

7.31.09

Comment Letter I78

Hayley F. Hengst
37650 Millwood Drive
Woodlake, CA 93286

Dear Mr. Uchita,

My name is Hayley Frye Hengst and I am 16 years old. My family and I are affected by the Cross Valley Loop, Alternate 2 & 6 choice for the power lines. I am the 6th generation to be living on Hengst Farms. I've lived in two homes in Elderwood, both surrounded by trees my grandfather planted. The house I live in was built by my great-great grandfather. Farming has influenced me my entire life. My dad has worked on the farm his whole life. He and my grandpa farm the land. You might say I have farming in my blood.

My mom is a middle school teacher in Woodlake. At the beginning of the year, she explains to her students the three things most important in her life. One of these things happens to be a jar of dirt. This dirt is from Hengst Farms. She has grown to love the land since marrying into a farming family, and is so proud to keep the farming tradition going. It has occurred to me that the dirt my mom shows is the same dirt my great-great-grandfather tilled and worked in order to produce food for America and provide for his family. This is something I do NOT take for granted. Even though it may seem like SCE is only putting power lines through unimportant land, what is really happening is the destruction of any hopes my brother or I have of carrying on the farming way of life.

Please seriously consider Route #3, with the correct changes to avoid the vernal pools.

Thank you so much for your time,



Hayley Frye Hengst

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