earthquake fault ridge, known as Ritter Ridge, so named after one of the settlers from Nebraska in the 1880's. The valley is about a mile wide and 25 miles in length. The geographic Leona Valley is also home to the towns of Lake Hughes and Lake Elizabeth.

Leona Valley residents enjoy a different setting from the desert landscapes of the surrounding Antelope Valley communities. This quiet community displays beautiful rolling hills decorated with green farmland, cherry orchards, and horse barns. This ideally located community enables its residents to enjoy the best of two worlds.

### About Leona Valley

Leona Valley is best known for its agriculture, particularly cherries. The town of Leona Valley holds its annual *Leona Valley Cherry Festival* in honor of its agricultural heritage.

Leona Valley's history can be best described as land abundant with cattle ranches. In the mid-1800s, after the departure of the Shoshone Indians – the area's original inhabitants – immigrants from Spain and Mexico quickly established themselves within the land. The majority of the Spanish and the Mexican immigrants were primarily interested in the land in order to establish cattle ranches. During the 1880s, the ranches were broken up into smaller homesteads by farmers from Germany, France and the state of Nebraska.

Although the majority of those homesteads were sold and subdivided by developers, Leona Valley presently maintains an image of beauty and splendor with its large custom homes situated on vast acreage.

### External links

- Leona Valley Cherry Growers Association (<http://www.cherriesupic.com/>)

<http://leonavalleytowncouncil.org/default.aspx>

Retrieved from "[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leona\\_Valley%2C\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leona_Valley%2C_California)"

Categories: Towns in California | Los Angeles County communities | Southern California geography stubs | Los Angeles County, California

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[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leona\\_Valley,\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leona_Valley,_California)

9/30/2006

## **Response to Comment Set C.156: William Herriot**

- C.156-1 Thank you for your opinion regarding Alternative 5. Please see General Response GR-3 regarding EMF concerns. Your comment will be shared with the decision-makers who are reviewing the Project and alternatives at the USDA Forest Service and the CPUC.
- C.156-2 A number of alternative routes were identified during the Scoping process to avoid the impacts of SCE's proposed Project. See General Response GR-4 regarding the alternatives identification process for the Project and the identification of a non-NFS lands alternative.