

Julie Allison

From: Tom Engels <tom@horizonh2o.com> on behalf of Tom Engels
Sent: Thursday, March 04, 2021 11:25 AM
To: Patrick Donaldson; Julie Allison; Carley Dutra
Subject: FW: Letter to CPUC & Horizon Water re: Estrella Substation and Transmission Expansion

Another comment letter.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 4, 2021 11:23 AM
To: estrellaproject@horizonh2o.com
Subject: Fwd: Letter to CPUC & Horizon Water re: Estrella Substation and Transmission Expansion

Mr. Peterson,

Please see my below correspondence with Steven Shoemaker who advised I reach out to you. Even though the deadline has passed, we are requesting to be added to the Public Comment section of the draft EIR report. We were not informed of this project until after the 2/22 deadline had passed and with the proposed route passing directly through our parcel have a large personal stake in the outcome. Please advise.

Best,

[REDACTED]

----- Forwarded message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 11:15 AM
Subject: Letter to CPUC & Horizon Water re: Estrella Substation and Transmission Expansion
To: [REDACTED]

Steven,

I received your contact information via Allen Bowman, an attorney representing another property owner affected by the current proposed route of this project.

My wife and I purchased our property [REDACTED] in August of 2019. At the time we were unaware of this ongoing project, nor was it disclosed to us by the realtors or previous owners. Since that time we have been working on a conditional use permit (CUP) with land use planners and the count of San Luis Obispo for a winery and 10 incidental campsites for guests to our area. The process has been costly, time consuming, and arduous. Not once was this project mentioned after 18 months of costly hurdles required by the county for biologist reports, archeologists, engineers, traffic surveys, and more.

The current proposed route of the 70kv 105' transmission lines passes directly through our property, between our main house and guest house, and obstructs nearly all of our SW, W, and NW facing views. The proposed route would cross over our main entrance, driveway, and run extremely close to our front door. The route will also place the power lines directly in front of our winery views. This project will significantly lower our property value, potential future earnings of our business, obstruct our views, diminish our quality of life, and frankly crushes our family's dreams of building a sustainable business.

We learned of this project via a City of Paso Robles notice of a city council meeting on this topic. The meeting was 1/19/2021 and we received the notice after the fact. The notice was sent to our [REDACTED] residence, despite the fact that we have forwarded our mail and have resided at [REDACTED] for a year. Because of the late notice, we have also missed the opportunity to submit a formal letter to the draft EIR.

I am writing to you because **we would like to go on the record opposing this current route**. Not only for our personal reasons, because we aren't the only ones affected in any outcome, but because this proposed route is not even the best environmental option per the EIR. This proposed route affects more local residents than other proposed routes. This proposed route will be an eyesore and blight on our area for generations to come. This area consists of small family ranches, family wineries, and hard working people looking to earn a living from their land.

We have spent our life's savings on this conditional use permit and future plans for our family winery. We would never have made this decision, to risk it all, had we known about 105' transmission lines passing directly through our property. We tried to follow the rules, we listened to our county planners and county officials and performed all of the due diligence required of a permit and our "disturbance" to our land that had to be mitigated by county code - only to learn that EIRs and codes are only recommendations when it comes to large scale utility projects that potentially serve the greater public.

Please let us know how we might be added to the public record of the EIR and future CPUC hearings. We are the little guy in this situation, and if you take a look at the proposed route heading right past our house, one that may be affected disproportionately by the outcome without a voice.

Thank you for your time.

Best,

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]