Comment Set D.62: Scott F. Clark

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
Scoping Comments
Proposed Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project

Date: 9-14-06
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These power lines along ridges would make it impossible for helicopters to get low enough to fight a fire along a ridge top or canyon with 500 KV power lines in the way. We drop foam and Phos-check from our tanks on our copters. Not to mention the U.S. Forest Service allowing this to happen. How detrimental would this be to wildlife in the area. This is like a slap in the face for people who live out here. To say you'll take property away from over 100 homes and not worry about these people being dramatically devalued on their biggest investment, their home!! Not to mention the increase in cancer from power lines. I guess we forget about our children who live in the area. Your not just affecting 100 homes. A whole community. A lot of that is in the forest.

Is the forest service giving you the land or is it a 99 yr lease?? I think it is a huge mistake. Find an alternate route.

*Please print. Your name, address, and comments become public information and may be released to interested parties if requested.

Please either deposit this sheet at the sign-in table before you leave today, or fold, stamp, and mail. Insert additional sheets if needed. Comments must be postmarked by September 18, 2006. Comments may also be faxed to the project hotline at (661) 215-5152 or emailed to antelope-pardee@aspeneg.com.
Response to Comment Set D.62: Scott F. Clark

D.62-1 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.

D.62-2 Alternative 5 would not entail the removal of 100 homes. As discussed in Section C.9.10.2, the alternative alignment would be constructed across approximately 103 privately owned parcels. The majority of land uses that would be restricted as a result of Alternative 5 would be the erection of new structures within the alternative ROW. However, given that SCE has not conducted any engineering design or routing studies for Alternative 5, the EIR/EIS has assumed that the removal of one or more homes could occur. As such, Section C.9.10.2 (Impact L-3) concluded that potential impacts to residential land uses as a result of Alternative 5 would be significant.

Please also see General Response GR-1 regarding potential effects on property values, and General Response GR-3 regarding health concerns associated with EMF.

D.62-3 As described in Section A.2.1 of the Draft EIR/EIS, the role of the Forest Service is to consider SCE’s Special Use Application for the issuance of a 50-year term Special Use Easement to SCE authorizing the construction, maintenance, and use of approximately 12.6 miles of improvements (500-kV transmission line along with ancillary improvements) along a 160-foot-wide ROW on NFS lands. Any ground-disturbing activities that occur during construction on NFS lands and are outside the proposed 160-foot-wide ROW would be authorized by one or more temporary Special Use Permits. Additional resource review may be necessary prior to issuing any temporary permit(s). This action would be in compliance with the 2005 Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan (Forest Plan) through mitigation measures and through amendments to the Forest Plan (i.e., modifying the Scenic Integrity Objectives along the Project route and modifying the Forest Standard related to the Pacific Crest Trail [S1] specifically regarding this Project).