

ASPEN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP  
235 Montgomery Street Suite #935  
San Francisco, Ca. 94104

Attn: Billie Blanchard/Lynda Kastoff

**Re: Interstate 8 alternative/500KV overland transmission line.**

Ms. Blanchard/Kastoff,

My name is Gary Hoyt and would like to comment on the I-8 alternative. I don't want to sound repetitious and have the same comments as others in our county, so the addressed concerns will be focused only on the I-8 alternative, why the northern route is the right choose. This correspondence is brief to save you time in review. If ANY of my comments need to have a greater detail pls. feel free to e mail:

## **AIRPORT PROXIMITY**

There is a county airport located in Jacumba near the planned I-8 alternative route. It is a good emergency facility owned by San Diego County that is used when the west side of San Diego is experiencing fog/low visibility flight conditions that VFR (visual flight rule) pilots, the largest majority, use. The 500KV line will interfere with unfamiliar pilots landing @ Jacumba, especially in high wind conditions.

The Border Patrol is very active in the I-8 Jacumba/Boulevard area and frequently fly at low altitude in Bell 501 helicopters aiding in arresting smugglers/illegals.

According to the San Diego County Airport Authority, an expansion of the existing airport is considered as Jacumba develops, increasing airport activity.

## **AUTOMOBILE/HEAVY TRUCK FIRES ON I-8**

Enclosed for your review is a letter dated Sept. 29, 2007 that addresses that issue.

## **AREA OF HIGH WINDS**

Enclosed is an example of a high wind warning from Yahoo! Weather. Winds in east county San Diego are very strong especially in Spring and Fall. This warning calls for wind gusts of 75 MPH, dated 3/27/07.

Fire coupled with high winds such as this could be disastrous and interrupt overland electrical transmission reliability.

High winds affect aircraft/helicopter Border Patrol traffic. The 500 KV lines would be a hazard, possibly death for a pilot/crew blown into the lines.

## **SAN ADREAS FAULT LINE**

Boulevard is located in this earthquake zone although I have not seen maps to prove it. If there is a large scale earthquake a 500 KV line next to I-8 could prove disastrous, interrupting standard traffic flow for an extended period of time and prevent emergency helicopters offering aid to injured or dead motorists, from landing at the site.

## **QUESTIONABLE CLEVELAND FOREST ROUTE**

It is my understanding that guidelines have been issued by the Fed. Gov. under "Forest-wide Standard and Guidelines that in paragraph 1 states: "Consider new special use permit or easement only when suitable private land is not available and such use does not conflict with the management objectives" Therefore, if true, the project must be rejected through the Cleveland National Forest.

## **NORHTERN ROUTE/SANTA ISABEL**

IF the desert route is used as originally proposed by SDGE;

1. Less vegetation to feed a fire, lowering the threat of a power interruption.
2. The visual impact will affect less property owners.
3. The chance of a natural/human catastrophe affecting power distribution, less.
4. Transitory citizens using some of the northern route, mostly weekends, would be subjected to 1-300 milliguass 500KV lines exhibit but not on a daily basis.  
If the I-8 alternative is built, it could create health hazards for *many* more full time residents adjacent to the alternative more so than the northern/Santa Isabel route.
5. The construction and long term maintenance cost to SDGE would be a cost savings to rate payers and an easier route to build, impacting far less property owners.

Very truly yours,

Gary C. Hoyt  
2052 Flying Cloud/Boulevard

Sept. 29, 2006

Billie Blanchard, CPUC  
Lynda Kastroll, BLM  
c/o Aspen Environmental Group  
235 Montgomery St. Suite 935  
San Francisco, Ca. 94104-3002

**Re: Sunrise Powerlink Project**

Dear Ms. Blanchard and Kastroll,

Apparently, you are examining the possibility of running a overland power transmission line through Boulevard.

Boulevard is an area that has unique reasons why the transmission lines should not be of consideration or be installed here. The primary reason is safety to our residents *and* to your power appurtenances.

Boulevard is at approximately 3200-3500 feet in elevation, approximately 5 miles from a 6-8% upgrade downgrade to the low desert which has a run away truck turnout installed for heavy trucks that cannot take the downgrade. I have seen trucks on fire from burning brakes while traveling downhill in the Easterly direction.

Coming up the grade the opposite occurs with automobiles. They occasionally catch fire from overheating while coming up the grade, as evidenced by burned asphalt patches on Interstate 8. Our volunteer fire department extinguished an automobile fire on I-8 westbound , while I was on the Boulevard Fire Dept's Board of Directors. It is very fortunate for our community that we have been spared from a major catastrophe from vehicle fires occurring in each direction.

As you must know, it is obligatory for a utility company to supply an adequate means of electricity to its customers. That obligation could very well be interrupted by vehicle created fires if the lines are run in the vicinity of Interstate 8.

Additionally, we have full time residents that live next to the freeway that would be subjected to the continual 1-300 milligauss that overland transmission lines expose. I will not go into the magnetic field measurement interpretations. If you need more information it can be found at:

For the responsible protection of our residents and a safe, uninterrupted electrical supply, other sites should be studied with wisdom and lack of prejudice that are more conducive to your needs. The Boulevard I-8 route should be tabled and unapproved.

Reconstruction of overland transmission cable is costly, interrupts users consumption of the product and could possibly be avoided by choosing a more suitable route.

Very truly yours,

Gary C. Hoyt

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## Watches and Warnings

/O.CON.KSGX.WI.Y.0015.070327T0500Z-070328T0100Z/  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY MOUNTAINS-SAN DIEGO COUNTY DESERTS-  
905 PM PDT MON MAR 26 2007

...WIND ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 PM PDT TUESDAY...

A WIND ADVISORY REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 PM PDT TUESDAY.

WEST TO SOUTHWEST WINDS WILL STRENGTHEN TO 20 TO 30 MPH TONIGHT AND CONTINUE AT TIMES THROUGH TUESDAY. WINDS WILL GUST TO 55 MPH AT TIMES. ISOLATED GUSTS TO 75 MPH ARE POSSIBLE NEAR THE DESERT FOOTHILLS WHERE MOUNTAIN WAVES SURFACE. WINDS WILL GRADUALLY DIMINISH TUESDAY EVENING. THERE WILL BE AREAS OF DUST AND SAND IN DESERT AREAS WITH SHARPLY REDUCED VISIBILITY AT TIMES.

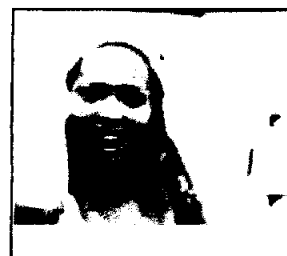
A WIND ADVISORY MEANS THAT WINDS OF 35 MPH ARE EXPECTED. WINDS THIS STRONG CAN MAKE DRIVING DIFFICULT...ESPECIALLY FOR HIGH PROFILE VEHICLES. USE EXTRA CAUTION.

Note: In order to comply with National Weather Service safety tests, occasionally this product will display test alerts, which are normally conducted during calm, quiet weather.

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36...56