

# **ROCK CANYON RANCH**

**Tim and Mona Petersen  
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**June 11, 2007**

**Billie Blanchard, CPUC/ Linda Kasto, BLM  
C/o Aspen Environmental Group  
235 Montgomery Street, Ste 935  
San Francisco, CA 94101**

**Re: Modified D Alternative, Sunrise Powerlink Project, San Diego County –  
Opposition with Comments**

**Thank you for the opportunity to express our extreme opposition to this proposal.**

**The proposed area for these 200 ft towers is completely undeveloped, pristine and inaccessible; there is great unique beauty here that has not been overrun with off road vehicles and other destruction.**

**The land that would be destroyed just to install these towers would be substantial. Even more precious and rare habitats would forever be obliterated. The abundant wildlife (deer, bobcats, coyotes, fox, rabbits, squirrels, chipmonks, as well as hawks, buzzards, finches, scrub-jays, quail...and many, many others) would be seriously compromised.**

**We have endured tremendous fires in this area. In 2003, we were surrounded by the Cedar Fire -- A 51 mile wall of fire that devastated San Diego. By the grace of God we narrowly missed being burned. Last year we again barely missed burning by an 18,000 acre fire started by illegal immigrants camping in the brush. As a community and as individuals, we strive to create a model for fire prevention by clearing brush, mastication, improved roads, as well as fire drills, and evacuation procedures.**

**We know that the 200 foot tall towers carrying five hundred thousand volts would completely negate our fire prevention and defense efforts. We know that smoke is a conductor to these lines which would cause additional, separate fires. The placement of these towers in this rugged, inaccessible terrain with extremely dense, 5-25' high dry, woody brush will leave our community and tens of thousands of acres of wild land helpless against indefensible forest fires.**


**We have been told by representatives that this Modified D Alternative cuts through less of the Cleveland National Forest than other proposed routes, but the fact remains that all the adjacent wild land will be affected. There is only foot access across cavernous gorges, dense brush, immense boulders, and jagged cliffs...no fire fighting force could reach this area in time to save the beautiful, pristine land. Another point is that the adjacent, inaccessible wild lands would burn so quickly and strong without intervention, that it could reach nearby towns of El Cajon, Dehesa, Jamul, Harbinson Canyon, and southern Alpine. The saddest part is that these proposed towers are not even for back country San Diego County...it's for the seriously overdeveloped north county. Why does their incompetence and lack of planning become our problem??**

**We have lived here for 7 years and have always been comforted to know we are surrounded by protected National Forest. Through the years we have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars developing our Andalusian horse breeding farm and our Zinfandel vineyards. The proposed Modified D Alternate would put the towers within 900 feet of our home. The towers would seriously degrade the value of our ranch. We had no idea that our "protected" National Forest land could be taken and destroyed by big business at any time.**

**In conclusion, this proposal is absolutely, unforgivably, wrong on so many levels. Please deny any possibility of consideration...please save our lovely wild lands and our community. We invite you to visit our home and our community; to witness firsthand the truth.**

**Again, thank you so much for your consideration.**

**Respectfully,**



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