

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 500  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

MAR 07 2011



March 4, 2011

Dear Messrs Fisher and Thomsen  
605 Third Street  
Encinitas, CA 92024

**Subject: SCH#2009121079: Comments to Draft Environmental Impact Report for the East County Substation/Tule Wind/Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie project**

Dear Messrs Fisher and Thomsen:

The California Public Utilities Commission (Commission) has regulatory and safety oversight over railroad crossings in California. The California Public Utilities Code requires Commission approval for the construction or alteration of crossings and grants the Commission with exclusive power on the design, alteration, and closure of crossings. Rail Crossing Engineering Section (RCES) staff is in receipt of the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the East County Substation/Tule Wind/Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie project and has reviewed the document for impacts to rail crossings.

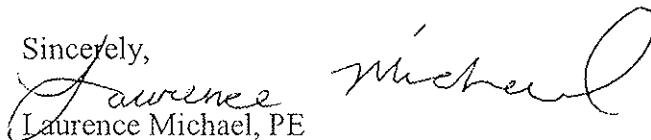
The Proposed project would be located in southeastern San Diego County, approximately 70 miles east of downtown San Diego, near the unincorporated communities of Jacumba and Boulevard. The San Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) owns the right-of-way adjacent to the project.

Reviewing the project area, it appears the project may have an impact on highway rail crossings in the area. Commission General Order (GO) GO-B requires staff approval for the alteration of existing public highway-rail crossings. The DEIR mentions permits required from MTS for proposed rail crossings. Staff would like more information on any proposed crossing, such as the nature of the crossing and the users that will be using the crossing. More information can be found at the link. <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/transportation/crossings/Filing+Procedures/go88b.htm>.

In addition to GO 88-B, another GO relevant to the project is GO 26-D, which pertains to clearances on railroads and street railroads as to side and overhead structures, parallel tracks and crossings. <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/transportation/crossings/crossingsgo.htm>.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (213) 576-7076 or [ldi@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:ldi@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lawrence Michael in cursive.

Laurence Michael, PE

Utilities Engineer

Rail Crossings Engineering Section

Consumer Protection and Safety Division