

Comment Set 18



CITIZENS COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE THE REFUGE

453 Tennessee Lane, Palo Alto CA 94306 Tel 650 493-5540 Fax 650 494-7640 e-mail: marsh@refuge.org

ENDORSEES

July 24, 2000

- Bay Area Action
- Baylands Conservation Committee
- California Hawk Club, Inc.
- California Waterfowl Association
- California Wildlife Federation
- Committee for Green Foothills
- Communities for a Better Environment
- Defenders of Wildlife
- East Bay Green Alliance
- Federation of Fly Fishers
- Friends of Charleston Slough
- Friends of Redwood City
- Golden Gate Audubon Society
- Green Belt Alliance
- League of Women Voters of the Eden Area
- League of Women Voters of the Fremont Area
- League of Women Voters of Palo Alto
- League of Women Voters of South San Mateo County
- Mission Creek Conservancy
- Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club
- Madrone Audubon Society
- Marin Audubon Society
- Mission Creek Conservancy
- Mono Lake Committee
- Mount Diablo Audubon Society
- Napa-Solano Audubon Society
- Native Plant Society, Santa Clara Valley Chapter
- Orlene Audubon Society
- Peninsula Conservation Center Foundation
- Planning and Conservation League
- San Francisco Chapter, Sierra Club
- Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
- Save San Francisco Bay Association
- Sequoia Audubon Society
- Sportsmen for Equal Access
- Tri-City Ecology Center
- Trout Unlimited
- United Anglers of California
- Urban Creeks Council

Fax 415-703-2200

Judith Ikle, California Public Utilities Commission
 c/o Aspen Environmental Group
 235 Montgomery Street, Suite 800
 San Francisco CA 94104

Re: DEIR-Northeast San Jose Transmission Reinforcement Project

Dear Ms. Ikle,

The San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge was established because of public demand, and it is still watched carefully for any signs of degradation on the Refuge itself, or surrounding habitats. We therefore recommend Alternatives I-880-A and I-880-B.

Our organization lobbied congress 30 years ago to bring about the establishment of the Refuge. In 1988 we returned to the legislature and, with the leadership of Congressman Don Edwards, saw the Refuge boundaries expanded to double the previously authorized size.

Over the years, we have watched development take place that has lessened the ability of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect the habitat and wildlife species, many of them endangered or threatened, for which we requested the Refuge in the first place.

Many of the sites that are likely to be directly impacted by the referenced project are ones for which we lobbied, including Pacific Commons and the adjoining Warm Springs Unit of the Refuge, as well as the mitigation sites for King and Lyons Business Parks. Nearby are sites that are well known as outstanding for resident and migratory bird species, notably the San Jose sewage ponds and the old Coyote River bird banding station.

We not only know these lands well, but also, we have personally witnessed the death of a pelican that flew into a transmission line in the South Bay--a sad and distressing sight. We respectfully request that the Northeast San Jose Transmission Reinforcement Project be planned along existing highway routes and as far as possible from sensitive wildlife habitat areas.

We would appreciate being kept informed of your decisions regarding this project.

Sincerely yours,

Florence M. LaRiviere
 Chairperson

18-1

AFFILIATES

- Citizens for Alameda's Last Marshlands
- Citizens for Open Space in Alameda
- Friends of Foster City
- Save our South Bay Wetlands
- Save Wetlands in Mayhew
- Whistling Winds/Pintail Duck Club

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