

Dear SDG&E,

SDG&E is proposing to build an enormous electrical tower on our property in Alpine. We are writing to express our disapproval of this proposed project.

There are numerous reasons why this would cause extreme financial hardship for our family.

- The exact part of the property where SDG&E has proposed to install this tower is the exact place which makes this property valuable. The views from this spot are superior, extending across mountain ranges and El Capitan Lake.
- Constructing a tower in the spot would drastically alter the value of this property. Currently, the property has been appraised at 850,000.00. Without the prime building site, the property becomes significantly less desirable.
- This property was bought as a long term investment for our retirement and our family. Our main residence is an old mobile home on 6 acres in Jamul.
- There are no compensations mentioned for destruction of property or loss of value to the owner.
- I am on a fixed income as a 100% Disabled American Veteran. This land is my nest egg and retirement for me and my wife.

Second, we oppose this project on principals of environmental and cultural reasons!

- This property was completely burned in the Cedar Fires. Indicating it is in a high fire risk zone. Vegetation is recovering, but it has been changed and is now mostly weedy grasses and some shrubs. These plants are known to be even more flammable. The EIR says that this is not a high fire risk zone, and we find that impossible to understand.
- There are many nesting birds and raptors using this canyon and these large power lines are well documented to kill raptors by electrocution.
- This land is also culturally significant. There are Native American artifacts and sites among the Oak trees that indicate Native Americans were once active here.

Third, we oppose this project because of disturbance to neighbors and reducing their property values as well.

- The power lines will directly obstruct the views of the properties sitting above ours, and the loud ~~buzzing~~ electrical noise will be a complete reversal of the peace and quiet that people move to Alpine for.
- The other property owners directly adjacent to our land were not made aware of the size and scope of this project. They weren't even sent a map indicating where the lines and towers would go. We find this to be negligent on the part of SDG&E. We have sent them copies.

Finally, we hope that another route will be determined for this power line that won't be so detrimental to the residents of Chocolate Summit, and Chocolate Canyon. An even higher hope would be that SDG&E would focus on facilitating solar electricity at the homeowner level, and thereby reduce our need to import more electricity.

Sincerely,

Jesus and Clarissa Ritchie