

Comment Set 21

SCOTT BUSCHMAN
1780 Claremont Drive,
San Bruno, CA 94066

August 21, 2003

TO: Billie Blanchard, CPUC
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery St, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: Jefferson-Martin Transmission Line Project

Ms. Blanchard:

I am writing to support what the draft EIR concludes is the Environmentally Superior Alternative – option 1B for the southern segment and the Modified Existing 230kV underground collocation alternative for the northern segment with Mitigation Measure T-9a in San Bruno. I know many of my friends and neighbors from San Bruno also support this plan which eliminates basically all significant (Class1) impacts. We are also relieved to know that our city council is united with us on this matter.

Granted, with this plan there will be some temporary impacts associated with the construction, but once completed, this route will have very little impact on our county, while the other options would continue to negatively impact our county forever.

During the scoping process, as you know, the public spoke out against the proposed plan for a number of reasons. We are pleased that our concerns were addressed and you were able to come up with a new “superior” plan that has been endorsed by the County of San Mateo, many cities along the route, some local groups, private individuals, as well as the Sierra Club.

We in San Bruno were upset when we saw PG&E’s original proposal for this project. Thankfully, our mayor and council members held an emergency meeting on March 20 to educate the residents about this plan. Two hundred or so residents packed the meeting, all speaking out against the proposed plan.

21-1

Comment Set 21, cont.

One of the key problems was the transition station planned for the corner of San Bruno Ave. and Glenview Drive. Placing a 10x13 ft concrete transition station with a 50-75 foot tower, surrounded by a 97ft x 82 ft fence at that location was a terrible idea. Not only is this area one gateway to our city, it is also a gateway to a neighborhood. We were all concerned what the visual blight this tower and structure would create in our neighborhood, not to mention the affect on our property values, with that industrial, rather than residential look.

Our homes sit just feet from this site, and new homes are planned for the lot directly across the street.

And locating a transition station adjacent to an active earthquake fault and having the transmission line cross the fault line, all seemed poorly thought out, especially since one of the purposes of this project is to provide reliable service from one end of the county to the other. What would happen to our service during a major earthquake? No one could guarantee that service would be unaffected.

Any alternative that includes a transition station in San Bruno is unacceptable.

We in San Bruno are against the proposed project which would severely and significantly impact our city forever and are in favor of Option 1B, the undergrounding of the transmission lines, and the Modified Existing Underground Collocation Alternative which will be less intrusive to residential communities.

Sincerely,



Scott Buschman

21-1

Responses to Comment Set 21 – Scott Buschman

- 21-1 The commenter's support of the Environmentally Superior Alternative and opposition to transition stations located in San Bruno are noted. Please refer to Response to Comments PPH2-35, PPH2-36, and PPH2-37 from the August 14, 2003 Public Participation Hearings.

Comment Set 22

Rosemarie Lashkoff
1316 Skyview Drive
Burlingame, California 94010

21 August 2003

Ms. Billie Blanchard, CPUC
C/O Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery St. Ste 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

RE: Jefferson-Martin 230 k VTransmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Blanchard:

I am in favor of the Partial Underground route for Burlingame, which would place the new lines along with the existing 60 kV further away from our homes on Skyview, west of Hwy 280. The underground route on Skyline would sandwich us between the 60 kV and the 230 kV which would be very detrimental to both our property value and health.

22-1

Since I work in the R. E. Mortgage business, I know the impact on property values, even when refinancing, that these transmission high voltage lines will have and I am also enclosing a copy of an article dated March 23, 2003 from the San Francisco Chronicle which recommends not purchasing homes near high-voltage power lines.

Also, I am concerned about the EMF's that will be present from these lines. The California Dept. of Health Services is inclined to believe that EMF's are associated with the increased risk of child leukemia, adult brain cancer, Lou Gehrig's disease and miscarriage, and I don't want my family to be a statistic for these health problems.

22-2

Thank you for the very informational meetings explaining this project so that we would be able to understand the impact this will have on our properties and health.

Yours truly,

Rosemarie Lashkoff

encl.

Ed Lashkoff
Steph Lashkoff

Comment Set 22, cont.

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SECTION II
 Sunday, March 23, 2003

OPEN HOMES

A PULLOUT SECTION

High-voltage wires
 may bring a shock
 when it's time to sell

Q: I am considering buying a house in a new development very close to a high-voltage power line. Do you feel this might have a negative impact on the future resale value of the house?

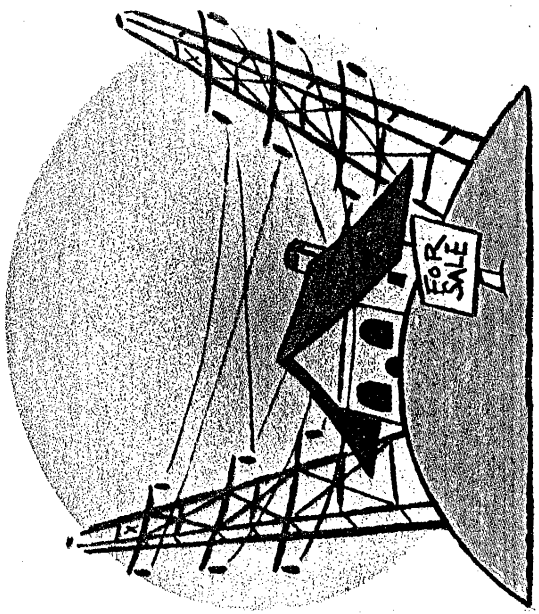
HUGH S.
 Sarasota, Fla.

A: Yes. Buying a home near high-voltage power lines is not a smart idea. Nothing has been conclusively proven about the health

dangers of living near high-voltage power lines, but the perception among most potential home buyers is such wires are harmful. High-voltage power lines certainly are not beneficial. Yes, they will hurt the resale value and marketability. My advice is don't buy.



Robert Bruss
 Mailbag



TON MURRAY / The Chronicle

Responses to Comment Set 22 – Rosemarie Lashkoff

22-1 The commenter's support for the Partial Underground Alternative and opposition to PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative are noted. Please see the text additions in Section D.8.7.4 of this Final EIR regarding the "sandwich" issue in the Burlingame area under PG&E Route Option 1B. With the 230 kV line installed in Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard, there are essentially no cumulative impacts of the 230 and 60 kV lines. Please see Response to Comment 40-15 regarding potential cumulative EMF impacts along Skyline Boulevard between Hayne Road and Trousdale Avenue.

Also, the article from the *San Francisco Chronicle* is acknowledged. Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values.

22-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.

Comment Set 23

August 21, 2003

Billie Blanchard, CPUC
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: COMMENT ON THE DRAFT EIR FOR THE PROPOSED JEFFERSON-MARTIN
230 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft EIR and the Proposed Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Project (the "Project"). We are residents of Loma Vista Drive in Burlingame, and are directly affected by this project and by the alternatives that were considered in the Draft EIR. As parties in interest, we are writing to express our concerns regarding the Project and its impacts.

Project Need:

In recent weeks we have read a great many of the documents that have been distributed to us as well as those posted on the CPUC website. We cannot find any information detailing or supporting the need for this project, nor for whom the Project will benefit (although we have heard that the primary benefactors will be the City and County of San Francisco, not Loma Vista Drive or the City of Burlingame). Please note we are not educated in the field of utilities, electricity, or related fields; therefore, wading through this information has been challenging. While the documents and filings obviously follow prescribed procedures with respect to the execution of a project such as this, we cannot find any details of the studies made projecting the future demand for which the Project is addressing. The DEIR sets forth "stated objectives" in the Executive Summary, but it reads as if it is assumed that the increased future electrical demands and reliability as projected by PG&E are a foregone conclusion. We even reviewed the Application as it appears on the CPUC website, and the documents that are supposed to provide demand data could not be accessed. It would seem to me that presentation of the details of the future demand, the benefactors of the Project and a concise statement of the reliability issues that affect the provision of electrical service would be essential for the public to review and provide comment on. We would like to know about the studies that were done, who they were done by, and a summary of what they illustrate, in layman's terms.

We are affected citizens, and need to know why this is being done and to whom the benefit inures. If there is any desire for us to support this project, shouldn't the need for it be clearly outlined and communicated? We would like to know who would be using this increased demand for capacity. We don't expect our city to grow so dramatically over the next 10 years nor do we see how we as a community will benefit, yet for the next 5 years we would be directly inconvenienced, and our health and financial welfare and that of our children could potentially be permanently affected if the Project is completed.

23-1

23-2

Filename: Billie Blanchard

1 of 4

Comment Set 23, cont.

We have not seen summary projected future demands by city or even by county. We have all experienced a slow-down of the Bay Area economy, and hear frequent news reports of the exodus of residents and businesses from California. While we also endured the recent energy crisis and understand that there must be capacity issues in California, we are asking that the appropriate authority provide us and the other affected parties with the necessary information to allow us to understand why we should support any other alternative than the "No Project Alternative," especially when the perception is that we will gain no benefits from the Project. We have received many pieces of paper over the last 11 months, and while many have worked hard to make materials available, we have not seen anything that provides "need" data. Where is the authorization for this project, and don't affected citizens have an opportunity to comment before we are at the point of discussing alternatives? We're sure this information must be somewhere, but please be advised, it was not made available to affected citizens in a readable form.

23-2

High Voltage Lines in Our Neighborhood

We are sure that you have heard from many who feel strongly about the impacts of the Project on our neighborhood. We would like to echo many of their sentiments because although you may be tired of hearing them, they are very real concerns to us, concerns that affect our daily life and our goals for the future.

23-3

Our Health:

Of primary importance to us is our health and the health of our two young children. In doing our research, we did note, as did others, that the studies of the impacts of power line EMFs on humans has been inconclusive. However, as stated in the DIER, "Most recently the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and the California Department of Health Services (DHS) both classified EMF as a *possible* carcinogen." We have also researched the California Electric and Magnetic Fields Program via their website, and again, while stating that the studies are inconclusive, they also make it clear that a good deal of additional research is currently underway, and that there have been links to some diseases such as childhood leukemia. Everything that we have read makes it clear that we just don't know what the risks are yet, but it seems to us that there are enough concerns about it to adopt avoidance strategies. In fact, in our home, we do avoid potentially harmful transmission - we stand away from the microwave when we use it, keep our children from sitting too close to the television, and make sure that we have as much distance as possible between ourselves and our computer screens.

The DEIR refers to field levels ranging from 8 to 27 milliGauss for the rebuild 230kV/60kV line at a distance of 50 feet from the line (p. ES-42). Our home is not much farther away than that and those numbers truly frighten us. Given the alternative of burying the lines down the middle of Skyline Blvd, we reviewed the Preliminary Transmission EMF Management Plan, Tables 1 & 2, and can also see that our children playing in our backyard would be exposed to magnetic field levels that are still quite high. Our backyard fence is only a few feet from the shoulder of the road, and it seems that the lines would have to be buried very deep to mitigate the impacts to us. If this alternative is selected, will the CPUC require PG&E to go deep enough to ensure our safety and security?

Filename: Billie Blanchard

2 of 4

Comment Set 23, cont.

We understand that the CPUC has authorized the state's investor-owned utilities to carry out "no and low cost EMF avoidance measures in construction of new and upgraded utility projects." We understand capitalism and the importance of advancement, productivity, and improved quality of living. However, we do not want our family and that of our neighbors to be guinea pigs, especially if another option that moves these lines away from us can be found. Just living each day with the questions of the effects on our health due to our proximity to such powerful transmission lines would not be an improvement to our quality of life, not to mention enduring any actual health impacts. We hope that PG&E will consider moving these lines away from us, even if it is marginally more expensive than the low cost alternative.

23-3

Our Home:

There are many reasons to buy a home in Burlingame, not the least of which is its beauty. We fell in love with our street on first site and waited a couple years until the right home on Loma Vista came available. This home has become a significant investment in our future. We care lovingly for our home, with continuous maintenance and improvements that add to its value and the neighborhood.

23-4

Our street is fantastic, one of the few flat streets in this area where our kids frequently ride their bikes and where neighbors are always out jogging, walking dogs and strolling. We knew then that the 60 kV lines were across the street, but they were small lines, a distance from our home and fully obscured from our view by trees. The tall towers proposed in one of the alternatives would change all of that. They would tower over the trees. We cannot imagine how they could be obscured from sight. The view we have would be blemished.

We have had direct experience with house-hunting where families have declined even viewing beautiful homes that were in the shadow of power lines. With this as history, we are sure that the property values of all of the homes on Loma Vista, and other affected neighborhoods, would drop just by virtue of the reduced number of people that would consider this a desirable street. Houses on our street would be blemished. It is a fact that when demand goes down, prices drop.

The impact would have a substantial impact on our family (and other families in affected neighborhoods) as we include our home as an important part of our financial future. As you know, homes in this part of the country are incredibly expensive, and is part of our nest egg. While we have seen literature circulated about percentage points that property values have dropped due to the installation of power lines, we know intuitively that it is extremely difficult to pinpoint a firm estimate of such reduction. However, we also know in our hearts that there is truth to this decline, and that it would be our loss. No matter how well we have kept up and improved our property day-by-day, month-by-month and year-by-year, we would be powerless to counteract the decline in our property values caused by gigantic, EMF-emitting power lines installed in our neighborhood.

There are many other reasons that the Project concerns us.

Filename: Billie Blanchard

3 of 4

Comment Set 23, cont.

- Daily Exposure for Children: Our children go to school on Skyline Blvd and therefore would continue to be exposed all day, every school day.
- Noise: We don't want to go out of our home and hear the continuous noise from corona discharge. We already hear the I-280 freeway and the airport at certain busy times of the day. The corona discharge would increase the ambient noise levels 24 hours a day.
- Project Size & Duration: The magnitude of a project of this size would disrupt our daily lives for a long time. If the new power lines are either connected to the existing 60kV lines, or put in the ground on Skyline Blvd, Loma Vista Drive residents will have to endure substantial construction inconveniences and the risks that such a project brings.

23-5

23-6

23-7

Summary:

As we have mentioned, we have not been provided any information that helps us to understand the need for the Project, and, of course, we do not understand neither the detailed economics involved nor whom the Project benefits (other than the City and County of San Francisco). Under these circumstances we see no reason not to support the "No Project Alternative." However, if the CPUC concludes that this project is essential, we would have to support the "Partial Underground" alternative, which does not have the negative impacts to us, the other residents of Loma Vista Drive, the City of Burlingame and of the Skyline corridor. If the CPUC concludes that this project is essential, then such powerful transmission lines should be placed far enough away from humans so that we are able to avoid exposure. We must preserve the health, welfare and financial future of our immediate family, and our friends and neighbors affected by the Project. We feel we have the right to the continued quiet enjoyment of our homes and property.

23-8

Please feel free to contact us to discuss these comments.

David & Dianne Willoughby
107 Loma Vista Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
(650) 548-9518

Responses to Comment Set 23 – David & Diane Willoughby

- 23-1 Purpose and Need for the Proposed Project is briefly discussed in Section A.2, but it is not an issue included under CEQA. The need for this project is not addressed or decided within this EIR (see Response to Comment CC8-1). The CPUC Administrative Law Judge evaluates project need during the CPUC General Proceeding with information presented by PG&E, Cal ISO, and other parties. Transmission system reliability, an objective of the Proposed Project as discussed in Section A, is also addressed during the alternatives screening process as it is considered for each alternative in Appendix 1.
- 23-2 Please see Responses to Comments 23-1, 40-7, 42-1 for a discussion of need of the Proposed Project. Section A.2, Purpose and Need for the Proposed Project, briefly discusses need and recent area load forecasts (see also Tables A-1 and A-2).
- 23-3 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.
- 23-4 Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values. EIR Section D.3 presents a detailed analysis of visual impacts of the Proposed Project and alternatives, including identification of significant visual impacts in Burlingame in Section D.3.3 (Impact V-13, Carolands Substation to Transition Station).
- 23-5 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.
- 23-6 Corona noise is addressed in Sections D.11.3 (Noise and Vibration) under Impact N-3, Corona Noise from the Operation of the Overhead Transmission Line. Also, please see Response to Comment G-4.
- 23-7 Several mitigation measures are identified in the Draft EIR that are designed to minimize disruption impacts to residents and businesses during construction. Please see Response to Comment 13-6.

Comment Set 24

August 21, 2003

Billie Blanchard, California Public Utilities Commission
Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Ms. Blanchard,

We are residents who live near or in the vicinity of PG&E's proposed Jefferson-Martin 230 kV transmission line project. The following comments reflect some of our concerns with the proposed project and address significant environmental issues that we believe must be considered in the Final Environmental Impact Report for this project. We applaud the work of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the Aspen Group on the Jefferson-Martin Project proposal, and we thank you for your thorough consideration of these matters.

Environmental Inequities

A primary purpose of the proposed project is to provide additional power capacity to serve the City of San Francisco that will, in turn, allow PG&E to retire existing generation facilities located in the city. Although San Francisco will receive almost all of the environmental benefits related to the proposed project through the replacement of in-city generation with power imported over new a transmission line, the people who live and work in communities along the Peninsula will necessarily bear all of the adverse environmental impacts because this new transmission line will be located in our communities. This is the case for all of the routes evaluated in the draft EIR.

The draft EIR should be modified to acknowledge the inequity of placing environmental burdens solely upon a group of people who will receive no direct benefit (environmental or otherwise) from the proposed project and revised to include additional mitigation to prevent such an outcome. As discussed below, such mitigation should include collocating the existing 60 kV line with the proposed 230 kV transmission line and locating these lines *sufficiently far away from homes, schools, and businesses* to minimize the adverse environmental impacts associated with the proposed project.

Citizens Are Concerned About the Increased Health Risks Posed by the 230kV Lines

First and foremost, we are concerned about the increased health risks posed by the 230kV transmission system, specifically the EMF (ElectroMagnetic Field) emissions generated by transmission lines and equipment. A majority of the medical and scientific studies published in the peer reviewed medical literature show that children living in homes near high voltage or high current power lines, as well as workers exposed to power-frequency electromagnetic fields on the job, are developing cancer at significantly higher rates than children and workers who are not exposed or who are less exposed.

Billie Blanchard
August 23, 2003
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24-1

24-2

Comment Set 24, cont.

2

A June 2002 study by the California Department of Health Services (DHS) indicates that DHS scientists are inclined to believe that EMFs are associated with an increased risk of childhood leukemia, adult brain cancer, Lou Gehrig's disease and miscarriage. According to the Energy Power Research Institute in Palo Alto (EPRI), 5% of residences in the U.S. are exposed to EMF levels that would occur in many homes along the proposed line. It is estimated by EPRI that children in homes with EMF exposure of 3-4 milligauss are twice as likely to develop childhood leukemia as their non-exposed peers. Although the draft EIR acknowledges EMFs as potentially dangerous by discussing low cost and no-cost measures that mitigate affects at schools and day care centers along route, it fails to adequately account for the exposure that our families would constantly face in and around our homes. Moreover, when EMF levels are calculated, all future load scenarios must be considered and not simply current loads under ideal conditions.

24-2

Realistically, there will be changes in EMF strength along the transmission line system induced by phase shifts between lines and changing load conditions. Lines and insulators compromised due to age and poor maintenance also contribute to increased EMF levels, this must be taken into account when calculating future exposure. We believe that PG&E is not currently maintaining the standing double circuit 60kv line. Evidence of this is audible to many residents; the lines crackle and buzz at a disturbing decibel level. Additionally, according to residents, PG&E has failed repeatedly to respond to requests that PG&E perform routine maintenance on the lines. We worry that our health and safety is being entrusted to a corporation that has already failed in this area with so many communities.

The potential risks warrant prudent avoidance to EMF exposure, especially given the fact that residents along the proposed line will have no ability to avoid exposure (unlike other potential hazards, such as cigarette smoke or toxic chemicals). No standards currently exist in the U.S. for safe levels of EMF exposure, but we agree with the opinion of several experts that exposure should be no more than 1 milligauss. Since the amount of exposure decreases as distance from the transmission lines is increased, further from the residences is always better.

There are portions of both the environmentally superior (all underground) and the partial underground routes that do not adequately mitigate the increased health risks associated with the proposed project. Specifically, portions of the all under ground route along Skyline Boulevard would essentially "sandwich" residents between an overhead 60 kV to the west and the proposed 230 kV to the east. In addition, portions of the partial underground route south of the Carolands substation would be located too close to existing homes.

24-3

These issues can be addressed by an alternative route that: (a) south of the Carolands substation collocates the existing 60 kV line underground with the proposed 230 kV line west of the existing 60 kV right-of-way ("ROW") behind the homes in the San Mateo Highlands and Hillsborough; and (b) north of the Carolands substation, collocate the

Billie Blanchard
August 23, 2003
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Comment Set 24, cont.

3

existing 60 kV line with the 230 kV line, either overhead or underground, west of Highway 280, avoiding homes in Hillsborough and Burlingame altogether.

24-3

Adverse Impact on Property Values Greatly Concerns Residents

The DEIR does not address the very real impacts to real estate values in the socioeconomic section. However, it has been cited by several sources that transmission lines, towers, substations and transition stations are viewed by prospective homebuyers as undesirable neighbors. Many real cases exist around the country where property values have dropped because of close proximity to these installations. This affects not only the values of homes in view of the towers or transition stations, but also the values of other homes in the neighborhood when comparative values are researched.

24-4

These homes represent our most valuable financial investment, for which most of us have saved many years to purchase. The real estate values of homes on the Peninsula are significantly higher than the national average. We have been willing to sacrifice much to afford these mortgages, all because we believe these are communities worth investing in. This project would doubly burden us because as we face loss of value in our homes, we also risk seeing the character of cherished communities denigrated by large industrial-looking tower installations. For us, even the loss of a few percentage points amounts to a significant devaluation. To put this into perspective, the loss on a single family home for a couple at retirement age could be equal to what it might cost to purchase a home in the Midwest. We believe that the negative socioeconomic impacts on real estate values are significant for the proposed 1A route, and respectfully disagree with the “no preference” position that the DEIR has taken versus alternative underground routes or routes that would locate the proposed project away from homes.

Scenic Views Would Be Negatively Impacted by Proposed Route 1A

As discussed in the DEIR, the scenic views would be negatively impacted (Class I, significant, unmitigable) by PG&E’s route 1A proposal. It goes without saying that this area is a scenic gem, internationally recognized for its staggering beauty. Quite apart from the issue of the views of private residences, which we hope the CPUC will seriously consider, the tranquility of the 280 Corridor is a soothing and valuable asset to productive Bay Area citizens on long daily commutes.

24-5

Additionally, the San Mateo Highlands homes that border the SFPUC lands are architecturally and historically significant Eichler models whose most outstanding design feature is the westward facing glass walls which capture the existing scenic views as part of our living space. Residents who have seen the DEIR Graphics Supplement visual simulations of the proposed larger towers have expressed their extreme displeasure.

Please help us to ensure that no negative impacts or risks to health, real estate values or scenic beauty be introduced in this area.

Billie Blanchard
August 23, 2003
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Comment Set 24, cont.

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In Conclusion

To those of us who live, work and play in the area of the proposed project, the impacts of the 230 kV line will be very real. These impacts, however, can and should be mitigated beyond what is provided in the draft EIR. Accordingly, we request that:

- PG&E's preferred Route 1A be unconditionally rejected.
- The draft EIR be modified to include an alternative route that: (a) south of the Carolands substation collocate the existing 60 kV line underground with the proposed 230 kV line west of the existing 60 kV ROW behind the homes in the San Mateo Highlands and Hillsborough; and (b) north of the Carolands substation, collocate the existing 60 kV line with the 230 kV line, either overhead or under ground, west of Highway 280, avoiding homes in Hillsborough and Burlingame altogether.
- In all cases, the 230 kV line, along with the existing 60 kV line, be located at a distance sufficiently far from homes to result in a milligauss level of one or less (based on future worst-case load forecasts).

24-6

Thank you for your careful consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

Print name below	Signature	Address	Email
Sandra Treanor	<i>Sandra Treanor</i>	67 Loma Vista Dr Burlingame	bs-treanor@yahoo
BURT TREANOR	<i>Burt Treanor</i>	67 Loma Vista Dr Burlingame, Ca	bs-treanor@yahoo.com
BENJAMIN LUE	<i>Ben Lue</i>	62 Loma Vista Rd. Burlingame	teyoss@hotmail.com
Karen Okon Stern	<i>Karen Okon Stern</i>	15 Loma Vista Dr. Burlingame, Ca	Kolson@aol.com
IRVING STERN	<i>Irving Stern</i>	15 Loma Vista Dr Burlingame, Ca	
HOLLY PERA	<i>Holly Pera</i>	54 LOMA VISTA DRIVE BURLINGAME 94010	MJPERA@AOL.COM
PAUL J. GRECH	<i>Paul J. Grech</i>	1315 SKYVIEW DRIVE BURLINGAME, CA - 94010	

Billie Blanchard
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Comment Set 24, cont.

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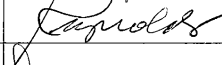
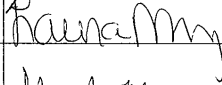
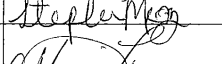
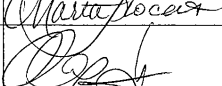
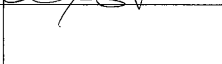
In Conclusion

To those of use who live, work and play in the area of the proposed project, the impacts of the 230 kV line will be very real. These impacts, however, can and should be mitigated beyond what is provided in the draft EIR. Accordingly, we request that:

- PG&E's preferred Route 1A be unconditionally rejected.
- The draft EIR be modified to include an alternative route that: (a) south of the Carolands substation collocates the existing 60 kV line underground with the proposed 230 kV line west of the existing 60 kV ROW behind the homes in the San Mateo Highlands and Hillsborough; and (b) north of the Carolands substation, collocate the existing 60 kV line with the 230 kV line, either overhead or under ground, west of Highway 280, avoiding homes in Hillsborough and Burlingame altogether.
- In all cases, the 230 kV line, along with the existing 60 kV line, be located at a distance sufficiently far from homes to result in a milligauss level of one or less (based on future worst-case load forecasts).

Thank you for your careful consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

Print name below	Signature	Address	Email
Toni Reynolds		51 Loma Vista Dr. Burlingame CA 94010	
MARC REYNOLDS		51 LOMA VISTA DR BURLINGAME, CA 94010	
Laura Mroz		16 Loma Vista Ln. Burlingame 94010	
stephen Mroz		11	
Maria Flocas		25 Loma Vista Ln. Burlingame, Ca 94010	
Alex Flocas		25 Loma Vista Ln Burlingame, CA 94010	

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Comment Set 24, cont.

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In Conclusion

To those of use who live, work and play in the area of the proposed project, the impacts of the 230 kV line will be very real. These impacts, however, can and should be mitigated beyond what is provided in the draft EIR. Accordingly, we request that:

- PG&E's preferred Route 1A be unconditionally rejected.
- The draft EIR be modified to include an alternative route that: (a) south of the Carolands substation collocates the existing 60 kV line underground with the proposed 230 kV line west of the existing 60 kV ROW behind the homes in the San Mateo Highlands and Hillsborough; and (b) north of the Carolands substation, collocate the existing 60 kV line with the 230 kV line, either overhead or under ground, west of Highway 280, avoiding homes in Hillsborough and Burlingame altogether.
- In all cases, the 230 kV line, along with the existing 60 kV line, be located at a distance sufficiently far from homes to result in a milligauss level of one or less (based on future worst-case load forecasts).

Thank you for your careful consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

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Comment Set 24, cont.

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Hannah Chan	Hannah Chan	142 Loma Vista Dr.	"
KAM CHAN	KAM CHAN	"	"
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Tieu Luong	Tieu Luong	31	"
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Comment Set 24, cont.

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Please print name	Signature	Address	email
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David Loutzenheiser	<i>David Loutzenheiser</i>	Loma Vista Dr. ⁰³	" "
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PAT HARROW	<i>Pat Harrow</i>	1616 Skyline Blvd	TAZHARROW@AOL.
Helen Karos	<i>Helen Karos</i>	" " "	
Sue Osborn	<i>Sue Osborn</i>	1624 Skyline Blvd	

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Comment Set 24, cont.

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In Conclusion

To those of use who live, work and play in the area of the proposed project, the impacts of the 230 kV line will be very real. These impacts, however, can and should be mitigated beyond what is provided in the draft EIR. Accordingly, we request that:

- PG&E's preferred Route 1A be unconditionally rejected.
- The draft EIR be modified to include an alternative route that: (a) south of the Carolands substation collocates the existing 60 kV line underground with the proposed 230 kV line west of the existing 60 kV ROW behind the homes in the San Mateo Highlands and Hillsborough; and (b) north of the Carolands substation, collocate the existing 60 kV line with the 230 kV line, either overhead or under ground, west of Highway 280, avoiding homes in Hillsborough and Burlingame altogether.
- In all cases, the 230 kV line, along with the existing 60 kV line, be located at a distance sufficiently far from homes to result in a milligauss level of one or less (based on future worst-case load forecasts).

Thank you for your careful consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

Print name below	Signature	Address	Email
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Alexis Caneri		146 Loma Vista Dr	
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Comment Set 24, cont.

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Please print name	Signature	Address	email
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Cal Walters	<i>Calvin Walters</i>	118 Loma Vista Dr.	
Georgina Catana	<i>Georgina Catana</i>	149 Loma Vista	
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Responses to Comment Set 24 – Letter Opposing Option 1A

- 24-1 Please see General Response GR-3 regarding the equity of impacts and benefits of the project.
- 24-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.
- 24-3 Please refer to text addition in Section D.8.7.4 of this Final EIR regarding the “sandwich” issue in the Burlingame area under PG&E Route Option 1B. With the 230 kV line installed in Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard, there are essentially no cumulative impacts of the 230 and 60 kV lines. Also, please see Response to Comment 40-15 regarding potential cumulative EMF impacts along Skyline Boulevard between Hayne Road and Trousdale Avenue.
- The commenters’ support of an alternative collocation route is acknowledged. The commenters’ preference for a route north of Carolands Substation that is entirely west of the I-280 is consistent with the definition of the Partial Underground Alternative. Regarding the installation of the 60 and 230 kV lines underground west of the existing ROW, please see the Response to Comment PPH1-10.
- 24-4 Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values.
- 24-5 EIR Section D.3 presents a detailed analysis of visual impacts of the Proposed Project and alternatives, including identification of significant visual impacts.
- 24-6 The commenters’ opposition to PG&E’s Proposed Project and support of an alternative collocation route that is sufficiently distant from residences to allow for a level of one milliGauss or less are acknowledged. Please refer to General Response GR-1 for a discussion of EMF. Also, please refer to Response to Comment 24-3.

Comment Set 25

FROM :Judy Chen Attorney At Law

FAX NO. :6503493383

Aug. 28 2003 09:06PM P2

August 23, 2003

Billie Blanchard, California Public Utilities Commission
Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Ms. Blanchard,

The following comments encompass the responses to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) shared by neighbors and many parents who have children at Highlands Elementary School in San Mateo.

We absolutely oppose PG&E's proposed Route 1A due to the increased health risks posed by the new 230kV line, the fact that Route 1A would move the tower closest to Highlands School closer to the school, and due to detrimental trickle-down effects that will result from declining property values.

We do not favor either: a) route 1B (undergrounding the new 230kV line under Canada Road and leaving the existing 60kV lines where they are) or b) the Partial Underground Alternative (undergrounding the 230kV and existing 60kV lines in the present right of way behind the homes on Lexington Avenue.)

Rather, we favor the Watershed Restoration Alternative (WRA), which will be explained fully in comments by attorneys for the 280CCC (Corridor Concerned Citizens). In brief, the WRA calls for the placement of the new 230kV line underground along Canada Road, and the removal of the existing 60kV lines in the San Mateo Highlands.

EMF (ElectroMagnetic Field) Concerns

Although the United States has not provided clear guidelines on what level of EMF exposure is safe, other countries such as Sweden have laws dating back to 1993 that require homes to be built at least 330 feet from high-voltage power lines. The Swedish policy was prompted by the results of two major epidemiological studies—one residential and the other occupational—which clearly demonstrated that exposure to electromagnetic fields at home and at work was linked to the development of leukemia.*

Highlands School, thankfully, is more than 330 feet from the power lines behind Lexington Avenue. It is approximately 700 feet from the closest tower, as that tower is currently placed. However, as evidence of EMF exposure and its relationship to childhood leukemia, brain tumors and other diseases mounts, it seems appropriate to apply prudent avoidance thinking at this stage. There is no reason to wait until EMF harm is conclusively proven in the United States, as it has been in other countries, or to

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August 23, 2003
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25-1

25-2

Comment Set 25, cont.

FROM :Jvdy Chen Attorney At Law

FAX NO. :6503493383

Aug. 28 2003 09:06PM P3

find out exactly how far is a safe distance. The lines should be placed underground at a place where they do not have the potential to cause health problems to residents or school children in the area.

25-2

Classroom Disruption Due to Construction

Aside from the health risks to neighbors posed by the project, if construction of the massive towers envisioned in Route 1A were chosen, Highlands School would be subjected to classroom disruption, congestion and air pollution that will occur as a result of constant noisy, dusty construction which would include the use of earthmovers and overhead helicopters.

25-3

Trickle-Down Effect of Property Value Declines

It is no secret that transmission lines, towers, substations and transition stations are viewed by prospective homebuyers as undesirable neighbors. Many real cases exist around the country where property values have dropped because of close proximity to these installations. This affects not only the values of homes in view of or adjacent to the towers or transition stations, but also the values of other homes in the neighborhood when comparative values are researched.

25-4

If property values decline due to either a real or perceived "EMF problem" in the Highlands, Highlands School will be adversely affected due to declining enrollment and/or decreased tax revenues for the county of San Mateo. At a time where the San Mateo-Foster City School District is facing drastic cuts due to unparalleled budget cuts and declining enrollment, the school cannot afford any further negative impacts on its financial resources.

We urge you to consider our plea to choose a route that minimizes health risks, construction impacts, aesthetic detriment, and impact on property values.

The Watershed Restoration Alternative would accomplish all of these things:

1. It would move the new 230kV transmission across the 280 freeway and place it underground, which is sufficiently far from our neighborhood and school to allow us a measure of safety from both EMF exposure as well as repercussions of a possible fire or other accident;
2. It would remove existing towers, restoring the natural beauty of our state-designated scenic corridor.
3. It would alleviate all of the negative concerns that arise with 1A: the health risk concern, declining property values, declining tax base, declining student enrollment.

25-5

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Comment Set 25, cont.

FROM :Judy Chen Attorney At Law

FAX NO. :6503493383

Aug. 28 2003 09:06PM P4

Based on all of the positive attributes of the WRA, we wholeheartedly support and endorse the WRA.

25-5

Because San Francisco will receive almost all of the economic benefit from this project and because the peninsula will bear all of the adverse impacts, we urge the CPUC to allow additional funds to be spent on mitigating adverse affects on the peninsula.

25-6

Please help us to ensure that no negative impacts or risks to health, real estate values or scenic beauty be introduced in this area.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these matters.

Sincerely,

*Excerpt from The Great Power-Line Cover-Up, by Paul Brodeur, 1993 (pp 254-258). The 1987 studies were conducted by Anders Ahlbom, a professor of epidemiology at the Institute of Environmental Medicine and Maria Feychting, a doctoral candidate and research candidate at that Institute.

With the aid of fellow scientists, Ahlbom and Feychting designed a case-control study to investigate the incidence of cancer among a population of 436,503 people who had lived for at least one year between 1960 and 1985 in dwellings that were situated within just under 1000 feet of virtually all of Sweden's 9300 miles of 220kV and 440kV transmission lines. Cancer of all types was studied in children, for whom the one-year residency limit was not applied, while for adults the investigation was limited to leukemia and brain tumors.

Ahlbom and Feychting programmed their computer with records of past current loads that had been maintained for each of the transmission lines by station managers of Vattenfall, a state-owned utility company formerly known as the Swedish State Power Board. The historical load records, which encompassed the entire 26 year period of the study enabled them to estimate with great accuracy the average annual magnetic-field exposure for each cancer case.

Upon evaluating their data, Ahlbom and Feychting observed a clear dose-response relationship between increasing magnetic-field exposure and the occurrence of childhood leukemia: children living in dwellings in which they had been exposed to average power-line fields of more than 1 milligauss experienced twice the risk of developing leukemia as children living in homes in which they had been exposed to fields of less than 1

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Comment Set 25, cont.

milligauss; children exposed to more than 2 milligauss had almost three times the risk; and children exposed to more than 3 milligauss had nearly four times the risk.

The fact that both the residential and occupational studies were conducted with the financial support and cooperation of the Swedish National Board for Industrial and Technical Development, Swedish governmental health agencies, and the Swedish electric-utility industry contrasted sharply with the concurrent lengthy efforts of American utilities to deny the existence of a power-frequency health hazard, and with the pronounced reluctance of state and federal health agencies to acknowledge or deal with the problem.

Shortly after the Swedish findings were announced, the director of the National Board's Department of Electrical Safety told Microwave News that Sweden would soon set exposure standards for new homes near power lines, and for all new electrical facilities, and that these standards might require average annual exposures to be in the neighborhood of 2 milligauss. In the September/October issue of Microwave News, they pointed out that this would be up to 100 times as strict as the standards for high-voltage line emissions that had been set by New York and Florida, the only two states in the nation to have imposed such limits.

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KELLY TAM	<i>Kelly Tam</i>	"	"
Mitchell Lam	<i>Mitchell Lam</i>	"	"
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Noleen Hui	<i>Noleen Hui</i>	1343 Bel Aire Rd S.M.	norenhui@msn.com

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Comment Set 25, cont.

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Comment Set 25, cont.

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Erka Kwee	<i>Erka Kwee</i>	"	"
Nichole Kwee	<i>Nichole Kwee</i>	"	"
Travis Kwise	<i>Travis Kwise</i>	"	"
		"	"

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Responses to Comment Set 25 – Letters Supporting the Watershed Restoration Alternative

- 25-1 The commenters' opposition to PG&E's Proposed Project, thoughts on the PG&E Route Option 1B and the Partial Underground Alternative, and support for the WRA are acknowledged.
- 25-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF, as well as Response to Comment Set 40 (below).
- 25-3 Construction effects are discussed within each issue area in Section D. Please refer to Response to Comment 13-6 for a discussion of mitigation measures that would reduce the effects of construction disturbance to properties, including schools.
- 25-4 Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values.
- 25-5 Please see comment 40-18 for a discussion of the newly suggested Watershed Restoration Alternative that has been considered in this Final EIR. Section 4.2.8 of the Alternatives Screening Report (EIR Appendix 1) presents a description of the alternative (expanded from the comment letter based on commenter response to requests from the CPUC to clarify aspects of the alternative that were not fully defined in the original letter). This analysis considers whether the alternative meets the CEQA requirements regarding project objectives, feasibility, and environmental impacts (as defined in Response to Comment 40-13). In addition, a detailed set of maps of the WRA has been developed and is presented in Appendix 1 as Figure Ap.1-8a and Ap.1-8b. The commenters' support for the WRA is noted.
- 25-6 Please see General Response GR-3 regarding the benefits and burdens of the project, and Responses to Comments 40-2 and 40-4. It is not accurate to say that the residents of San Mateo County would not benefit from the project. See General Responses GR-1 and GR-2 for responses regarding EMF and property values, respectively.

Section D.3.3, Visual Resources, addresses visual impacts to the Southern Segment corridor and presents mitigation measures to reduce the potential impacts to less than significant levels where possible. Significant and unmitigable (Class I) visual impacts still exist in the areas around Lexington Avenue, Black Mountain Road, Skyview Drive, Loma Vista Drive, and at the proposed transition station site.

Regarding the allocation of additional funds for mitigation on the Peninsula, all funding must be compliant with the guidelines and laws of CEQA and CPUC policies.

Comment Set 26

August 23, 2003

Dear Judge Blanchard,

At the public hearing held in San Mateo on August 12, I felt compelled to express some thoughts and concerns I have about the proposed 230 KV Transmission Line. Unfortunately, due to the fact that I stood up unprepared on the spot, I was extremely nervous, and I'm afraid my half-formulated ideas were unclear and rambling. I, therefore, feel the need to express my thoughts and concerns in writing. Hopefully they will make more sense:

As I said at the meeting, years after the nuclear testing in Southern Utah, my mother, along with a disproportionately high percentage of her community, came down with Leukemia. At the time of the testing, her community was assured that it was "safe" and that their little town of Circleville, Utah had nothing to worry about. Now, of course, the government acknowledges the relationship between the testing and the "down winders" and is offering financial compensation to those victims.

There is, of course, no amount of money that could compensate for the chronic bad health, the radiation and chemotherapies, the surgery and the pain my mother has suffered since the "safe" testing of those bombs.

Now, decades later, I am appalled that my little community, the Highlands, is facing a possible scenario that is not too different from that of my mother's. We are being asked to sit back and accept a proposal that very well might have similar health consequences. Unlike my mother's situation, however, we're not even being told that it's unquestionably safe! There are SERIOUS QUESTIONS about the relationship between EMFs and human health, and I, for one, do not want to find out the hard way that there definitely is an association between EMFs and an increased risk of Lou Gehrig's disease, miscarriage, childhood leukemia and other cancers.

I am, therefore, imploring you to error on the conservative side by ruling against PG & E's route 1A and siding with whatever alternative keeps those EMFs as far away from human habitation and activity as possible. IF it is really is necessary to transmit that extra voltage into San Francisco (I'm not convinced it is)—then it should be buried away from our homes, our schools, our communities. By doing so you would have made the right decision no matter what: If EMFs are proven to be safe, you can feel good about saving the aesthetics of our community. If EMFs are proven to be dangerous, than you can feel good about saving the health and perhaps the lives of hundreds of people.

Please don't make the same mistake made in Southern Utah. Please don't take the same kind of chance they did with our lives.

Sincerely,

Deanne Thomas
Highlands Resident

26-1

26-2

Responses to Comment Set 26 – Deanne Thomas

- 26-1 Please see General Response GR-1 for a discussion of EMF and the response to testimony from Deanne Thomas (PPH1-55) in the Public Participation Hearing on August 12, 2003.
- 26-2 The need for this project is not addressed or decided within this EIR (see Response to Comment CC8-1). The CPUC Administrative Law Judge evaluates project need during the General Proceeding with information presented by PG&E, Cal ISO, and other parties. Also, see the response to testimony PPH1-55 from the Public Participation Hearings.