

The existing view to the north from Buckman Springs Road, immediately adjacent to the PCT crossing of Buckman Springs Road. The view to the north toward the proposed route of the West Buckman Springs Option, which would pass east-west through the southern portion of Cottonwood Valley adjacent to the PCT would be partially obstructed by vegetation and terrain. At a viewing distance of approximately one mile, the West Buckman Springs Alternative would be a partially visible though not prominent industrial feature.

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 13
PCT Near the Crossing of
Buckman Springs Road
West Buckman Springs Option

SUNRISE POWERLINK RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-27



The existing view to the southeast along Buckman Springs Road and the proposed route of the South Buckman Springs Option is open and unobstructed. The South Buckman Springs Option would converge on this location, parallel and adjacent to Buckman Springs Road, where it would cross the PCT (which passes beneath the bridge). Due to the close proximity of the Alternative, the transmission line would be visually prominent and would introduce substantial industrial character into the predominantly natural appearing landscape.

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 13

PCT Near the Crossing of
Buckman Springs Road
South Buckman Springs Option

SUNRISE POWERLINK RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-28



The existing view to the west-southwest toward the Narrows from Cameron Truck Trail. The view to the Narrows and the proposed route of the South Buckman Springs Option (which passes down the west side of Cameron Valley before turning west through the Narrows) is open and unobstructed. Due to the close proximity of this Option to Cameron Truck Trail (viewing distance ranging from 0.3 to 0.6 mile), the transmission line would be visually prominent and would introduce substantial industrial character into the natural appearing landscape.

Cameron Valley / Cameron Truck Trail

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 14 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS SUNRISE POWERLINK Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-29



The existing view to the north toward the route of the I-8 Alternative West Buckman Springs Option. The view is generally open and unobstructed though the route would be partially screened by intervening terrain. At a viewing distance of approximately 3.25 miles, the transmission line could be partially visible through the gap in the ridgeline, though it would not appear prominent. To the extent that the Option is noticeable, it would minimally degrade the visual quality of the landscape or viewing experience from the campground.

Morena Lake Campground

SUNRISE POWERLINK Sensitive Viewing Area No. 15 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-30



The existing view to the north toward the route of the I-8 Alternative West Buckman Springs Option. The view is generally open and unobstructed though the route would be partially screened by intervening terrain. At a viewing distance of approximately 3.4 miles, the transmission line could be partially visible through the gap in the ridgeline, though it would not appear prominent. To the extent that the Option is noticeable from the PCT, it would minimally degrade the visual quality of the landscape or viewing experience.

Pacific Crest Trail Near Morena Lake Campground

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 16 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-31



The existing view to the north toward the route of the BCD Alternative South Option, which would turn to the southwest to parallel La Posta Road to the immediate west. As is apparent in the image above, the view from La Posta Road is open and unobstructed. With the availability of immediate foreground to middleground viewing distances, the transmission line would be prominently visible as it passes through the gap in the hills in the center of the image. It would introduce substantial industrial character into the landscape.

La Posta Road - North

SUNRISE POWERLINK Sensitive Viewing Area No. 17 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-32



The existing view to the northwest toward the BCD Alternative South Option span of I-8, which would pass along the flanks of the hills shown in the center of the image above. As is apparent in the image above, the view from I-8 is open and unobstructed. With the availability of a foreground viewing distance, the transmission line span would be prominently visible and would introduce substantial industrial character into a predominantly natural appearing landscape (aside from the curvilinear form of I-8).

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 18

La Posta Road
Interstate 8 Bridge

SUNRISE POWERLINK RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-33



The existing view to the north toward the I-8 La Posta Road bridge, from northbound La Posta Road. The BCD Alternative South Option would parallel the west side of La Posta Road. As is apparent in the image above, the view from La Posta Road is open and unobstructed down the valley. Due to the immediate foreground viewing distance, the transmission line would be prominently visible and would introduce substantial industrial character into a predominantly natural appearing landscape (aside from the I-8 bridge).

La Posta Road - South

SUNRISE POWERLINK Sensitive Viewing Area No. 19 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-34



The existing view to the north up Kitchen Creek Road, from the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) trailhead on the west side of Kitchen Creek Road. The BCD Alternative (2.5 miles to the north) would not be visible from the trailhead because of screening by intervening terrain up the canyon. However, further to the west, the PCT ascends a slope and achieves a sufficient increase in elevation to view the BCD Alternative. Although the structures would be visible from that location, they would not be prominent at that viewing distance.

Pacific Crest Trail at Kitchen Creek Road

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 20 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-35



The existing view to the north up Kitchen Creek Canyon, from the east end of Cibbets Flat Campground. The BCD Alternative would cross the canyon approximately 0.75 mile north of the campground. It would be most prominent as it ascends the ridge shown in the center of the image. Given the open sightlines from the east end of the campground and the relatively close viewing distance, the transmission line would be prominently visible and would introduce substantial industrial character into the predominantly natural landscape.

Cibbets Flat Campground

SUNRISE POWERLINK Sensitive Viewing Area No. 21 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-36



The existing view to the south down Kitchen Creek Canyon, from the north end of Kitchen Creek Road, just past the first gate. The BCD Alternative would cross the canyon directly in front of this view at distance of approximately 0.15 mile and ascend the ridge. Given the open, unobstructed view from this location and the close viewing distance, the transmission line would be prominently visible and would introduce substantial industrial character into a natural landscape that is presently absent similar industrial features.

North End of Kitchen Creek Road

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 22 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-37



The existing view to the east near the east end of Hauser Canyon, from the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) on South Boundary Road. The Modified Route D Alternative would cross the mouth of the canyon following the existing wood-pole transmission line and spanning the PCT three times as the line ascends the ridge immediately to the right (south) out of the view of this image. The alternative would be prominently visible and would introduce considerable industrial character into a predominantly natural appearing landscape.

Pacific Crest Trail Near Hauser Wilderness

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 23 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-38A



The existing view to the southeast near the east end of Hauser Canyon, from the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) on South Boundary Road. The Modified Route D Alternative USFS PCT Option would cross the mouth of the canyon, diverging from the Modified Route D Alternative to traverse the flanks of the ridge shown in the image above. This route option would span the PCT once, to the southwest (right) of the field of view shown here. This option, with its considerable industrial character, would be prominently visible from the PCT.

Pacific Crest Trail Near Hauser Wilderness

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 23 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-38B



The existing view to the south, from Corral Canyon Road, approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Corral Canyon Campground. The Modified Route D Alternative would traverse a distant ridgeline and pass adjacent and just beyond the chicken ranch, which is visible in the clearing in the right-center of the image above. At a considerable viewing distance of approximately four miles, the Modified Route D Alternative would be slightly visible as it traverses the horizontal ridge but less so when backdropped by background landforms.

Corral Canyon OHV Area **Overlooking Hauser Wilderness**

Sensitive Viewing Area No. 24 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-39



The existing view to the south, from the peak of Los Piños Mountain. The Modified Route D Alternative would traverse distant ridgelines south of Hauser Wilderness and pass adjacent and just beyond the chicken ranch, which is visible in the distant clearing at the right side of the image above. At a considerable viewing distance ranging from approximately five and one-half to six and one-half miles, intervening landforms, and a mottled background of landforms and vegetation, the Modified Route D Alternative would be minimally noticeable.

Los Piños Mountain

SUNRISE POWERLINK Sensitive Viewing Area No. 25 RESPONSES TO COMMENTS Visual Resources Figure Ap.14-40