

Comment Set 27

Jefferson-Martin Transmission Project

From: JGood47335@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, August 23, 2003 1:50 AM
To: jeffmartin@aspeneq.com
Subject: Draft EIR comments

Billie Blanchard
California Public Utilities Commission
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery St., Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Ms. Blanchard:

Subject to answers to the questions posed below:

I oppose PG&E's Proposed Route 1A.

I support the Partial Underground Route north of Carolands Substation (through Burlingame and Hillsborough).

I support the undergrounding of the 230kv line along with the existing 60 kv lines at a distance sufficiently far from our homes to result in a milligauss level of one or less (based on future worst-case load forecasts).

I have a few questions regarding undergrounding that I would like answered. My understanding is that an underground line has to be surrounded by a fluid insulator. Is this true? How much fluid is needed? If there is a breach due to an earthquake, what might be the environmental effects to the watershed? How toxic is the fluid used? If toxic, what measures would be used to contain any leak? If this is a real issue, and only if there might be a real threat to the water supply, then I would have to rethink my support of undergrounding the lines in the watershed. I would then be in favor of moving the lines far enough away from any homes so that EMF levels would be minimal.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your response.

James Goodman
2228 Cobblehill Place
San Mateo, CA 94402
(Highlands resident)

27-1

27-2

27-3

Responses to Comment Set 27 – James Goodman

- 27-1 The commenter's support for the Partial Underground Alternative north of Carolands Substation and opposition to PG&E's Proposed Project are noted. Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF and Response to Comment 40-29.
- 27-2 As discussed in the response to Mr. Goodman on page 17 (a response during the Draft EIR comment period), the underground transmission line would not be the type cooled with circulating oil. As shown in Draft EIR Table B-1, current technology for underground transmission lines is use of solid dielectric cable, a solid insulated cable that uses resin/polymers for insulation and not oil. As a result, there is no potential for leaks or contamination.
- 27-3 The commenter's issue concerning water supply and undergrounding the lines is acknowledged.

Comment Set 28

To: Billie Blanchard, California Public Utilities Commission
Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104
From: Glenn Hout & Carrie Hout
3112 Margarita Avenue
Burlingame, CA 94010
Date: August 24, 2003
Re: Jefferson-Martin 230kV Transmission Project & Burlingame City

Dear Ms. Blanchard,

We are residents of Burlingame who live near the vicinity of the proposed 230 kV transmission project. This project has considerable potential to adversely affect the myriad communities through which it passes, but which can be mitigated or eliminated with the help of CPUC foresight and vision. We strongly ask for your help and courage with decisions that will impact San Mateo County for generations to come.

We have organized our thoughts into several major areas:

1. What are we proposing?
2. Key requirements for Burlingame residents
3. Issues & needs of San Francisco coexisting with San Mateo County
4. Environmental and health impact of EMF's
5. Underground vs. overground

What are we proposing?

- Ideal solution:** Combining the existing 60 kV power transmission lines with the new 230 kV lines and undergrounding these lines entirely on the west side of I280 to the San Bruno substation. Not only would this enable the transmission capability to be completed for San Francisco, but would mitigate virtually all of the EMF, property value and visible eyesore issues related to the project.
- Alternative 1:** Combining the existing 60 kV power transmission lines with the new 230 kV lines and undergrounding these lines **50-100ft west of the existing route** to the Carolands substation in Hillsborough. Then, undergrounding and taking these lines west of I280 through the remainder of Burlingame City and following the current 60 kV watershed path to San Bruno.
- Alternative 2:** Combining the existing 60 kV power transmission lines with the new 230 kV lines and undergrounding these lines **50-100ft west of the existing route** to the Carolands substation in Hillsborough. Then, going overground and taking these lines west of I280 through the remainder of Burlingame City and following the current 60 kV watershed path to San Bruno. This is not the ideal solution, but is a viable alternative to taking the lines down Burlingame city streets.

28-1

28-2

28-3

Comment Set 28, cont.

Key Requirements for Burlingame Residents:

- Item #1:** Take both the existing 60 kV line and the proposed 230 kV line and routing them to the west of I280 through Hillsborough and Burlingame. We DO NOT want these lines routed down Skyline Boulevard and Trousdale Boulevard.
- Item #2:** Underground the lines from the Carolands substation in Hillsborough (following the route in Item #1 above) all the way to San Bruno. This is obviously the ideal, but somewhat more costly alternative.

28-4

Issues & needs of San Francisco coexisting with San Mateo County

Recently, the County of San Mateo and San Francisco voted for water bonds for the seismic and system upgrade of the Hetch Hetchy water system. The bond was needed because San Francisco transferred the funds earmarked for these upgrades into their general fund. San Mateo County had been paying higher water rates to contribute to this system. San Mateo County is now paying a second time for these upgrades through doubled water rates to cover the bonds.

28-5

PG&E is now proposing the Jefferson-Martin 230 kV transmission project which will almost solely service San Francisco, while centering the environmental (EMF's and visual eyesore) and financial (negative impact on property values) impact in San Mateo County. With the completion of the project, San Francisco will be able to decommission existing plants and import their power, reducing pollution and environmental impacts by transferring them to San Mateo County. Once again, San Mateo County is being asked to shoulder the environmental and economic impact of a project almost solely benefiting San Francisco.

The CPUC has the power to mitigate this inequity by taking into account the needs of San Mateo County for this project.

Environmental and health impact of EMF's

Medical and environmental studies are replete with health concerns related to EMF's caused by high-power lines in residential communities. PG&E contends that the scientific "smoking gun" related to EMF's is inconclusive, despite the fact that numerous environmental studies in the U.S. and Europe continue to affirm these risks. The California Department of Health Services indicates that EMF's are responsible for childhood leukemia, adult brain cancer, miscarriages and Lou Gehrig's disease. It should also be noted that the scientific "smoking gun" of pollution-related asthma increases of living near a power plant have never been substantiated.

28-6

Undergrounding both the existing 60 kV line and the new 230 kV line with option 1B through San Mateo to the Carolands substation would help alleviate these EMF concerns. At the Carolands substation, taking both lines underground and west of I280 through Burlingame and Hillsborough would completely alleviate EMF's near residential areas. In fact, combining these underground lines with San Bruno's proposal to run them down Sneath Lane would almost completely eliminate the EMF problem for most of San Mateo County. The proposal to underground the lines down Skyline Boulevard and Trousdale Boulevard in Burlingame would not only sandwich residents between the existing 60 kV lines and the new 230 kV lines, but would run the new lines right on the front-doorsteps of many Burlingame and Hillsborough residents.

Comment Set 28, cont.

As the recent week of blackouts throughout the entire northeastern U.S. has substantiated, power companies are not adequately building and maintaining transmissions systems. In the Sunday, August 24, 2003 San Francisco Chronicle, page A5, it states that, "Since 1998, I and others have been saying that transmission is sort of the dark hole of deregulation," [Severin] Borenstein (director of the Energy Institute at UC Berkeley) said. "People don't really know how it's going to work, particularly transmission investment." The fate of the transmission infrastructure in San Mateo County cannot be left in the hands of a bankrupt utility that is having to deal with this "black hole" of transmission infrastructure. PG&E's obvious solution is to build the new lines with a minimum of required investment. It is up the CPUC to mitigate this and effectively address the health and environmental concerns of this project.

28-7

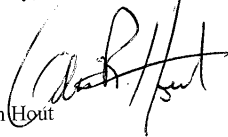
Underground vs. Overground

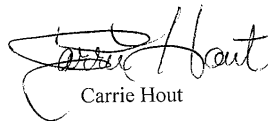
There are three significant reasons for undergrounding the power lines through San Mateo County vs. using overhead lines to the Carolands substation. Additionally, undergrounding the lines from the Carolands substation and routing them completely to the west of I280 up to San Bruno would address many of these concerns:

- Dramatically reduced EMF's:
Undergrounding both the 60 kV and 230 kV lines would dramatically reduce EMF's throughout the entire transmission route.
- Reduction in ongoing transmission line maintenance:
PG&E could reduce ongoing line and tower maintenance attributable to the elements. PG&E's maintenance logs and anyone who lives directly under these existing lines can attest to the fact that regular insulator cleaning is shirked by the utilities due to cost control. The result is an increase in EMF's, leakage and the incessant loud hum well known to residents directly underneath these lines. Placing the lines underground, while incrementally more expensive at the outset, dramatically reduces the ongoing maintenance requirements...whether they are performed or not.
- Environmental "eyesore" elimination:
This project gives the CPUC the opportunity to make an environmental, health and eyesore elimination decision that will impact generations to come. The San Mateo County I280 corridor is one of the most beautiful, protected open spaces in the United States. An opportunity to eliminate an existing eyesore in this corridor comes only once in a lifetime. The CPUC's decision to underground the existing 60 kV lines and the new 230 kV lines up to the Carolands substation, then undergrounding the lines from the Carolands substation, completely to the west of I280 through San Bruno is a decision that can positively impact generations to come, with only an incremental cost differential that would be spread over the 50+ year life of the project.

28-8

Sincerely,


Glenn Hout


Carrie Hout

Responses to Comment Set 28 – Glenn and Carrie Hout

- 28-1 The commenter's support for underground collocation routes west of I-280 is acknowledged. Please refer to Response to Comment PPH1-10. Please also refer to Appendix 1, Section 2.3.2.1 for a discussion of the CEQA legal issues regarding line collocation. It is noted that a significant portion of the Partial Underground Alternative would be west of I-280 (north of Hayne Road).
- 28-2 Two alternatives in which the transmission line would be installed underground west of the existing ROW between the Ralston and Carolands Substations were considered in the Alternatives Screening Report, in Sections 4.2.5. (West of ROW, East of I-280 Alternative) and 4.2.6 (West of Reservoirs Alternative). While these alternatives would reduce visual impacts to adjacent residences, they would create greater visual impacts to a much larger number of viewers from the I-280 (if overhead), as well as creating potentially significant biological impacts, especially if underground trenching is required. The commenter's 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. If the lines were underground in this ROW, there would be similar significant biological impacts to the SFPUC Peninsula Watershed. Please see Response to Comment PPH1-10.
- 28-3 Please see Response to Comment 28-2 above.
- 28-4 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 (below) regarding potential cumulative EMF impacts along Skyline Boulevard between Hayne Road and Trousdale Avenue.
- The commenters' support of an alternative collocation route west of I-280 and opposition to use of Skyline Boulevard or Trousdale Boulevard are acknowledged. Please see Responses to Comments 28-1 and 28-2 for additional details. Also, please see Response to Comment PPH1-10 regarding alternatives west of I-280. This Draft EIR does not address cost in the evaluation of alternatives. Cost of the project and alternatives is addressed by the Administrative Law Judge in the CPUC's general proceeding.
- 28-5 Please see General Response GR-3 regarding the benefits and burdens of the project, and Responses to Comments 40-2 and 40-4.
- 28-6 Please refer to General Response GR-1 for a discussion of EMF and health and safety concerns. The commenters' alternative preferences to reduce EMF concern are noted. Also, please see Responses to Comments 28-1, 28-2, and 28-4.
- 28-7 Regional or rolling blackouts do not generally result from lack of line maintenance, but from larger electric system problems. Rolling blackouts can then be ordered by the transmission system operators, such as CAISO. The transmission infrastructure in the area is designed by PG&E and approved by the CAISO, based on load studies and input from stakeholders, such as the public, and other local and regional resource agencies, jurisdictions, and utilities. The EIR

serves to address health and environmental concerns of proposed projects and propose effective mitigation measures for these impacts pursuant to CEQA and the *CEQA Guidelines*.

- 28-8 The commenters' comparison of underground and overhead lines is noted. Each alternative and its comparison to the Proposed Project, including operations and maintenance, is considered by each issue area. Of the alternatives detailed in Appendix 1, there are several alternatives, such as the Partial Underground Alternative and PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative, where some or all of the route would be underground.

Comment Set 29

TREANOR & PELLI

67 LOMA VISTA

BURLINGAME, CA 94010

(650) 347-2471

8-24-03

Ms. Blanchard:

I am writing to voice my opposition to P&E's proposed power line project (Jefferson-Martin 230kV Transmission Project).

Though the draft EIR report stipulated an entirely underground route (1B) might be environmentally superior, it is not the best for families/citizens residing in Burlingame. It would place underground lines very close to our neighborhood, twenty feet from my backyard.

The partial underground alternative would be better with some crucial modifications i.e. moving new overhead power lines west of Highway 280 as this would place high voltage power lines further from homes.

I am most concerned by the endangerment to the health of the nearby residents from these towers, questioning the safety in the proximity of the electromagnetic field emissions. Every effort should be made to reduce exposure as possible risks impact many citizens. If the power lines were buried along Loma Vista (as proposed in 1B), many of us would be subjected to a significant increase in exposure to these EMFs. The only way to decrease the exposure is to increase the distances between the lines and the inhabitants.

29-1

29-2

29-3

Comment Set 29, cont.

TREANOR & PELLI

67 LOMA VISTA

BURLINGAME, CA 94010

(650) 347-2471

Residents on Loma Vista stand to be "sandwiched" between old towers on the west and new wires on the east.

In your studies and decision making processes, I urge you to support a plan sufficiently far away from homes, schools, and businesses so that lines be located to result in exposures at levels ≤ 1 milligauss.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Sandra Treanor

29-3

Responses to Comment Set 29 – Sandra Treanor

- 29-1 The commenter's opposition to the Proposed Project and dissatisfaction with PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative in the Burlingame area is noted.
- 29-2 Please see Response to Comment PPH1-10 regarding alternatives west of I-280.
- 29-3 Please see General Response GR-1 for a discussion of EMF levels and Response to Comment 40-9 (below) for a discussion of EMF levels of 1 mG or less. Please refer to the 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 because the distance between the two lines is large enough. Also, please see Response to Comment 40-15 (below) regarding potential cumulative EMF impacts along Skyline Boulevard between Hayne Road and Trousdale Avenue.

Comment Set 30

Jefferson-Martin Transmission Project

From: helenandgreg@sbcglobal.net
Sent: Sunday, August 24, 2003 2:59 AM
To: jeffmartin@aspeneg.com
Subject: we absolutely oppose route 1A of Jefferson-Martin Project

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

Dear CPUC:

My wife Helen Song and I live at 1796 Lexington Ave., San Mateo, CA 94402. Just after buying our house in October, 2002, we heard about the proposed Jefferson-Martin 230kV Transmission Line Project. We are opposed to this project, feeling that the case has not been made that this project is necessary. However, if it is deemed necessary, we absolutely oppose "route 1A," the proposal that would enlarge the existing transmission line towers in the San Mateo Highlands (behind our house) and install a 230kV line in the upgraded towers.

30-1

Our reasons for doing so are as follows. First, Helen and I plan to start a family within the year (indeed, this is why we moved to the San Mateo Highlands in the first place), and we are concerned about the possible health effects of the upgraded transmission lines. We do not feel that adequate testing has been performed to prove that the installation of a 230kV line in the fashion proposed in route 1A will be safe to either us or our as-yet unborn children. We are very concerned about the possible developmental impact of the 230kV line on infants and any other children.

30-2

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. Only 5% of residences in the U.S. are exposed to the EMF levels that would occur in many houses from this line. It is estimated that children in these homes are twice as likely to develop childhood leukemia as their non-exposed peers. Source: 2003 Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), Inc. Other studies and data draw a possible link between EMFs and cancer and other diseases as well.

Next, the changes proposed in route 1A will have a detrimental effect on the value of our real estate and the real estate of the surrounding residential neighborhood. This will amount to an unjust and unreasonable wealth transfer from the residents of the San Mateo Highlands and other communities to the residents of San Francisco. Since San Francisco will be consuming the power, not the San Mateo Highlands or surrounding communities, it is only fair that the residents of San Francisco pay for it in terms of ***their*** real estate values. The communities of San Mateo, Burlingame, Hillsborough and others should not have to pay so that PG&E can transmit power to San Francisco.

30-3

Lastly, route 1A will blight the landscape and cause detrimental environmental effects to the areas affected.

It should be obvious to anyone concerned that PG&E is proposing route 1A to save its out-of-pocket costs so and make more money transmitting power. The costs to my family and to my neighbors should be borne by PG&E (and indirectly by the residents of San Francisco). Let the costs of upgrading the transmission lines be fairly borne by those who would profit from them, not by those who will be blighted by them!

30-4

Should it the Jefferson-Martin project go forward, we would prefer an alternative route that would place the 230kV lines and the existing 60kV lines either underground or onto the west side of Highway 280 through the San Mateo and Burlingame communities. We understand that the "Partial Underground Alternative" route would do exactly this, and therefore we favor this alternative the most. If the Partial Underground Alternative is overruled, we would still prefer

8/28/03

Comment Set 30, cont.

the “route 1B” alternative to route 1A. We favor any alternative that will NOT cause the 230kV lines to be built in new or enlarged transmission towers on the east side of Highway 280.

30-4

Yours Most Sincerely,

Gregory Stein
1796 Lexington Ave.
San Mateo, CA 94402
(650) 377-0644

8/25/03

Responses to Comment Set 30 – Gregory Stein

- 30-1 The commenter's opposition to PG&E's Proposed Project is noted. The need for this project is not addressed or decided within the CEQA process (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.
- 30-2 Please see General Response GR-1 for a discussion of EMF.
- 30-3 Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values. Pursuant to CEQA and the *CEQA guidelines*, the environmental effects of the Proposed Project are analyzed for each issue area in Section D of the EIR and mitigation measures are proposed, which would reduce potentially significant impacts of the project.
- 30-4 Please see General Response GR-3 regarding the benefits and burdens of the project, and Responses to Comments 40-2 and 40-4. The commenter's ranked preference of the Partial Underground Alternative, PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative, and any alternative that would not allow new/enlarged towers built to the east of I-280 over the Proposed Project is noted.

Comment Set 31

Concerned Residents of Burlingame
2935 Trousdale Drive, Burlingame, California
(650) 697-8748

August 25, 2003

Via U. S. Post Office, Express Mail

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

Re: Jefferson-Martin 230 KV High Powered Electric Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms Blanchard

Enclosed are the original signatures of 254 **Concerned Residents of Burlingame** who oppose Option 1B.

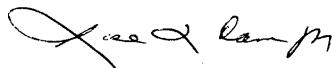
The 254 petition signatures say that:

"We oppose Option 1B and support the Partial Underground Alternative as described in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) of the Jefferson-Martin 230 KV Transmission Line Project for numerous reasons, including, but not limited to: (1) a study by the California State Department of Health Services has found that electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) can cause some degree of increased risk of childhood leukemia, adult brain cancer, Lou Gehrig's disease, and or miscarriage; (2) the DEIR did not study the EMF impact of the option 1B alternative, (3) we do not want our families, children, schools and residences exposed to potential health risks associated with EMFs; and (4) underground transmission lines on Trousdale Drive will negatively impact our property values. "

31-1

31-2

Respectfully,



Jose F. Campos

Enclosures:
254 original signatures on petitions

Responses to Comment Set 31 – Jose F. Campos and 254 Petition Signatures

- 31-1 The commenters' opposition to PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative and support for the Partial Underground Alternative of 254 petition signers are noted. Please see General Response GR-1 for a discussion of health, safety, and EMF. Please refer to the text added in Section D.8.7.4, Consideration of Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMFs), for a discussion of EMFs along PG&E's Route Option 1B Alternative.
- 31-2 Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values.

Comment Set 32

Aug 25-2003

This letter is in concern over the PUC going down Trousdale Drive and El Camino. We live on Trousdale and know this would be a tragic thing for all residence on or near Trousdale, not to mention the grammar school 1st to 6th grades on the bottom of Trousdale, in school walking to and from school and being outdoors, with this high voltage right in their front yard. Many seniors live here have heart problems with pace makers and other serious complications.

32-1


32-2

Comment Set 32, cont.

then there is the convalescent home right on Trousdale, and Peninsula Hospital. What can you be thinking, putting so many lives in great danger. These lines can go on Death Lane, or San Bruno Ave, where there are no houses and schools, would be a much much better solution,

32-2

32-3



Mrs. Peel Ratto
2930 Trousdale

Responses to Comment Set 32 – Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ratto

- 32-1 The commenters' concerns regarding the use of Trousdale Drive in Route Option 1B are noted. For a discussion of EMF, please refer to General Response GR-1. As detailed in Section D.8.7.4, Consideration of Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF), no-cost/low-cost mitigation is proposed by PG&E with priority given to schools and daycare centers and then to residences.
- 32-2 Please refer to Sections D.8.7.2 and D.8.8.2, Public Health and Safety, for a discussion of effects on cardiac pacemakers (Impact PS-3). Also, please see Response to Comment 13-3. Section D.2 (Land Use) and Section D.12 (Transportation and Traffic) discuss sensitive land uses and emergency vehicle response along Trousdale under PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative and the entire route.
- 32-3 The commenters' support for use of Sneath Lane or San Bruno Avenue, away from houses or schools, is noted.

Comment Set 33



CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)

Informational Meeting – Comments

Proposed Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Line Project

David Inori
1309 Skyview
Burlingame, 94010
Name*: Calvin and Ellen Inori
Affiliation (if any)*: 280 CCC
Address*: 1309 Skyview Dr.
City, State, Zip Code*: Burlingame 94010
Telephone Number*: (650) 343-3196
Email*: We attended the Informal Workshop on the Draft EIR in July and were very impressed with all the experts who had worked so hard researching and mapping the various route for this project. We were especially impressed with your interest and consideration for the welfare and concerns of the people involved, which are (1) the negative effects on the health and (2) the negative effect the unsightly towers will have on our property value.
As residents of Skyview Drive in Burlingame we feel that the Partial Underground Alternative is the best solution to our problem. This will put both the existing 60 KV towers and the new 230KV towers on the West side of HWY 280, away from the residential area. Plan 1b which will run the power lines under Skyline Blvd. is unacceptable because it will sandwich us between the 60KV on one side and the 230KV on the other. Please support the Partial Underground Alternative!

Tuesday, July 29, 2003
Thursday, July 31, 2003

Douglas + Kaeko
Inori
1309 Skyview Dr.

Gbdys + Jean Bartlett

280 CCC

1348 Skyview Dr.

Burlingame 94010

(650) 343-3196

33-1

*Please print. Your name, address, and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments must be received by August 28, 2003. Comments may also be faxed to the project hotline at (650) 240-1720 or emailed to jeffmartin@aspeneg.com.

Comment Set 33, cont.

David M Snow

1309 Skyview Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010

Kala Snow

1309 Skyview Dr. Burlingame CA
94010

Jeri

1309 Skyview Dr. Burlingame Ca 94010

Wendy Bertlett

1348 Skyview

Leon Bertlett 1348 Skyview

Edlea Snow
Kala Snow

1309 Skyview Dr.
1309 Skyview Dr
Burlingame, CA 94010

Responses to Comment Set 33 – Calvin & Ellen Inori, Douglas & Kaeko Inori, David Inori, and Gladys & Jean Bartlett

- 33-1 Please see General Responses GR-1 and GR-2 for discussions of EMF and property values, respectively. The commenters' support of the Partial Underground Alternative and opposition to PG&E's Route Option 1B are noted. Please see the 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.

Comment Set 34

Aki and Carol Eejima

111 Loma Vista Drive and 113 Loma Vista Drive, Burlingame, CA 94010
650/348-5356

August 25, 2003

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

Re: PG&E's proposed Jefferson-Martin 230 k V transmission line project

Dear Ms. Blanchard,

Loma Vista Drive has been our home for the past 24 years, and we are also owners of 111 Loma Vista Drive. We continue to live here by choice, as this double cul-de-sac has been an incredible 'sub-set community of Burlingame.'

34-1

We do recognize the fact that San Francisco City and County are the principal beneficiary of this PG&E project, and NOT of the residents of Burlingame nor the other cities of San Mateo County. We question San Francisco's increased energy needs since the advent of the dot com bust.

In my, Aki, prior experience in nuclear medicine, it is a commonly accepted medical fact that energy, be it radiation or EMF has resulted in detrimental effects on both test animals and humans as related in the various studies. This is particularly true of lower doses of energy over a prolonged period of time (possibly generations) as radioactivity is cumulative and can have extremely long half-lives. Additionally, the effects of energy diminishes in a linear relationship with distance (i.e. the further away from the energy source, the *safer* it is to the health of all living things)

34-2

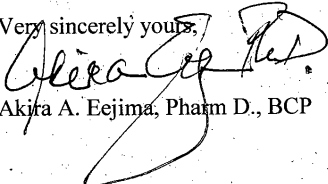
Regardless, why in the world would we welcome, justify, compromise to have these power lines so near to our home (overhead or underground only a matter of feet from our back yard fence) putting us in harms way by jeopardizing not only our health and lives, but also those of our children and our future grandchildren!

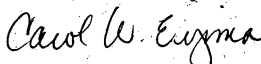
We are therefore appealing to your sense of reason and logic backed by facts and the unanimity of the community affected that the ONLY possible option that is acceptable is to move both the existing 60 k V line and the proposed 230 k V line WEST of the Highway 280 as endorsed by the 280 CCC and the City of Burlingame.

34-3

Thank you for your serious consideration of our thoughts, feelings, and concerns.

Very sincerely yours,


Akira A. Eejima, Pharm D., BCP


Carol W. Eejima, I.A.R.

Responses to Comment Set 34 – Akira A. Eejima, Pharm D., BCP, and Carol W. Eejima, I.A.R.

- 34-1 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 need during the CPUC General Proceeding with information presented by PG&E, Cal ISO, and intervenors, and other parties. Please see Responses to Comments 40-4 and 40-5 (below), as well as General Response GR-3, regarding the benefits and burdens of the Proposed Project. It is not accurate to say that the residents of San Mateo County would not benefit from the project, as explained in General Response GR-3.
- 34-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.
- 34-3 The commenters' support of collocated 60 kV and 230 kV lines west of I-280 is acknowledged. Please see Response to Comment PPH1-10. Also, please see Appendix 1, Section 2.3.2.1, for a discussion of the CEQA legal issues regarding line collocation. It is noted that a significant portion of the Partial Underground Alternative would be west of I-280 (north of Hayne Road).

Comment Set 35

Jefferson-Martin Transmission Project

From: ponce@itsa.ucsf.edu
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2003 10:59 PM
To: jeffmartin@aspeneg.com
Subject: Jefferson Martin 230kV Transmission Project

Ann Poncelet, M.D.
1612 Lexington Avenue
San Mateo, CA 94402

August 25, 2003

Judge TerKeurst
Billie Blanchard, California Public Utilities Commission
C/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Dear Judge TerKeurst:

I am writing with regards to PG&E's proposed Jefferson Martin 230kV Transmission Project. I was out of the state and not able to attend the public hearings the week of August 12, 2002, and would like to express my concerns regarding this proposal.

35-1

My husband and I have lived on the west side of Lexington Avenue in the San Mateo highlands since 1994. We feel that the specific proposal to place an additional 230kV line with 25-foot higher towers to bring power to the city of San Francisco would impose an unfair financial penalty and possible health risks to the residents of the Highlands and that there are viable alternative plans that would not.

In 2001-2, we invested several hundred thousand dollars remodeling our 1956 Eichler house, whose floor-to-ceiling windows look out across the watershed to the reservoir and mountains beyond. It's a magnificent view. Currently, the circa 1950 towers are visible from our yard, but are for the most part hidden by strategically planted trees. Taller towers will mar our view and, we fear, reduce our property value. It is unacceptable that we should be penalized financially for power that is not even for our benefit.

As a physician, I must also protest the added potential risk of EMF to the residents of this community, when there are clear and easy alternatives, such as putting the lines underground or further away from the inhabited areas, that would obviate this risk. As a parent of a young child who has spent her entire childhood in the Highlands, any additional needless risk of childhood leukemia is as unacceptable to me as, I would imagine, it would be to other parents. To a neighborhood like the San Mateo Highlands that has always been considered family-friendly, even a potential threat like this is certain to lessen the appeal of the neighborhood and drive down property values. Like other young families, we chose this neighborhood in part for its excellent elementary school and community center. We believe that forcing parents to choose between leaving the neighborhood or risking the health of their children is patently unfair. Again, placing the lines underground or further to the west are both reasonable, relatively inexpensive alternatives that would, in fact, reduce the potential health risk to our community while still achieving the project's stated goals of electrical transmission capacity. How often does PG&E, I wonder, get a chance to improve a neighborhood?

35-2

35-3

35-4

Comment Set 35, cont.

My father spent nearly two decades working for PG&E, which, under the leadership of the late Dick Clarke, was nationally and internationally respected for its forward thinking policies regarding the environment. Clearly, the best interests of the company cannot be separated from the best interests of the very people and communities it serves. We call upon PG&E to make the ethical choice in this case and build the much needed transmission lines for San Francisco in a way that is both safe and environmentally sound.

Sincerely,

Ann Poncelet, M.D.

35-4

Responses to Comment Set 35 – Ann Poncelet, M.D.

- 35-1 Please see General Responses GR-1 and GR-2 for discussions of EMF and property values, respectively. EIR Section D.3 presents a detailed analysis of visual impacts of the Proposed Project and alternatives, including identification of significant visual impacts along Lexington Avenue. Please see Responses to Comments 40-4 and 40-5 (below), as well as General Response GR-3, regarding the benefits and burdens of the Proposed Project. It is not accurate to say that the residents of San Mateo County would not benefit from the project.
- 35-2 Please refer to General Responses GR-1 for a response regarding EMF.
- 35-3 The commenter's preference for placing the lines underground or farther west is noted. Please see Responses to Comments PPH1-10, 34-3, and 28-2. Regarding the opportunity to improve the neighborhood, it is noted that this project would be paid for by ratepayers statewide.

Comment Set 36

August 26, 2003

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

RE: COMMENTS ON DRAFT EIR FOR THE PROPOSED JEFFERSON-MARTIN 230 KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

My wife Dale Loutzenheiser, her mentally handicapped sister Diane Hummel and I Dave Loutzenheiser reside at 63 Loma Vista Dr. Burlingame, CA. We have lived here for **28 years** and have raised 2 children. We appreciate this opportunity to express our comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) prepared for the proposed Jefferson Martin 230 KV transmission line project. A portion of the project runs through our neighborhood and the following comments relate to the potentially serious impact to our community.

36-1

My wife and I have driven the “existing” route, attended several meetings and have participated in numerous discussions with residents of the **entire** area. Our neighborhood continues to grow and “thrive” and is a wonderful area to raise children. We strongly feel that for our health, safety and preserving the quality of our community that **any West of Interstate 280 Alternative** is by far **superior** to all other possible routes.

This re-routing of powerlines west of Interstate 280 removes the major health concerns that plaque our thoughts. As my wife is a **cancer survivor** the reported increase in the health hazards of EMFs is frightening and should be the **priority** of the CPUC to eliminate **any** potential health hazards.

36-2

We feel the only acceptable “alternative” according to the DEIR is the “**Partial Underground Alternative**”, from the Carolans substation through the city of Hillsborough and Burlingame, which moves the “new and existing” powerlines **west** of Interstate 280, which is **safer** than any other alternative route.

We sincerely hope that our above comments are considered in your final design of the project based on the “**impact of the actual lives affected**”.

Sincerely,



David Loutzenheiser
63 Loma Vista Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
(650) 343-8349



Dale Loutzenheiser
63 Loma Vista Drive
Burlingame, Ca 94010
(650) 343-8349

Responses to Comment Set 36 – David & Dale Loutzenheiser

- 36-1 The commenters' preference for placing the lines west of I-280 is noted. Please see Response to Comment PPH1-10 regarding this issue.
- 36-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF, health, and safety. Pursuant to CEQA and the *CEQA Guidelines*, the purpose of the EIR is to objectively state the environmental effects of the Proposed Project in regards to the established significance criteria. The CPUC's Administrative Law Judge may take into consideration "community values" when making a decision. The commenter's support for the Partial Underground Alternative is noted.

Comment Set 37

Jefferson-Martin Transmission Project

From: bennettbibel [bennettbibel@satoriassociates.com]
Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2003 11:22 AM
To: jeffmartin@aspeneq.com
Subject: Draft EIR - PG&E Transition station

I am totally opposed to the concept that PG&E would be allowed to build and operate a Transition Station at the northwestern corner of San Bruno Avenue and Glenview Drive. We have quite enough electrical transmission stations or distribution points, lines, and towers in the general area of San Bruno between Sneath lane and San Bruno Avenue, and along Skyline Boulevard. While I am no expert on health hazards, there is certainly some published literature that suggests such a hazard exists in close proximity to high power electrical lines. Adding a Transition Station at this location would increase whatever level of hazard already exists. I am in favor of undergrounding of all electrical (and phone as well as cable) lines throughout the city. It is time that San Bruno modernize and eliminate the old wooden backyard and unsightly street poles, many of which subject the various lines to wind damage from mature trees in which these lines are imbedded.

Bennett Bibel
160 Crosby Ct
San Bruno, CA 94066

650 588 7065

37-1

37-2

Responses to Comment Set 37 – Bennett Bibel

- 37-1 The commenter's opposition to the proposed transition station is acknowledged. Please see General Response GR-1 for a discussion of EMF and health hazard concerns. North and east of the transition station, the Proposed Project defines the line as being underground through San Bruno (along San Bruno Avenue). Figure B-3 of the EIR illustrates the route in detail.
- 37-2 While the commenter's preference for the undergrounding of all electric lines is acknowledged, modernizing and eliminating the wooden distribution poles is not included in the scope of the Proposed Project. Undergrounding of distribution lines can happen only based on cooperation between local jurisdictions and PG&E, and after local cost sharing.

Comment Set 38

67 Loma Vista Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
(650) 347-2471

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

Dear Ms. Blanchard:

I am writing this letter to go on record favoring Option Plan 1B of the Jefferson-Martin 230kV project if certain changes or alternatives are included and if, in fact, the project needs to be built.

Although Judge TerKeurst suggested that responses should be addressed to the whole project, I am going to concentrate on the segment of the project that directly impacts my neighbors and my family. That segment is from Hayne Road north to Trousdale.

As Option 1B now stands, the segment of the line from Hayne Road to Trousdale would be placed underground along Skyline Boulevard. This is, at most, approximately twenty feet from my backyard and forty feet from my bedroom. Page ES-10 of the Draft EIR states that the Option 1B Plan "is feasible and would meet all project objectives." Under 3.3.2. "Alternatives," the last paragraph on page ES-33 deals with the same route segment but with a revised line following a new corridor west of I-280 in order to eliminate the existing and proposed towers from the area adjacent to the residences in Hillsborough and Burlingame. The major drawback to this alternative is that the access is poor and would require extra construction to build the towers. This seems to be a "snag" easily remedied by comparison. What this paragraph didn't state but I believe to be true is that this alternative (West of Highway 280) is environmentally sound, "feasible and would meet all project objectives."

In attending both the informational meeting and the public participation hearings, there seemed to be three major concerns: "not in my back yard," EMF emissions, and how San Francisco would receive the advantages of this project and San Mateo County would bear the disadvantages.

Those whose concern is "not in my backyard" can be separated into two groups--those who are figuratively concerned about the aesthetic and commercial effects on their property and

38-1

38-2

38-3

Comment Set 38, cont.

those who in the literal sense mean that the line and its accompanying EMFs are in their backyards. We are fearful that the proposed line and its resulting EMFs present health hazards and physical damage and/or death to members of our families. Even though there may not currently be sufficient evidence to conclude that EMFs cause cancer or other diseases, there is enough evidence to cause great concern. Several years ago, one could have said the same about concerns regarding tobacco, asbestos, or lead.

38-3

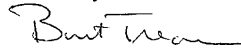
The last concern is how much San Francisco will benefit from the project, how much input the SFPUC is able to give, and how San Mateo County will bear the burden of the problems associated with the proposed line. The draft EIR deals with the concerns of the SFPUC as a dominant participant of these proceedings. The only input the SFPUC should have is whether or not they want the project built. Any other input would constitute a conflict of interest. If the SFPUC doesn't want the project built on or in their watershed, all they need do is to decline the project.

38-4

In summary, if the Jefferson-Martin project is built, the paramount reason for choosing the route should be one where there is no possible contamination by EMFs to the community. Even though there is not as yet sufficient proof that exposure to EMFs causes cancer, these EMFs have been classified by the California Department of Health Services as a possible carcinogen. One can only imagine the chaos that would be caused, and the ensuing lawsuits that would follow, if in the future it was determined that exposure to EMFs did cause cancer. One would also wonder how you and your fellow employees of the Aspen Environmental Group would feel if you supported a route that just "met all of the project objectives" and disregarded the effects of the EMFs.

38-5

Thank you



Burt Treanor

Responses to Comment Set 38 – Burt Treanor

38-1 The commenter’s support for PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative, with certain changes/modifications is noted. 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.

38-2 Please see Response to Comment PPH1-10 regarding installation of lines west of I-280. It is noted that a significant portion of the Partial Underground Alternative would be west of I-280 (north of Hayne Road). The Partial Underground Alternative is the alternative described in the Draft EIR in Section 3.3.2, Alternatives, discussing Biological Resources on page ES-33. It is stated in Section C.4.2.2 and Appendix 1, Section 4.2.3, that this alternative is feasible and would meet project objectives.

The Executive Summary lists the Partial Underground Alternative as an alternative that was carried through the screening process and fully evaluated in the EIR. To reach EIR evaluation under *CEQA Guidelines* (Section 15126(a)), an alternative must “feasibility attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project.” As such, it is implied that the Partial Underground Alternative would be feasible and meet project objectives. The environmental analysis as presented in the Draft EIR also found that the Partial Underground Alternative would be environmentally superior to the Proposed Project.

38-3 Please see General Responses GR-1 and GR-2 for discussions of EMF and property values, respectively. EIR Section D.3 presents a detailed analysis of visual impacts of the Proposed Project and alternatives, including identification of significant visual impacts along Burlingame.

38-4 Please see Responses to Comments 40-4 and 40-5 (below), as well as General Response GR-3, regarding the benefits and burdens of the Proposed Project. As described therein, it is not accurate to say that the residents of San Mateo County would not benefit from the project.

The SFPUC does not have the ability to accept or decline the overall project. The SFPUC may comment on the project. The ultimate decision on the Proposed Project and its route would be made by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), which is the lead agency under CEQA.

38-5 The commenter’s concerns about EMF are noted. Please refer to General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.

Comment Set 39

August 26, 2003

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

Dear M. Billie Blanchard, CPUC:

I support the underground route for all of the lines in the Jefferson/Martin Project. We live in such a beautiful area. The electrical towers would be eyesores on the skyline and horizon. The transition station would overpower our small neighborhood.

Thank you,



Kris M. O'Neil
1110 Glenview Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066
(650) 589-3243

cc: City of San Bruno
Gene Mullin
Jackie Speier

39-1

Responses to Comment Set 39 – Kris M. O’Neil

- 39-1 The commenter’s preference for an underground route and opposition to the proposed transition station is noted. EIR Section D.3 presents a detailed analysis of visual impacts of the Proposed Project and alternatives, including identification of significant visual impacts at the proposed transition station (Impact V-20). PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative would include an all-underground alternative route. In addition, several alternative transition station locations have been considered (see Appendix 1, Section 4.3.1 in this Final EIR).