

Rob Peterson, CPUC
c/o Dr. Tom Engels
Horizon Water and Environment, LLC 266 Grand Avenue, Suite 210 Oakland, CA
94610

December 24, 2020

Re: Opposition to SE-PLR-2, Templeton - S. River Rd., Route Alternative

Dear Dr. Engels,

My wife and I OPPOSE using South River Rd. as a route to run overhead high-voltage power lines through the Santa Ysabel Ranch (SYR) development.

By placing high-voltage lines within SYR's boundary, PG&E will put people and environment at risk. PG&E has previously been found by the courts to have been responsible for both the Camp Fire and the Kincade Fire. Both of these fires could have been prevented had PG&E routed their lines along a different path or buried their power lines. In addition, it is still unknown what effects living under/around an electro-magnetic field (EMF) has on humans. In a published newsletter, The National Cancer Institute sighted what experts know about ELF-EMF,

"In 2002, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a component of the World Health Organization, appointed an expert Working Group to review all available evidence on static and extremely low frequency electric and magnetic fields (12). The Working Group classified ELF-EMFs as "possibly carcinogenic to humans," based on limited evidence from human studies in relation to childhood leukemia."

The above study was on "low frequency electric and magnetic fields". What effect does high-voltage have on humans?

If this route is chosen and the lines are not buried and shielded, then the impact on SYR and individuals could be catastrophic. Not only are Santa Ysabel Ranch (SYR) homes located within a **High Fire Hazard Zone**, the Ranch is also a historical archeological site and home to many protected species of wildlife. In a historical article written by Kent W. Randall, he wrote:

"A large excavation project was initiated at the Santa Ysabel Ranch in the early 2000s. The work was carried out in order to determine the significance of sites likely to be impacted by a planned residential development. A total of 14 prehistoric and mixed prehistoric/historic sites were tested. Subsequent analyses of recovered artifacts and Eco facts

revealed evidence for occupation of Santa Ysabel Ranch spanning over 8,000 years, from the early Holocene to the Protohistoric/Mission period."

Knowing this, continued protection of SYR is a priority for SLO County and should also be a major consideration before PG&E adopts So. River Rd." as a chosen route.

No resident wants the installation of high-voltage power lines to be routed over or near their property. It is an undeniable fact that doing so will drive down the value of nearby residential properties. **High Voltage Lines** will take away the physical and psychological enjoyment of homeownership for those owners within close proximity to proposed electrical lines.

No homeowner is going to allow this to happen without a court challenge. PG&E will once again find themselves buried in court if the proposed project is approved.

It's time for PG&E to get it right. Choose a route other than SYR for high voltage poles/lines or revamp existing lines/poles to accommodate increased voltage needs.

Respectfully,

