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**D0215**

**April 8, 2008**

**CPUC/BLM  
C/o Aspen Environmental Group  
235 Montgomery St, Ste 935  
San Francisco, CA 94104**

**Re: Sunrise Powerlink – OPPOSITION IN ENTIRETY AND  
MODIFIED ALTERNATIVE D ROUTE**

**We own a 16 acre, full facility horse breeding ranch, and in the last few years have started a boutique vineyard operation with wine cellar and 6+ acres of grapes (with more to come). We have worked passionately and continuously for 8 years to build this dream. For the last two years we have been terrorized by SDG&E due to their proposed Alternative route D. We have been informed indirectly (no one from SDG&E has ever spoken to us), that one of those 190' towers would be 150' from our home. If you deem the Alternative Route D as the route of the Powerlink, you would destroy our home, our business...our livelihood. We could not live literally underneath the tower...We would be subjected to EMF radiation; our breeding livestock would also be exposed. It is true that there is no conclusive evidence that EMF is harmful –but, there is also no conclusive evidence that it does NOT cause cancer. Living so close to one of these massive, out of date towers would also subject us to electrical disturbances affecting our telephones, electricity and television reception. Additionally, the proximity of the towers would also prevent firefighters from defending our property from wild fire. We would indeed be at greater risk of fire because the 500 kv lines are conducted by smoke which would start its own fires when exposed to smoke. The continual noise of the tower as well as helicopter servicing would be unbearable in itself. The natural beauty and delicate habitats of our unique, small wildland environment would forever be polluted and destroyed. I question and challenge the validity and research that Aspen Environmental presented...**

**First, they say that the so-called Southern Route seems to have less environmental impact than Borrego... Incorrect; Borrego has over 635,000 acres of park land – Route D has significantly less open wildland, and the towers would forever destroy and pollute a greater percentage of land and habitats in comparison.**

**Aspen states that there is less chance of fires than the Borrego route... Incorrect; our area is deemed one of the highest fire risks in the county. It's only through our community's fire prevention program that we have not burned...yet. If the towers came through we would lose our ability to fight and defend against fires which would increase our risk tenfold.**

**Aspen states there are fewer Endangered Species making Route D a better route than Borrego...Incorrect; the Southern Route has significantly fewer acres of wildland than Borrego. The towers would cause a catastrophic impact to the few endangered species located in our unique, pristine area. The study conducted by Aspen did not include population counts of the endangered Quino Checkerspot Butterfly – which indicates an unfair or understated study.**

**Aspen states that there is less visual impact than Borrego... Incorrect, have they even been here? Our pristine area is gorgeous and most unique to San Diego County. We have many hikers, horseback riders and communities that would be seriously affected. Home values would plummet. Our ranch and home would be uninhabitable and worthless.**

**Aspen states there would be fewer water and air quality impact issues as well as health and safety issues. Incorrect, Our family would lose everything or risk our health and safety to live 150' from the towers. Our neighbors, with three small children, would have a tower 250' from their home. Many families would be impacted due to health and safety issues...Borrego's concerns about views and off-road paths are great, but many LIVES would be at risk with Route D.**

**It's inconceivable that a company, hired by SDG&E, can haphazardly make these rulings based on the number of letters of opposition they received. Is the loss of our home, business and life savings worth less than a group of off-road ATV riders' possible interruption of trails – or are we worth less than some wealthy individuals view?? How does anyone have the right to condemn and destroy our homes and lives based on a popularity vote?**

**We are opposed to the Sunrise Powerlink Project in its entirety. Even the Draft EIR points out that there are cheaper and less destructive ways to meet future energy needs. We would be much better served with local, not imported generation. It is a fact that there is enough capacity on the existing Southwest Powerlink to bring wind, solar and geothermal energy from the Imperial Valley into this region without Sunrise.**

**SDG&E has deceived and lied countless times desperately trying to push this useless white elephant down our throats.**

**In 2006, arbitration judges ruled that Sempra “created artificial congestion” on the region's 500 KV lines -- trying to pave the way for justification of Sunrise Powerlink...they were fined \$70 MILLION. It's widely known that the “energy officials” based their energy policy on the false congestion figures.**

**SDG&E states the Sunrise Powerlink is needed for renewable energy resources in Imperial Valley. Yet Sempra lobbied heavily against a Sacramento bill that would have increased the State's renewable mandate to 33% by 2020.**

**As recently as September, 2007 on Labor Day weekend, SDG&E was merely scolded for broadcasting unauthorized, false warnings about power shortages and possible blackouts. In fact, there were no shortages and the ISO is only authorized to issue warnings.**

**SDG&E repeatedly exaggerated the “financial benefits” of Sunrise...first it was \$447 million, then \$204 million...and now, it's down to \$129 million...that's a lot of math errors!**

**The truth is SDG&E is pathetically and desperately trying to protect their antiquated technology and keep us and the future generation dependent on them. By approving Sunrise, California would be building a billion dollar monument to the past – Sunrise will be outdated before it's even finished.**

**The only people who will benefit from Sunrise Powerlink are SDG&E and its shareholders. There is no regard for the future, for the permanent destruction of our environment, for benefit to the consumer...SDG&E stands to rake in millions upon millions of profit from Sunrise and they will go to any length to make it happen.**

**Please, the future deserves a better legacy from us than this primitive, polluting, soon to be obsolete, disaster called Sunrise Powerlink.**

**Thank you for the opportunity to be heard. All my facts are verifiable.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mona & Tim Petersen', followed by the date '8/8/2008'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

**Mona & Tim Petersen  
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