

January 14, 2020

Mr. Rob Peterson, CPUC
C/O Tom Engles, Ph.D.
Horizon Water and Environment, LLC
266 Grand Avenue, Suite 210
Oakland, CA 94610

Re: Opposition to SE-PLR-2, Templeton - S. River Road Route Alternative

Dear Dr. Engels,

I oppose the S. River Road route alternative for the following serious reasons:

1. **Wildfire Danger: The South River Road alternative (SE-PLR-2) and the Templeton Substation are both situated entirely within the HIGH FIRE HAZARD ZONE.** This development is situated entirely within a high fire hazard zone. To minimize further risk we employ mitigation efforts to reduce fire hazards.

The presence of the proposed high tower high power transmission lines would present significant risks to this development, to each and every resident and property. The PG&E equipment involved in the Camp Fire and similarly proposed for this alternative route heightens the fire hazard risk to an unacceptable level.

2. **Protected bird species habitat.** SYR is a nesting habitat for Golden Eagles. Year over year we are honored to watch Golden Eagles return here to nest and lay eggs. Additionally, we enjoy visits by Bald Eagles and many migrating birds. Electrocution of these protected raptors is reported and acknowledged in the literature. Putting up the towers with high power transmission lines in this area would create significant risk to these returning protected birds.
3. **Limited evacuation routes:** If the towering power lines failed, and fell, escape to safety would be severely limited. This development has limited emergency road access, and residents fleeing a downed line and/or a wildfire would be trapped with little time and limited exit options. Additionally, fleeing residents would have to compete with incoming fire services, making the situation for safe escape dire.

Please reconsider identifying this route as a potential site for the project.

Thank you,

