Comment Set C.222: Assemblywoman Sharon Runner, California State Assembly, 36th District

September 14, 2006

California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of many constituents in my district, I am writing to request that the California Public Utilities Commission order a 60-day extension of time to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for Southern California Edison Company’s certificate to construct the Antelope-Pardee Transmission Project.

The extension of time is urgently needed because the U.S. Forest Service arbitrarily and belatedly decided to oppose the transmission line routing which had been worked out with stakeholders over more than two years of effort. The eleventh-hour move by the federal agency, allowing little time and opportunity for public involvement, is in direct contravention of state and federal statutes requiring full public hearing and disclosure.

It would appear that the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service are attempting to manipulate the EIR process through Alternative 5 to achieve a foregone conclusion to their position relative to the transmission project routing. I believe their position on routing is detrimental to the people of the communities directly affected, to Southern California Edison Company ratepayers, and to the progress of the State of California in developing and extending new sources of environmentally compatible energy.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of this reasonable request.

Sincerely,

Sharon Runner,
Assemblywoman, 36th District

cc:
cc: President Michael Peevey, CPUC
Commissioner Dian Grueneich, CPUC
Commissioner Geoffrey Brown, CPUC
Commissioner John Bohn, CPUC
Commissioner Rachael Chong, CPUC
Response to Comment Set C.222: Assemblywoman Sharon Runner, California State Assembly, 36th District

C.222-1 Public meetings were held during the public review periods to provide another opportunity to involve the public in the environmental review process and provide another avenue for submitting formal comments on the Draft EIR/EIS. On September 13, the CPUC and the Forest Service formally extended the public review period for the Draft EIR/EIS to October 3, 2006. It should be noted that both State and federal requirements encourage but do not require public meetings.

C.222-2 Please see General Response GR-4 regarding the identification of a non-NFS lands alternative.