Comment Set C.206: Robert and Elayne Raksnys

October 2, 2006 BY: **CPUC Aspen Environmental Group** Robert & Elayne Raksnys 40045 95th Street West 30423 Canwood Street, Suite 215 Agoura Hills, CA 91301 Leona Valley, CA 93551 Dear Mr. John Boccio: I am writing this letter to you to state my opposition to Alternative 5 proposal which will affect the Leona Valley homeowners and community. My family and I moved here from Redondo Beach one year ago, deciding to buy our retirement home while we were both still working, rather than waiting for retirement. We chose Leona Valley because of the beauty, quietness and tranquility of this little town that few people, even in California, know about. Since we decided to leave the beach, we wanted a home with a view. We chose our current home, which sits on top of a hill, so we could enjoy the beautiful panoramic view of the valley in all its splendor and loveliness. The proposed new 25.6 mile 500-KV transmission line will greatly distort the beautiful vistas of Leona Valley. On a more personal level, it will greatly destroy the view from our home! Instead of looking out over the rolling hills we will be distracted by gigantic, ugly transmission towers. Not only will this affect our view, but will greatly impact our property value. We purchased our ranch when house prices were at a premium and were hoping that it would increase in value. We C.206-1 are afraid if this project moves forward, house values will drop significantly, leaving us with an upside down mortgage. This is not a good situation. Other problems include, but are not limited to: Noise from the transmission lines. Although this will not affect me personally, our neighbors who live nearer to the lines that will be subject to constant hissing, buzzing, popping and clicking throughout the day and night. There are also health and safety concerns: The proven association of EMF's that results in higher C.206-2 cancer rates among people living close to these lines. About three years ago a fire came very close to Leona Valley, forcing the people we bought our home from to evacuate, along with all their animals. The previous owners told us how blessed C.206-3 they felt having had great firefighters who lived in the valley-especially the helicopter firefighter pilots, who were able to fly really low and drop water, saving many homes in the area. Tall transmission lines would hinder firefighting helicopters from coming in low, resulting in loss of homes and perhaps lives. This is not an optimal situation. We want to protect and maintain the current status of our habitat, our valley community, our people, our homes, our animals and our wildlife. We are respectfully asking you to please C.206-4 reconsider this proposal and work out an alternate route that will not impact Leona Valley and the surrounding communities, or consider putting the wires underground. Sincerely, Elaynob Robert and Elayne Raksnys

Response to Comment Set C.206: Robert and Elayne Raksnys

- C.206-1 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding potential effects on property values.
- C.206-2 Please see General Response GR-3 regarding EMF concerns.
- C.206-3 We recognize that Alternative 5 would constrain the ability to aggressively fight a wildland fire in the vicinity of the route, and would create additional fire risks to inhabited areas such as Leona Valley and Agua Dulce (see discussion in Section D.5). Your concerns will be shared with the decision-makers who are reviewing the Project and alternatives at the USDA Forest Service and the CPUC.
- C.206-4 Thank you for your comments regarding the proposed Project and alternatives.