

April 8, 2008

CPUC / BLM
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104-3002

Ref.: Sunrise Powerlink Project A.06-08-010

Sub: Comments for Draft EIR/EIS

**COMMENTS RELATED TO THE
OAK HOLLOW ROAD UNDERGROUND ALTERNATIVE
FROM STARLIGHT MOUNTAIN ESTATES OWNERS (SMEO)**

I. INTRODUCTION

Starlight Mountain Estates Owners (SMEO) is submitting these comments based on the Sunrise Powerlink Project Draft EIR/EIS issued in January 2008. The primary goal of these comments is to provide positive feedback to the draft version of the Oak Hollow Road Environmentally Superior Underground Alternative, and to help reconfirm and clarify some additional details that were not mentioned in the Report. Ultimately, SMEO hopes that its comments and suggestions, along with the Oak Hollow Road Underground Alternative, shall be included as an Environmentally Superior recommendation associated with the Northern Route Alternative in the final version of the EIR/EIS.

II. BACKGROUND

SMEO is a community located in the Inland Valley Link portion of SDG&E's proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project. The SMEO community is specifically located a half mile North-East of San Diego Country Estates in Ramona, and the properties directly affected by the project are bordered by Mount Gower Open Space Preserve on three sides. The SMEO community has properties that are both directly and/or indirectly affected by the Sunrise Powerlink Project. The community has properties with varied improvements, as well as some unimproved properties.

The SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project is proposing to cross a portion of the SMEO community. All SMEO properties directly affected by Sunrise Powerlink Project, as well as all properties within approximately 2,000 feet of the project have resident owners.

The SMEO community can be characterized as family homes on small ranches, in terrain that consists of rolling hills, pastures, seasonal creeks, as well as mountain tops. Average property size ranges from 20 to 60 acres, and all properties have expansive and unobstructed views of the surrounding valleys and mountains, including views of a large part of the Mount Gower Open Space Preserve. The community is zoned as an agriculture preserve with several of the properties seasonally growing hay/grass for livestock feed and erosion control, and some properties are planting vineyards in the Ramona Valley AVA. The portion of the SMEO community that is directly affected by the Sunrise Powerlink Project is also a Designated Critical Habitat.

III. SMEO COMMENTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, ETC.

SMEO would like to respectfully submit the following comments and recommendations for consideration in preparation of the final EIR/EIS:

- a) SMEO is very pleased that its previous scoping comments were used in preparing and/or initiating the Oak Hollow Road Underground Environmentally Superior Alternative. This alternative satisfies the SMEO community, should the CPUC approve the Sunrise Powerlink and the Northern Routing Alternative through the SMEO community.
- b) SMEO would like to recommend and/or reconfirm its desire to minimize the impacts and restrictions to land use and existing improvements caused by the additional 60 foot ROW proposed for the underground alternative. SMEO believes that the new ROW could be “consolidated” to some degree with the existing 69KV ROW, affectively overlapping a part of the new ROW with the existing 69KV ROW, thus decreasing the new ROW requirements. This can be done for the eastern portion of the Oak Hollow Road Underground Alternative, where it runs parallel to the existing 69KV ROW for approximately 1000 feet. The new ROW could be reduced

by at least 15 feet through this 1000 foot segment, and still maintain the desired separation between duct banks and other lines, improvements, etc..

c) SMEO would also like to recommend that the underground routing, utility access roads and existing community/private roads be consolidated where practical, to avoid parallel and duplicate surface roads, and additional impacts and restrictions to land use.

IV. SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

SMEO confirms that it is not opposing the Powerlink project, but is interested in minimizing and reducing the negative impacts on its community. Extending the underground facilities through the SMEO community as shown in the Environmentally Superior Oak Hollow Road Underground Alternative accomplishes this objective, and allows the project to be unhindered.

SMEO approves of the Oak Hollow Road Environmentally Superior Underground Alternative and believes that it's feasible and reasonable. Underground installation crews and equipment will already be in our community based on SDG&E's current proposal to enter the community underground. The change in the consolidated ROW width from overhead to underground (from 170 foot to 60/45 foot) will reduce the overall ROW requirements by approximately 8.6 acres across the SMEO community.

SMEO would like to extend an invitation to interested parties, to make an appointment to visit our community to get a feel for the current quality of life, to view the SMEO recommended underground alternative, and to meet with the owners directly affected by the proposed Sunrise Powerlink Project.

Very Sincerely,

/s/ Michael Page

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