

Comment Set A0036
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians

AGUA CALIENTE BAND OF CAHUILLA INDIANS

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION



CPUC and Administrative Law Judge Steven Weissman
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

RE: RESPONSE TO SUNRISE POWERLINK DRAFT EIR/EIS

To the Commissioners of the California Public Utility Commission and to the
Administrative Law Judge Steven Weissman:

We are individuals who are unable to attend the May 12, 2008, public hearing in Borrego Springs who want our voices heard. Many of us are seasonal visitors to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP) or part time residents who live far and wide, including areas outside of the United States. Although we cannot attend the May 12 meeting in person it is important that we register our strong disapproval for the construction of the Sunrise Powerlink transmission line through the heart of this Park.

Here are our main comments regarding the Draft EIR/EIS:

- We commend the team that worked on the Draft EIR/EIS for recognizing impacts to ABDSP and other open spaces, and that recommended environmentally superior alternatives.
- We ask you to please respect the finding of the Draft EIR/EIS Report and support those alternatives that avoid state wilderness lands, loss of scenic view shed, and biologically and culturally sensitive sites within ABDSP.
- We are also concerned about potential fire hazards that can cause irreparable damage to our park lands. We ask you not to select any proposal or alternative that increases fire threat to the backcountry and to our park lands.
- Our park is known for its pristine quality, which includes air quality. Do not support any proposal or alternative that will in any way increase pollution and lessen the quality of a park experience.

We ask you to respect the words of Frederick Law Olmsted who was the Director of the State Park Survey of 1928. He wrote this about Anza-Borrego Desert State Park:

"Certain desert areas have a distinctive and subtle charm, in part dependent on spaciousness, solitude, and escape from the evidence of human control and manipulation of the earth, a charm of constantly growing value as the rest of the earth becomes more completely dominated by man's activities....Nowhere else are casual thoughtless human changes in the landscape so irreparable, and nowhere else is it so important to control and completely protect wide areas."

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Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians**



Let "Parks Be Forever" for future generations to enjoy. Do not destroy the integrity of this great Park.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patricia Tuck". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Patricia Tuck, Archaeologist
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
**AGUA CALIENTE BAND
OF CAHUILLA INDIANS**

c: Agua Caliente Cultural Register

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Responses to Comment Set A0036
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A0036-1 The commenter's support for the findings in the Draft EIR/EIS and avoidance of ABDSP is acknowledged. Please refer to General Response GR-9 for a discussion of fire risk related to the comparison of alternatives.