

From: 'Steve Green'

To:

Sent: Mon Apr 7 21:54

Subject: Fwd: Cuyamaca - Sunrise Powerline letter 4-3-08

April 7, 2008

To Who It May Concern:

I am writing you in regard to the proposed SDGE Sunrise powerline. For some time now I have been hearing about a large powerline in the planning stages that is proposed to cross San Diego County. From the maps of proposed routes it seemed that this 500 kva line was not an issue for the Cuyamaca region of the Cleveland National Forest.

Recently however I was informed by neighbors whom own property near my 15785 Boulder Creek Road property that SDGE is seriously considering placing this large electrical transmission line within a stones throw or directly through our lands.

Covered in old growth oak and manzanita trees, ponds, rivers this area has a vigorous and healthy ecology. This land remains an unspoiled region perched high on the alpine flanks of the Cuyamaca Peaks. It is a pristine and rugged land that is home to one of the few remaining wild places within San Diego county. Along with the many natural wonders there are also relics from the past : historic stage routes and numerous archeological sites are contained within this unique area. It is surprising to find a place like this, so close to the large urban sprawl that runs along the SoCal coast. There is no doubt that placement of the proposed powerline would have a severe negative and irreversible affect on the area.

When I bought my 160 acres on Boulder Creek Road I was well aware of the desires of the County, Forest Service and other community groups to keep development to a minimum on these still wild and unspoiled lands. Groups like Save Our Forest and Ranch Lands (SOFAR) fought hard to get the Forest Conservation Initiative into effect limiting the possible subdivision of these lands and maintaining their unique character for generations to come. After purchasing my parcel of land I promptly proceeded to spend considerable money to create a contract with San Diego County placing my land into what is called an Agricultural Preserve. Like the name states, this type of contract limits development of the land while preserving its wild undeveloped nature for generations to come. Recognizing the actions and spirit of others before me I also felt it was only logical that land of such beauty in this pristine natural setting be protected from excessive subdivision and other inappropriate manmade impacts like this 500 kva powerline.

Over the last 8 years of my Cuyamaca land ownership I have been continuously amazed at how remote this land is and yet how near it is to downtown San Diego. The area serves not only as home to many unique wild animals and plants but is also a Mecca for lovers of the outdoors from all over California and the world. Hunters, hikers, mountain bikers, bird watchers, forest service employees, wildlife officials all appreciate this area for what it is – one of the last remaining wild habitats on the Pacific side of the San Diego County mountains. It is truly an easily accessible gem in the midst of the millions of people who live in Southern California. Why would you want to spoil it by routing a 500 kva powerline down the middle ?

Please do not route the Sunrise powerline through the heart of the Cuyamaca section of the Cleveland National Forest. Granted there are not a lot of private land owners in this area to protest such a project, but that is exactly the reason you should not consider it. As a remote and pristine place so close to and within reach of so many from the urban sprawl below, placement of a large powerline in this area would

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be of far more impact than many other areas already containing numerous manmade impacts. Wild public lands like these serve an ever more important place in our future. People need a place to go to enjoy their public lands in their natural state. As growth continues wild lands near urban centers become scarcer and more valuable. Please keep the Sunrise Powerline Project off the Cuyamaca Peaks and surrounding lands.

Thank you,
Steve Green
Landowner - 15785 Boulder Creek Road
Mailing address: P.O. Box 621813 Littleton, CO 80162-1813

Cc Cleveland National Forest office, Nathan Weflan, Cindy Buxton