

From: 'Kay' <kaytaff@sbcglobal.net>  
To: <sunrise@aspeneg.com>  
Cc: 'CNPSSD List Post' <cnpsd-L@ucsd.edu>

**D0185**  
Sent: Tue Apr 8 15:07  
Priority: Normal

Subject: Sunrise Alternative would span best San Diego waterfalls: comments due April 11

To: Aspen Environmental, consultant to San Diego Gas & Electric Co.

Re: Comments to the EIS on alternatives for SDG&E to build an unneeded powerline to San Diego from Mexicali - (oops! they are calling it Calexico, I think the EIS has the international border mapped wrong, since the primary source of future electricity will be Sempra's natural gas plant in Mexicali)

To Whom It May Concern:

I think the only acceptable alternative is the NO TRANSMISSION LINE alternative based on what I know at this point. My work load did not permit me time to read the 7500 page current EIS on proposed alternatives to the original preferred route through ABDSP. However, I will make a few statements based on information that I have been able to collect from sources who have read the current EIS.

The original route is still unacceptable for reasons noted below.

In addition, Route D is a horrible alternative route. The EIS failed to credibly assess the many impacts of 25 miles of access roads and the construction of several dozen tower pads and pull sites to the water quality, fire risk, natural resources (e.g. turtles and eagles), archeological resources (sacred sites that would be flattened for pads for towers) and scenic resources. Cedar Creek Gorge and the headwaters of the San Diego River are among the most beautiful areas of San Diego County, as I can attest, having been fortunate enough to have hiked there several times. To mar this area by roads and powerlines soon after this area has been purchased as conservation land would be as stupid as going through ABDSP and the state wildernesses along Grapevine Canyon. This is a completely unacceptable route. Please view the powerful video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qkTb5bpN-18> to confirm these findings.

I sent detailed comments on the original EIS focused only on the documentation related to plant issues. The EIS was impossible to apply to careful on-site analysis, and the mitigation proposals 100% likely to fail to protect any rare or endangered species of plants located in the path of access roads, tower pads, or pull sites. I found the ABDSP/Santa Ysabel/Sorrento Valley route a deep insult to the tens of thousands of citizens of San Diego who have worked and contributed to establish protection for our natural heritage in the string of parks and wildernesses that this powerline would pass through and would damage.

Last, and this is not a comment on the EIS but on the intended mission of any powerline route from Imperial Valley to San Diego, my thoughts are:

In the 21st Century, decentralized solar PV becomes more affordable every month, and some cities in the US are capitalizing on this by becoming manufacturing centers for PV equipment. This industry would avoid job losses that are plaguing our region, which is currently so dependent on housing and tourism, both of which are in a slump. The idea of San Diego County relying principally on fossil-fuels - including LNG from South America or Indonesia, two major sources - is a stupid solution given the volatility of international politics. Our San Diego regional energy plan recommends in-basin generation not out-of basin sources, especially not ones 50-100 miles away: any event that would sever such a line would halt transmission which belies the "reliable" pitch put on this transmission line. A powerline from the Imperial Valley is not even wanted for our needs.

Last, I also am deeply offended that SDG&E ( a Sempra subsidiary) could

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start to bill all of us San Diego regional rate payers for this unneeded "improvement" as soon as it is built, and so will make money no matter what needs we have or don't have nor whether it meets any renewable supply target. This is a replay of the Southwest Powerlink along the border, which has extra capacity to San Diego, and which was built with promises to convey renewable energy from Imperial Valley, but which never has. Any new transmission line also is just as unlikely to carry anything except Sempra's natural gas-powered electrons from Mexico. Sempra paid third world construction costs and will be billing us at US rates. What a great profit-making venture for this company.

I would like to conclude by encouraging SDG&E and Sempra to get in the business of manufacturing and installing solar PV on rooftops throughout San Diego, billing people at current non-solar rates to pay off the investment, and making SDG&E a healthy model for 21st century energy companies, instead of a money pit for this region's customers. If they don't, I hope that a citizen's movement will ensue in which a publically owned energy company will be created and will make an offer that SDG&E can't refuse, so we can start doing the right things for all of us, not just for SDG&E shareholders.

Sincerely,

Kay Stewart, Landscape Architect  
CA R.L.A. # 2967  
2171 India Street Suite A  
San Diego CA 92101  
619-234-2668

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