Comment Set C.168: Leilani R. Hall

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From: Leilani R Hall [mailto:leilani.hall@csun.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, October 03, 2006 1:13 PM
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Subject: Antelope-Pardee Alternate 5
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October 2, 2006

Dear Julie Halligan, Members of Administrative Law Judges, and Public Utilities Commission:

I am a new homeowner in Agua Dulce, a rural town currently at risk via the proposed Alternate 5 of the Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project. In fact, my home is one of the 103 properties identified in the Draft EIR, which states "Operation of Alternative 5 would create a long-term disruption to residential land uses (Impact L-3). For construction and operation of the alternative, SCE would be required to obtain new easements across 103 privately owned parcels....future use of the new easement would be restricted. For example, affected property owners could not build any structures on lands that occur within the alternative ROW" (C.9-49). To be sure, I am upset and, frankly, terrified.

I moved to Agua Dulce less than a year ago because I longed for a California community that was dedicated to maintaining a rural life akin to the farming community where I grew up in southeastern Ohio. The incidental benefit of this move was the ability to buy my first home (at the age of 38) on a CSU professor's salary. If Alternate 5 is approved, I will lose my home—and my foster animals will lose their home too.

I came to Agua Dulce with clear research on potential environmental problems: high winds and fires. And I certainly had my private well water (depth 300 ft) tested to ensure its quality and sustainability. These are concerns which I am prepared to handle; I pay for insurance, I keep my brush cleared, I conserve water, and I use reverse osmosis to ensure safe drinking water. Dear reader, high tension power lines carrying 500 kV across my property is beyond my personal control, and it impacts the whole of my life.

I don't know if you have received letters with personal information regarding devastation of the quality of life via Alternate 5, but let this be one of those letters. I live and work to the best of my ability despite chronic illness and pain that will likely disable me before I am ready to "retire." I am vigilant about the health of my body because, very simply, there are other bodies who depend on me-my husband, my students, my animals, my community. Alternate 5 drastically increases the difficulty of my life and, consequently, those lives around me. Today, I look at the possibility of displacement. I look at increased risk of fire. I look at likely damage to my private water well. I look at increased air pollution. I look at medical bills upon medical bills upon medical bills.

I ask with the whole of my body and my spirit that you release Alternate 5 as a project option.

Sincerely, Leilani Hall C.168-1

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Response to Comment Set C.168: Leilani R. Hall

C.168-1 Please see General Response GR-4 regarding the identification, screening, and analysis of proposed Project Alternatives. Your concerns will be shared with the decision-makers who are reviewing the Project and alternatives at the USDA Forest Service and the CPUC.