

Comment Set C.117: Alexis C. Upton-Knittle and Lloyd J. Cook

----- Forwarded by Marian Kadota/R5/USDAFS on 09/25/2006 08:06 AM -----

----- Forwarded by Jody Noiron/R5/USDAFS on 09/23/2006 10:27 AM -----

"Alexis Upton-Knittle" <auk9@earthlink.net>

09/11/2006 07:03AM

To

"The Honorable Julie Halligan" <jmh@cpuc.ca.gov>

cc

"Jody Noiron" <jnoiron@fs.fed.us>

Subject

Pardee-Antelope-500 kV Transmission Project DEIR-Alternative 5

Please respond to auk9@earthlink.net

Alexis C. Upton-Knittle
Lloyd J. Cook
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Leona Valley, CA 93551
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September 7, 2006

Julie M. Halligan
EIR -Administrative Law Judge
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Pardee-Antelope-500 kV Transmission Project DEIR-Alternative 5

Dear Honorable Halligan:

We were notified through a mailer postmarked July 21, 2005 of a public meeting regarding the DEIR for high-tension lines that would go within a few hundred feet of our property line and many other homes, ranches, orchards and farms. We had not received any notice prior to this even though other parties outside of our community of Leona Valley had been notified since 2004. It appears that these same other parties were involved in the scoping phase and took care to protect their interests.

Alternative 5 appears to have been added at a later date in the process and consequently notification to the community of Leona Valley did not occur. The CEQA notification guidelines may have been violated as well. We have a viable and active Leona Valley Town Council that should have been contacted when such an impact would occur to so many homeowners and families.

The comment period ends on September 18, 2006. This short notice does not provide adequate time to fully prepare a response to the 1000 plus page DEIR. I support the request that you have already received to give us an extension of 90 days for further study and comments.

C.117-1

These towers per the authors of the DEIR are about the size of a 16-story building and will traverse through Leona Valley. The impact to this community of homes, ranches, organic cherry/pear/apple orchards, farms, vineyards would be devastating. There are many issues from soil erosion, potential damage to wells, firefighting and quality of life that need to be addressed.

C.117-2

There are other routes covered in the DEIR; one of these goes through the National Forest. In this route, the lines go through a very deserted and unused portion of National Forest that would not destroy private property.

Please give the community adequate time to respond. If this does not occur, it certainly will appear that the government agencies of CPUC, USDA and a private corporation SCE have corrupted the judicial process and violated private citizens' rights.

C.117-3

Sincerely,

Alexis C. Upton-Knittle
Lloyd J. Cook

sent via US certified mail also

Response to Comment Set C.117: Alexis C. Upton-Knittle and Lloyd J. Cook

- C.117-1 Please see General Response GR-5 regarding noticing procedures and the review period for the Draft EIR/EIS. Please also see General Response GR-4 regarding the identification of a non-NFS lands alternative. On September 13, the CPUC and the Forest Service formally extended the public review period for the Draft EIR/EIS to October 3, 2006.
- C.117-2 The proposed Project and each of the alternative routes would result in impacts to a number of issue areas that include geology (Section C.5), forest management (Section C.7), hydrology and water quality (Section C.8), land use & recreation (Section C.9), and visual resources (C.15), which are discussed in the aforementioned sections of the Draft EIR/EIS.
- C.117-3 On September 13, the CPUC and the Forest Service formally extended the public review period for the Draft EIR/EIS to October 3, 2006.