

23758 Japatul Valley Road
Alpine, CA 91901
October 4, 2007

Billie Blanchard, CPUC
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery St. Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104-3002

Dear Ms. Blanchard

Save Our Rural Environment is a local watchdog group which has been in operation in this area since 1980. We got our start as a result of county government attempts at operate a landfill atop geologically unstable soil. After a three year fight that issue was settled, by emptying the landfill and trucking the trash into town. Since then we have continued to act in protection of our environment and public safety.

Our organization finds it necessary to resist the efforts to run high voltage power lines through our area. It is apparent from the maps provided that the best route for the Southwest Power Link is the northernmost option because it represents the shortest distance between supply and demand. It has been noted that part of the link is intended to be placed underground. We would argue that if that portion of the line not running across solid rock were underground that nearly all of the public opposition to this infrastructure would be eliminated. It is our understanding that the higher voltage section of the line cannot be placed in the ground because of heating considerations. Advocates of the powerlink seem to be catatonic and unable to think outside the box. It is obvious that each day the powerlink is delayed by sound argument or simple NIMBY resistance represents lost revenue. Easements across government (actually public) land must be provided before the average homeowner is expected to allow lines to cross his land.

I believe that the powerlink is necessary for the long term benefit of this area. I think that the short term savings in time and the long term savings in maintenance will certainly offset the added cost of undergrounding any section of the run that can be buried. When facilities such as the power plant in Chula Vista are being abandoned it appears that SDGE and the county of San Diego are not serious about protecting our local generating capacity. The follow-up question is then: "Why the need for the Southwest Power Link?".

Yours truly,



Charles E. Hansen