

My name is Franklin L. "Woody" Barnes, I am a 70 plus year resident of Julian, a farmer and have a background in Botany. The following comments are mine, and do not represent any group. First I want to make it clear that I am a great admirer of electricity and remember when many in this area did not have it. Secondly I firmly believe that the future demand for electricity can not be met with existing sources and conservation alone.

I have read portions (but not all 3500+ pages) of the EIR/EIS and have the following comments:

- 1) I generally agree with the environmental ranking priority starting on page ES 2.
- 2) I agree that #1 "new in area all source generation" deserves serious consideration based on less overall environmental damage than the other alternatives. I believe that upgrading the existing Encino and South Bay plants needs more study. In addition a serious shortfall in this EIR/EIS is the failure to fully consider upgrading/expanding Nuclear Power as a component of electrical generation. While radioactive waste management needs solving, there is little CO2 to worry about.. Furthermore, if fossil fuel is used for electrical generation I think that it is appropriate that any waste products be emitted in the area where the benefit is received and not in some other area.

The weakness of this plan is clearly that renewable energy from solar and wind are best generated in the desert and mountains, and if generated would still need a method to transmit to areas of denser population.

Concepts 2 and 3 also have possibilities, but 3 seems to largely ignore the costs and inefficiencies of the Decker Canyon-Santa Rosa Powerhouse Pumpstation.

- 3) Alternative 4 Southern Route. The Interstate 8, with alternatives Campo North, and West Buckman Springs, while not as environmentally benign as paralleling the existing SW power link meets most of the goals of SDG&E. with minimal environmental damage except in the Buckman Springs area.

Important advantages include proximity to existing and potential renewable resources....wind at the Kumeyaay Wind Project, and solar at the proposed Stirling Energy System-Solar 2. If any significant geothermal source is found in the Truckhaven area the electricity could easily be moved south to the proposed Southern Route.

A disadvantage of this route is it makes the Borrego project somewhat less feasible.

- 4) I agree that the SDG&E proposed project (alternative 6) has more environmental problems than the previous ones. If the Company's proposed central route is adopted in any of the proposed formats it will have major and lasting impacts on one of the best grazing grasslands in San Diego County. Grazing has a long and colorful history, and needs protection as a cultural artifact. In addition the communities of Santa Ysabel, Julian and Wynola are economically dependent on tourism, and tourism is dependent on the scenic ambiance of the region, which would be significantly degraded by the proposed project.

I believe that if and before the current central project in any of it's proposed iterations is adopted one additional option that was not fully researched should be evaluated. That is to proceed west across the Warners Ranch (N. of Lake Henshaw) then south across the San Luis Rey River, Then along the mid slope of the south side of the River to approximately the Rey River Ranch, then WSW over the hills across the Guejito and to the Escondido substation from the north.

The advantages of this route include avoiding the Santa Ysabel Valley and Ramona. In addition it would create a fuel break separating the oak woodlands of the Mesa Grande area, and the conifer forests of Palomar, a big advantage in any future wildfires.

Of the existing proposals I believe alternative 4 or a combination of 1 and 4 is the best choice.

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Julian, CA  
Feb 27 - 2008

Dear FIKS

I am enclosing notes that I presented at the Julian hearing on Feb 22-08

I was only able to present a portion in the allotted 3 minutes, & I wanted you to have the entire text

Thanks for coming to Julian.

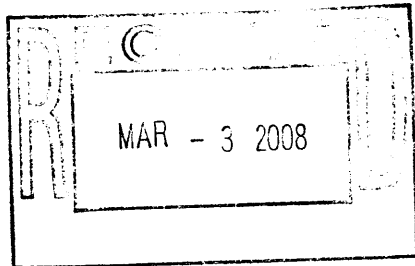
Best regards

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