

D0222**Abikenut**

From: "Abikenut" <abikenut@pacbell.net>
To: <public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov>
Sent: Friday, April 11, 2008 10:43 AM
Subject: Sunrise Powerlink comments

April 11 2008

Re: The proposed Sunrise Powerlink project and my
Comments to the public advisor at the California Public Utilities Commission.

Greetings - My name is Alex Hoefler and I own property in the path of the proposed Sunrise Powerlink project. presently this land is undeveloped and has a frontage on highway S-2. my plan is to someday build a small home and have a self sustaining property (aside from Propane) using solar and wind energy. since it is near the proposed "Central East Substation" the SPL might cross my property with the alternate route, or the preferred route (sic) paralleling my property line and view corridor. either route will turn this rural undisturbed valley (San Felipe) in to a quasi-industrial corridor. the area has Oak Woodland, Chaparral, and some Grassland characteristics, as well as couple of Cactus making for a unique mix on the very fringe of the Coastal Peninsular Range and the Desert. this property has the remains of the Butterfield/Wells Fargo stage route crossing it and several Cupeno Indian grinding holes. I bought this land 3 years ago and had no idea these treasures were here. Cupeno Indians inhabited this area up until their eviction in the early 20th century. the proposed alternate route would bulldoze a clear cut right-of-way exactly through the remains of the stage route which still clearly exist roughly 100 years later. the stage stop building is just down the road on the Warner Springs Ranch with a big tree growing up from inside the adobe ruins of the building. very cool !

This area is rich in senic value and is largely undisturbed by man made objects. within a 3 mile radius of this property you will find:

- The California Riding and Hiking Trail
- The Pacific Crest Trail
- California Auto Route
- San Felipe Wilderness Study Area
- The Mataguay Connector Trail
- Anza Borrego Desert State Park
- Historic Warner's Ranch Barn
- Butterfield Stage Route

This area is the jewel of the San Diego Backcountry and my property shares this nature preserve quality. In my need to generate some income from this property I have entertained the idea of conducting weekend camping retreats for the general public. I have become very interested in the local history and would love to share this and the stunning views this land has over the Warner's Ranch. might be able to rent to Astronomy groups too.

Should the SPL be approved this would be a wholesale change to the charachter of this area. not only would we get the Central East Substation, where they will flatten the top of a mountain on the other side the valley, in plain view , with light pollution at night instead of the pitch darkness, we will also get two sets of towers and lines because the lines, coming in and going out, parallel themselves for a way. this would eliminate the ability to do the " nature retreat" concept and cause me to go more in a dirt bike park or shooting range concept better suited for this new setting. my only neighbor out there who has lived in the area for 20 years, and survived the last fire caused by powerlines (the "Pines Fire" caused by aircraft vs. powerline, 2003) said she will move if this project goes through. my property would probably become indefensible for aerial firefighting due to the topography. I feel the reason for the "Northern Route" preference by Sempra is for the "Talega Link" which will allow the interconnect to, ultimately, Orange County. from an aerial view this whole SPL and various extensions make it look like a nice robust grid, as there is no infrastructure in this big open area. this big area is largely uninhabited and is our prized backcountry. should we sacrifice this so Sempra can get power up to Orange County.

I cannot believe the amount of time I have spent thinking, acting, speaking and writing about this project. I have some other serious issues to deal with in my life related to income and the present economy, but I cannot sit silent and not try to have my voice. I appreciate the PUC's efforts in sorting through this. I have attended 5 scoping

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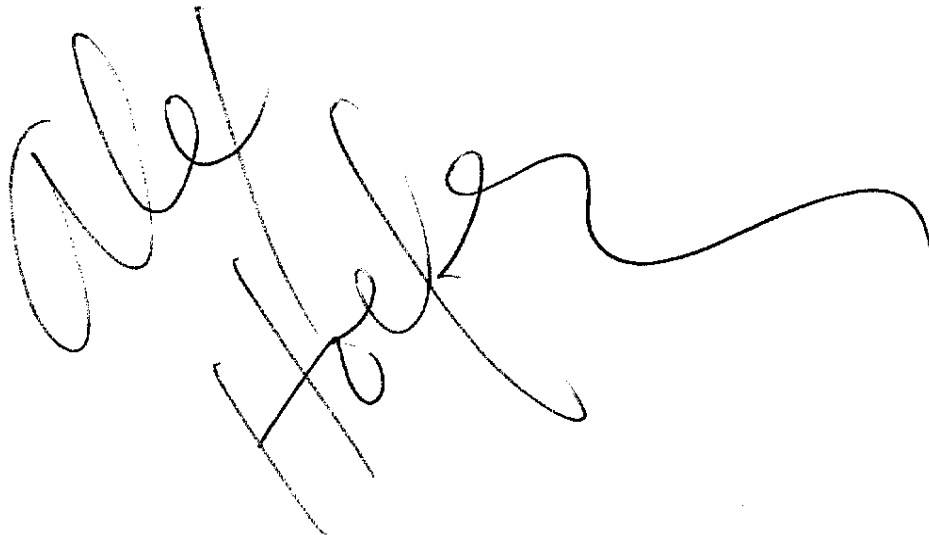
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meetings, 1 evidentiary hearing, 1 Dept of Energy meeting and a State Parks meeting. a couple of my friends tell me " Alex - why bother. the big utility will get their way. they are going to do, what they are going to do". I tell them that's why we have the PUC - to sort through all this. I think it would be a huge gamble to allow this project to go through. it has been stated by Sempra it will not carry 100% renewable energy and will not give the ratepayers the original projected savings. I understand there is still 300 mw capacity on the Southwest Powerlink. why don't they use that capacity for additional "renewable" baseload as Stirling Energy gets their program rolling - as they do not even have a proven generation engine on this large of a scale - and San Diego can ramp up various Rooftop PV and other more reliable and diverse, in basin generation sources. the inefficiency of a 150 mile line and the carbon footprint to build this huge gamble is too much to take.

I appreciate the opportunity to make my statement and the commission's time in review. thanks for another meeting in Borrego Springs on May 12 for further public input. see you there !

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Hoefler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.