

Lorrie
FEB 28 2011

To All Concerned,

This letter comes to you with my concerns on the upcoming Proposed sites of the Sun Rise Power link, Tule Wind project, the Emergia Sierra Suarez Lem. Lu project and the East County Sub Station.

Over the past few years I have attended many of the meetings that have taken place in regards to expanding the power usage, claiming that it is much needed. Not true! I am not a rocket scientist just a proud wife of a wild land fire fighter who recently retired after devoting and risking his life for 37 years. It doesn't take a well knowlegable person to know that we do not need more projects to produce added power. It has been proven many times over the years that when a project begins and by the time it is completed, more is needed to fulfill Man's needs. Where does it end? It doesn't, until as humans we learn to cut back and conserve what we already have. Remember we do not live on this Planet alone and it is our only home.

Living in the Kucumba area has been a challenge due to so many other projects that have disrupted not only our quiet region but has taken away and disturbed the homes and feeding grounds of so many wild life who reside in the Back Country. Our roads have been torn up with a promise to re fix them when a project is completed - Not true!

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Patching up Old Hwy 80 is not what you call "fixing it up". Heavy equipment and daily semi vehicles use Old Hwy 80 and when were lucky the County will send a "1" man crew to patch up the holes. Now more companies, more heavy equipment will be brought in ripping up Old Highway 80 and to add, blasting mountain tops in certain areas to place towers. By doing all of these proposed projects, our comfort zone, our views and our property values will decline on top of the already existing inclination due to economy. At these meetings your people mention that we have Fire Station, Police, Medical coverage and access to plenty of water. False claims on your researchers.

Fire Stations : one full coverage - CAL-FIRES - yet has been cut back due to budget. Campo, Boulevard and Jacumba fire stations are staffed with volunteers who come from the San Diego / Riverside areas, they are not permanent residents of the Back Country. Please take note that the Jacumba Fire Station has not and is not staffed 24-7 like your sources claim that it is. I know this for a FACT, I live in Jacumba. McLean Valley Camp is NOT a Fire Station but is a Prison Camp for non-violent inmates. They are called out to projects and used on a wild land fire under supervision but not classified as professionals. The Back

Country, is already in a high fire danger and the proposed projects will put us all in an even more high fire danger, as property owners not to mention they will put our firefighters at an even more risk when there is a fire, ground and by air. Please re-evaluate your studies!

Medical: as for medical facilities, there are 2 in operations; Campo and Campo Indian Health Clinics. Both are staffed and are run 8^{am} to 5^{pm}, 5 days a week, closed weekends and on holidays. Closest hospital with 24-7 emergency care is 40+ miles going West and East of our area. If life flight is needed it comes from the San Diego area and has to land a distance from the incident scene, ambulance service we have "1" that covers the whole Back Country area. Response times it depends. If not in use at another incident it can be in our area in about 20 minutes - depending on weather. Again your researchers are misinformed on important issues.

Water: residents, store owners, medical, etc. depend on wells for water and we tend to use it sparingly. It is our responsibility to maintain our wells according to health matters. Wells can be affected by earthquakes along with other disruptions to the ground. We are limited and have to drill deep in order to receive our water. Wrongful on your researchers once again. Many of us who have lived around about

drought tolerance vegetation or in many yards natural growth. These proposed projects will have a huge impact on those who depend on the existing Chaparral for food source and means of living. Not to mention the climate change, which has already changing from past projects.

Noise : Of the already existing noise from the Campo Reservacion Wind Turbines and already existing power towers are effecting humans with vision, hearing, heart and other medical effects, can you imagine, what it's doing to the wild life population! There has been a decrease in this area in the past 12+ years. Food supplies for those who take flight, hunt by ground has decreased. No one ever talks about Gods Creatures. Man has done more harm to all that is necessary in order to survive on Earth, just to have more energy. Our air, the water, our health, the health of nature, the mountain tops, the forest and the land has suffered due to Corporation greed. We call it "the Circle of Life" and without it there is nothing. Man has killed off many species who share this Earth from greed and the high demands. At all of these meetings, scoping, etc., I hear "the high demands". There wouldn't be such a phrase spoken if every single human would learn to cut back and become an

power, water and building. Continuing to enlarge and more usage proves only one thing, "more will be needed". Our future generations will Never know what it was like to run in the woods, to camp or to see the wild life that roamed the land. They will be "TOLD" of the stories when man use to share the land with the coyotes, bears, eagles and all birds of prey, the Rabbits, butterflies etc. They will read about the forest, for the way they are being torn down for Wind Turbines (and other means) and power lines, sub stations, etc.

We moved to the Back Country in 1992 from Alpine and in the year of 2000 we bought our first home west of Sacramento town. Over the years we have experienced weather changes, decrease in wild life, bright lights and excess noise. Every year there are reasons for some type of project to be placed out here claiming that we will all "benefit" from it - like creating more economy for the all ready existing motels, restaurants, stores, etc. and provide jobs for local residents. Humbug to that talk! On past projects - NO jobs were given, there was no increase in our local facilities and the outcome for our future - torn roads, no jobs offered and we're still waiting to see the "benefit".

"Green Energy". Humbug again!
If all of these projects are so-o-o green, then Why hasn't Washington, D.C, Sacramento and all other Government Buildings, state, etc.

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using and placing these Wind Turbines in their back yard? Larger substations and taller power towers in their neighborhood. Why? Because there not truly green. Green is when our forest still stands, our waters are clean and free of any chemicals, the air is breathed without choking and the land is not disturbed and cleared of what already exists. This is how we were taught by others. "Respect what you have today for it may be gone tomorrow and don't take it for granted, life is a circle and we are a small portion of that circle."

Help me to understand something. "A few years ago I had the honor to look upon the hillsides of Jacumba with an Elder, you see plant that takes 25 years to grow to maturity and bloom had done just that. Thousands of this plant had matured and it was a sight to see. It has been 12 years since that day and where they once stood and where more should be growing has been destroyed for good by SDB&E and other means. The ground has been cleared for the proposed site of new Sub station, future power towers etc. The Century Plant wasn't just a sight to see, it was also a food source and provided water in time of drought for the desert habitate and for humans. At these meetings Speakers for these projects mention that they will re-plant what has been uprooted. How can one "re-plant" a plant

that takes 25 years to grow - remember 12+ years have already past from the last growth and now they are gone. The Century plant stays in bloom for nearly 2 weeks and slowly dies out over time, leaving behind new pods for future growth. But the big equipment not only removed these plants the pods were also removed leaving behind no food or water for the desert habitate. This could possibly be just one of the reasons our wild life has decreased in the past few years. Once again Man and greed for money and high demands has destroyed a portion of the Circle. And again big Corporations and foreign funds have destroyed what nature did provide for survival to those who depended on it. Help me to understand the rights to destroy the sites of our ancestors who walked the Earth as they traveled by foot in order to relocate during the change of seasons to live and to hunt and along the way, died, called burial grounds, also history. Help me to understand how one can come and observe the habitate of our wild life that travels over thousands of miles to hunt for food and also to reside, both these off springs, claim a new site, mentioned to us who live here that certain wild life wasn't seen or they don't roam the areas effected. We invite each of you to come and live in the Back Country for the next couple of years

and observe the wild life that we share this land with. They move from place to place in order to survive but they (those who are left) do come back to their natural site.

These projects will cause what wild life still exists today to only die out or move where there are means of food, water and shelter - the towns, cities, etc. The Golden Eagle is just one of these examples of a dying out species. They use to be seen coming during mating season, giving birth and flying overhead teaching their young how to fly. A beautiful sight to be seen. But because of past projects (for San Diego) that tore up the Back Country - fewer sights of the Golden Eagles have been seen. This past winter around November, I saw 2 Mountain Sheep walking along Highway 8 going west, remember we moved here in 1992, this was the first time ever that my eyes saw Mountain Sheep close to the freeway. I felt sadness for it was a sign that they are being forced from their natural habitat. With the proposed projects and the areas that you have chosen to place them you are once again destroying the wild life that do exist today. Unfortunately the female Mtn. Sheep died in their travels and the male was found hungry and hurt. A good sambaritan feed and watered the Mtn. Sheep

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to better health so that the animal could move on. No one has seen him since but it doesn't mean he isn't out there.

losing his mate means one less in the ~~the~~ Mtn. Sheep herd to be born. These projects will decrease the wild life already here by destroying them, their food and water source.

Border Patrol: There are plans of another holding station off of Ribbonwood in the Boulevard area. There is already a temporary station and a new station by the Kitchen Creek / La Posta area. This will bring even more high traffic, remove more chapparal ~~that~~ ^{where} wild life exist.

Outcome: disturbing wild life, tearing up roads, causing Night Skies viewing to lessen and more noise.

Illegal / International travelers are an ongoing issue for the Back Country. It has been proven that past fires around here have been started due to illegal camp fires to stay warm or to heat up their food (or both), to signal others, because they are lost. Not to mention the trash they leave behind.

Sheriff's Dept: 3 small substations, Pine Valley, Campo and in Boulevard area. Our Deputies cover thousands of acres and the response time varies. Calls after 5pm are responded according to the incident. The

average times for an incident call is about 30 to 45 minutes depending on where the Deputy is, if already on scene. After 5pm the Boulevard sub station is un-covered and calls are responded according to if its an emergency. CHP calls are just as long in response time or longer.

Emergency Medical: The Back Country has 1 ambulance located in Camp. If not already in service response times is 20-25 minutes, weather permitting. If Life Flight is needed there is a 15-20 minute flight time from San Diego - than theres a landing issue.

When theres a fire, Pilots come from Ramona. Water is an issue for them in the Back Country, power lines that already exist are a danger for both air attack and for those who attack a fire by ground.

Power lines, rugged terrain and now big corporations and foreign funding put our emergency crews at a more risk along with all of us who live in the Back Country, a non-incorporated area.

High fire danger plus extreme high fire danger equals total disaster.

Fact: due to the Havens fire our fire insurance was increased, our property value plunged in the past 2 years and will more than likely be

decreased again with so many projects proposed. Many homes are already sitting long and show no signs of being sold tomorrow.

Question: "Where are the permits (not posted) for what is already taking place with SD&E? Why did they hire outside of the State of CA? PAR is from MI which means the drivers are from out-of-state. How does this provide jobs for CA? Why did ^{they} bring in outside Sanitation porta potties when the Back Country has 2 such companies?"

Why have they (SD&E) brought in cement makers when there are ones in the Back Country: Campo and Campo Reservation? To build the power towers they bulled dozed a hill side, then hauled in soil not to mention ripped up the wash for flash flooding.

These are my questions to you. Where are the jobs, for those who were told they would hire locals, keeping the Back Country economy alive yet they didn't use that which is available out here - concret plants, sanitation, motels, diners, stores. They - hired out once again.

Thank you for taking the time in reading my letter of why we feel these projects are unnecessary. By supplying roof top (no batteries used) solar and/or

individual wind towers connected to the grid is just one solution to going green. Going underground with power lines will prevent fires, won't destroy the wild life, Night Skies, Views that ^{many} enjoy seeing, save our National Forest, save Tourists.

Over sized Wind Turbines can and have caused property values to decline, health problems and fires. Turbines that exist today have become a grave yard due to the lack of funds for those who have them today - no money - no removal. They also cause hearing problems and other health issues.

No future projects to the Planet -
Conserve

Lorrie Ostrander
Lorrie Ostrander
43577 Old Hwy 80
Jacumba, CA. 91934