

Comment Set C.81: Ralph Clarkson

Judge Halligan,

This is a request for additional information and time for review of the Antelope-Pardee 500 kv Transmission Project.

I attended the Sept. 6 meeting Agua Dulce Town Council meeting. We discussed the Antelope-Pardee Project. Many of us expressed concern about the limited time before the close of the comment period. Another repeating concern was the lack of notice to our community, especially the ones like myself that live on Anthony Rd.

While I understand the importance of adhering to a schedule, the schedule was modified by the Administrative Law Judge on Dec. 12, 2005 in response to a letter from the Forest Service Supervisor requesting additional information and time for review. The original schedule was extended 10 months, changing DEIR/EIR release date from Sept. 2005 to July, 2006. Even with that the draft document was released a week later than scheduled.

The communities of Agua Dulce and Leona Valley were not included in the scoping process. Alternate 5 includes 20 miles of new right of way, traverses 103 private parcels and is proposed in an area that is not a designated utility corridor. Alternate 5 has the greatest potential to impact residents outside currently designated utility corridor. Residents have had only 1 brief meeting with officials discussing the DEIR/EIS and at that point had only 19 days to respond.

The CPUC was alerted to potential delays in an Exparte document filed with the CPUC on June 27, 2006. Thomas Burhenn, Manager of Regulatory Operations of SCE expressed concern with flaws in Alternate 5 route studied as an alternate to SCE's proposed route for phase 1, segment 1 of the Tehachapi project. He also expressed concern that the addition of the Alternate 5 route would delay completion of phase 1 and potentially delay subsequent phases.

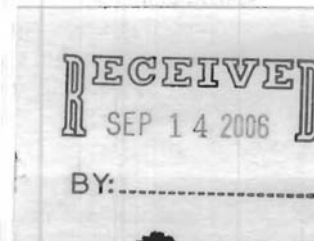
Prior to the time of the public meetings the week of Aug. 28th the impacted communities of Agua Dulce and Leona Valley were not informed of the project.

Additional public meetings need to be held in our communities for logical and rational comments and question and answer communication. After the communities have had informed dialog with officials representing the proposed project, only then will we be able to communicate the relevant comments of the concerns and the direct impacts Alternate 5 will have on our lives.

A thorough review of the DEIR/EIR can not be compromised. Additional information and time are required for a proper review of a project this size and complexity. Therefore I am asking for a 90 day extension to the public comment period and request that within the next 30 days public meetings be held in Agua Dulce and Leona Valley with representatives from CPUC, US Forest Service, SCE, and Aspen Environmental.

Ralph Clarkson
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Cc: Jody Noiron, ANF Supervisor, John Boccio, CPUC, Marion Kadota, USFS, Michael R. Peevey, CPUC, Geoffrey F. Brown, CPUC, Dian Grueneich, CPUC, John Bohn, CPUC, Rachelle Chong, CPUC, Craig Snyder, District Ranger, Alis Clausen, SCE, Ernie Villegas, SCE, Aspen Environmental Group



C.81-1

Response to Comment Set C.81: Ralph Clarkson

- C.81-1 Please see General Response GR-5 regarding noticing procedures and the review period for the Draft EIR/EIS. On September 13, the CPUC, as the CEQA Lead Agency, and the USDA Forest Service, as the NEPA Lead Agency, extended the public review period for the Project from 45 days to 60 days, now ending on October 3, 2006.

Thank you for submitting your concerns regarding Alternative 5. Your comments are consistent with the findings of the Draft EIR/EIS regarding the increased length of Alternative 5, as well as the requirement of Alternative 5 to establish new utility right-of-way (ROW) areas. However, it should be noted that the proposed Project and each of the other four Project alternatives would also require land acquisition for ROW purposes, either for new transmission corridors or for widening of existing transmission corridors. Please see General Response GR-1 regarding potential effects on property values and General Response GR-2 regarding property acquisition.

Your comments will be shared with the decision-makers who are reviewing the Project and alternatives at the USDA Forest Service and the CPUC.