
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

Ms. Linda Wrazen
Regulatory Case Administrator
San Diego Gas & Electric
Southern California Gas Company

April 28, 2010

(Sent via email: lwrazen@semprautilities.com)

Subject: Data Request No. 7 – San Diego Gas & Electric (“Applicant”), East County Substation Project (CPCN Application No. 09.08.003)

Dear Ms. Wrazen:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has identified additional information required in support of the East County Substation, Tule Wind, and Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie Projects EIR/EIS analysis. Please provide requested information in Attachment A regarding clarification of permanent impact acreages along the 138 kV transmission line. We would appreciate your response to this data request as soon as possible, but no later than May 7, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or need additional information, please contact me at 415.355.5580 or aei@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Iain Fisher
Energy Division
California Public Utilities Commission

Permanent Impact Acreage along the 138 kV Transmission Line

On page 3-69 of the SDG&E PEA for the ECO Substation Project (August 2009) text under **Pole or Structure Brushing** states that a 150-foot-diameter area is normally cleared around transmission line poles in order to remove vegetation, to increase aerial patrol effectiveness, and to reduce fire damage. This 150-foot-diameter cleared area would seemingly be permanently impacted. Assuming 107 transmission structures for the ECO 138 kV transmission line, cumulative cleared area for transmission structures adds up to 43.5 acres of permanent impacts.

In Section 4.4 (Biology) of the PEA, the text on 4.4-42 assumes 4.7 acres of permanent impacts associated with the 138 kV transmission line. Please explain why the 150-foot-diameter area around each pole is not considered in the calculation for permanent impacts to vegetation communities. Please provide a map identifying where the permanent impacts associated with the 138 kV transmission line would occur along the alignment.