

March 2, 2011

Iain Fisher, CPUC  
Greg Thompson, BLM  
C/O DUDEK  
605 Third Street  
Encinitas, CA 92024

RE: SCH#2009121079 Joint NEPA/CEQA Joint DEIR/DEIS Public Comments for the East County Substation/Tule Wind. Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie Projects

Dear Mr. Fisher and Mr. Thompson,

I would like to respond to the draft EIR/EIS for the Tule Wind project and SDG&E East County sub-station.

I am a resident of Alpine, in San Diego County, and a life-long friend of the indigenous peoples of San Diego County, especially the Kumeyaay. The people have been my family and friends for over fifty years.

Within the East San Diego Mountains lie the last undisturbed remnants of a people who lived in Southern California for thousands of years. They roamed an area from the sea coast, to the mountains, to the deserts. Gathering foods in season, hunting, and practicing their culture. They lived in tandem with the animals who were often considered equal to the people, especially Ishpa, eagle, who gave his life for the ceremonies.

After the coming of the Spanish, and later the Americans, the Kumeyaay suffered the near total collapse of their traditional ways, their land was taken, their people died from disease and out-right murder, (the government of California offered bounty for them), and those remaining were denied access to food sources. Many of the remaining people ended up in back country foothills and mountain areas.

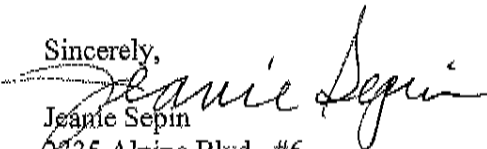
This has to be the last indignity, to a people who have suffered and survived unspeakable hardships. To displace Ishpa. To disturb and destroy this last habitat is appalling. To plow over the historical cultural and religious sites in the McCain valley and Jacumba is unbelievable.

This project, as proposed, will complete the decimation of a culture.

I support green energy projects. I know we need to develop and incorporate new technologies and I believe we can and will, but not this project, not this way.  
Not at the cost of the last bastion of history and culture of these unique people.

The destruction of eagle habitat is unconscionable; the abject disregard for the archeological sites is unforgivable. When will it be enough? When will the relentless destruction of the Kumeyaay end?

Sincerely,

  
Jeanie Sepin  
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Alpine, CA 91901