

Comment Set 9

February 24, 2003

Billie Blanchard
California Public Utilities Commission
C/O Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery St., Suite 800
San Francisco, Ca. 94104-2906

RE: Jefferson-Martin 230 KV Transmission Project
Application Number A-02-09-043

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Don McFarland and I recently attended the CPUC Public Environmental Scoping Meeting held February 4, 2003, (the 7:00PM to 9:00PM session), at San Mateo City Hall, 330 West 20th Avenue.

I was one of the public speakers against this project because of the severe impact it will have on my home and family. At this meeting there were maps and pictures of the project showing where the new 230KV lines and towers would be located. One of these new huge towers would be located within 25 feet of my property and block my fantastic view of the State Game Refuge, Crystal Springs Lakes and watershed area.

We live at 1245 Laurel Hill Drive, in the San Mateo Highlands, an unincorporated area of San Mateo County. I purchased my home from White cliff Homes new in 1967. My lot is approximately one-half acre with State Game Refuge on two sides and a fantastic view of the Crystal Springs Lakes and all the water shed property on my west side.

In 1967 there still was no 280 freeway between my home and the lakes, and we could watch herds of deer grazing every morning and evening. On the south side of my property is the PG&E Hillsdale Switching Station. Since my lot was so large, PG&E, with my approval, planted 10 large pine and eucalyptus trees on my property to form a screen and barrier so we could not see their switching station.

The existing towers are currently not blocking my view, although the 60KV lines are within 100 ft of my property. This project could change the current tower locations, and the planned new 230KV lines are four times greater than the existing lines and will obviously increase the EMF's generated by them. This is an extreme health hazard and major concern to my family and me and to any potential new buyer of my property.

We have lived in our home 36 years and PG&E has never once disclosed to us any dangers from EMF's generated by their switching station or the 60KV lines. Now they intend to raise these lines to 230KV's and are still not disclosing the EMF dangers that will occur.

9-1

9-2

Comment Set 9, cont.

All of us who live in this great State of California have experienced last year what our future would be like unless we do something about it now. We all suffered power shortages, blackouts, and high PG&E bills because we don't have enough power generating plants in California to supply its growing population. Instead we depend on out of state companies like Enron Corporation who blackmailed us to either pay huge rate increases or they would turn our lights off.

9-3

This proposed Jefferson-Martin 230KV Project will cost millions to complete, just to get more power 27 miles north to San Francisco. It will do nothing towards resolving California's power crisis problem. The money that will be spent on this project should be applied to a new or rebuilt power generating plant in or near San Francisco to resolve their problems and help the entire state in the future.

The impact this project would have on my home and all the others along its 27-mile route would be huge. I just refinanced my home to take advantage of low interest rates. The appraiser asked me how much I thought should be deducted from the home's value for the Hillsdale Switching Station next to my property. He had no knowledge about this proposed project or he might have deducted a lot more. However, I am a Real Estate Broker for the past 30 years, so I know that I will have to disclose this proposed project now and in the future should I ever decide to sell my home. Depending on where the new towers are located and if they block my fantastic view, and having to disclose the increased EMF's, the value of my estimated \$1,000,000 home will drop by approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000 in value.

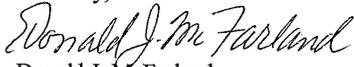
9-4

My home is just one of hundreds that will be impacted by this project all along its 27 mile route. They will all lose property values' depending on how bad each property is affected by the towers and the power lines. In my case the impact would be severe.

I will attach and enclose some pictures of my home so that you can see my fantastic view and how close I am to the Hillsdale Switching station, the wild life in the game reserve, the current towers and power lines and how the new project could affect my property.

If you have any questions or would like to personally view my property and situation, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Donald J. McFarland
1245 Laurel Hill Drive
San Mateo, California 94402

Home Phone: 650-349-1017
Work Phone: 650-548-5100
Cell Phone: 650-740-4893

Comment Set 9, cont.

Wednesday, August 06, 2003

Don & Rose McFarland's Residence, 1245 Laurel Hill Drive, San Mateo, CA 94402

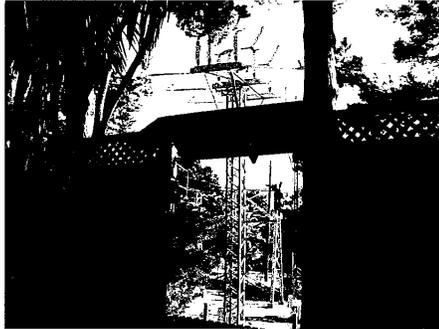
Photos shown were taken from Don & Rose's backyard or within 100 feet of their fence line. From these photos you can see how close the Hillsdale Switching Station and Towers and Power Lines are to our home and hundreds of other property owner's residences. We are very concerned about the EMF (Electric Magnetic Fields) problems that will come to us, our kids and the wild life living near by. Not to mention obstructing the panoramic view of Crystal Springs Lake and the surrounding State Game Refuge. The existing towers and power lines carries 60 kilowatts and P.G. & E. proposes to increase the height and additional 30 feet, and increase the power to 230 kilowatts.

P.G. & E. claims they are doing this to bring additional and much needed power to San Francisco, South San Francisco. The route is 27 miles long and will affect hundreds of home owners and their property values and very possibly endangering their health and wellbeing. It would be much better to lay the lines underground and out of site and probably far safe for all residents both human and animal.

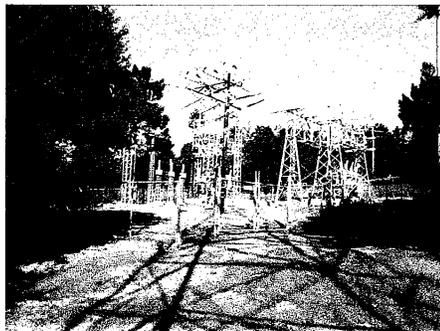
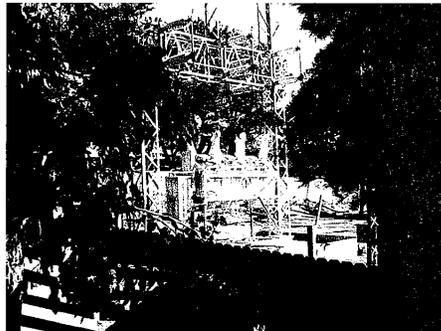
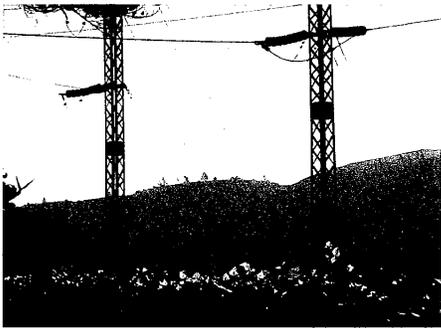
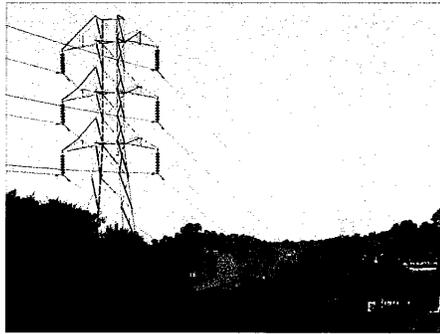
9-5



Comment Set 9, cont.



Comment Set 9, cont.



Responses to Comment Set 9 – Donald J. McFarland

- 9-1 The commenter's opposition to the Proposed Project is acknowledged. The scenic quality of the project area is acknowledged in EIR Sections D.2 (Land Use), D.3 (Visual Resources), and D.9 (Recreation). Please also refer to Response to Comment PPH1-4 from the testimony of Don McFarland from the August 12, 2003 Public Participation Hearings.
- 9-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF. According to PG&E, electricity bill inserts addressing EMF are regularly mailed to customers. Also, please see Response to Comment PPH1-5 from the testimony of Don McFarland from the August 12, 2003 Public Participation Hearings.
- 9-3 While the proposed Jefferson-Martin project would not create new power generation, it would increase the reliability of the electric transmission system for the San Francisco Peninsula. The CPUC does not have the authority to require construction of generating facilities. Please see General Response G-3 and PPH1-6.
- 9-4 The range of environmental impacts of the Proposed Project is fully disclosed in the EIR, including significant visual impacts, land use and recreation impacts, and impacts on biological resources. Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values. Also, please refer to Response to Comment PPH1-7 from the testimony of Don McFarland from the August 12, 2003 Public Participation Hearings.
- 9-5 The attached photographs show the existing transmission lines, their proximity to residences, and their affects on visual resources. The visual analysis in the Draft EIR incorporated the potential effects of the existing and proposed towers and lines. The Partial Underground Alternative and PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative both were developed to reduce potential environmental impacts, including EMF concerns, to the Southern Segment of the Proposed Project by laying the lines underground or in improved locations from residences.

Comment Set 10



CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)
Informational Meeting – Comments
Proposed Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Line Project

Tuesday, July 29, 2003
Thursday, July 31, 2003

Name*: ED & ELSIE CARLSON
Affiliation (if any):* _____
Address*: 2024 TICONDEROGA DR
City, State, Zip Code*: SAN MATEO, CA 94402
Telephone Number*: (650) 345-3096
Email*: _____

WE PREFER STRONGLY THAT THE
TRANSMISSION LINES BE
UNDER GROUND -

10-1

**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 received by August 28, 2003. Comments may also be faxed to the project hotline at (650) 240-1720 or emailed to jeffmartin@speneg.com.

Responses to Comment Set 10 – Ed and Elsie Carlson

- 10-1 The commenters' preference for underground lines is noted. The Partial Underground Alternative and PG&E Route Option 1B Alternative both include underground some or all of the line, respectively.

Comment Set 11

August 12, 2003

Billie Blanchard, CPUC
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104

Re: Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Line Project

Dear Billie Blanchard:

I am writing in opposition to Option 1B, identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) of the Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Line Project. Under this alternative, the new 230 kV line would run underground along Trousdale Drive in Burlingame past our schools, residences and hospital.

11-1

According to a recent report, three scientists were inclined to believe that electric and magnetic fields (EMFs) can cause increased risk of childhood leukemia, adult brain cancer, Lou Gehrig's disease, and/or miscarriage. The DEIR indicates that EMF exposure levels at sidewalks approximately 20 feet from underground transmission lines would be about 9 mG. Yet, some studies have led scientists to classify magnetic fields of 3 to 4 mG as a possible carcinogen.

I do not want my family exposed to the potential health risks associated with EMFs. Furthermore, underground transmission lines on Trousdale Drive will negatively impact our property values.

11-2

Another alternative, referred to as the "Partial Underground Alternative," provides a reasonable solution. It would move the lines across Highway 280 to avoid residences in Burlingame and would avoid Trousdale Drive entirely.

11-3

For the reasons stated above, I strongly oppose Option 1B and support the Partial Underground Alternative as the most viable option. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Name

Address 2160 Trousdale DR.
City, State ZIP 94010

Responses to Comment Set 11 – Letters Opposing the Proposed Project (PG&E Route Option 1A)

- 11-1 The commenters' opposition to PG&E Route Option 1B and use of Trousdale Drive is noted. Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.
- 11-2 Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values.
- 11-3 The commenter's support for the Partial Underground Alternative and opposition to the PG&E Route Option 1B are acknowledged.

Comment Set 12

I have lived on Trousdale since 1964. It is a beautiful street in a residential area, no different from all the other streets in Burlingame. It just happens to be wider.

Why penalize us and our property values? Trousdale is not a highway - or a utility easement.

You simply cannot run a high voltage electrical transmission line through a dense residential area - just because it is convenient. Please help us.

Thank you
Sarah Sackerson

12-1

Responses to Comment Set 12 – Sarkis Sarkisian

- 12-1 The commenter's description of Trousdale Drive and opposition to its use for the proposed transmission line are noted. Please see General Response GR-2 regarding potential effects on property values.

Comment Set 13

Atkinson
August 24, 2003
-1-

Billie Blanchard, CPUC
% Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery St. Suite 935
San Francisco Calif 94104

Dear Sir/Madam -

Re: Jefferson - Martin 230 KV Transmission
Line Project.

I am writing in great opposition to Option
1B, identified in the Draft Environmental
Impact Report (DEIR) of the subject project.

There are several critical issues - environmen-
tal and safety - that are either entirely
ignored or are not sufficiently explored in
the DEIR. Given these issues, it is amazing
that the DEIR would consider the run down
Trowsdale Dr and up El Camino Real the
best environmental solution!

Let me list these for you:

13-1

Comment Set 13, cont.

H. Harrison
August 24, 2003
- 2 -

1. Trousdale Dr. is a dense residential area with houses/families on both sides of the street. The electric and magnetic fields created by the line would be extremely damaging to the health of these people. 13-2
2. The operation of heart pacemakers would be effected with drastic results. 13-3
3. The line would go right past (within 50 feet) Franklin Grammar School and Burlingame Intermediate school. Students walking to school, being dropped off and picked up, crossing the street etc would be drastically effected by the EMFs as well as parents and adults. Children walk down Trousdale to school - and high school children as well going to nearby Mills High School. 13-4
4. Automobile and buss traffic up and down

Comment Set 13, cont.

*Attachment
August 24, 2003*

Trousdale stop at several stop signs and would also be exposed to EMFs.

13-4

5. Trousdale has in it the main cable TV run for the whole residential area. What would the high voltage line do to the TV reception of hundreds of homes.

13-5

6. During the installation process of the line, traffic and life in the area would be highly disrupted. Cars idling engines, detours, slow downs created great environmental effect — not to say anything about large dirt equipment and trucks.

13-6

7. PGE cannot install the line without major damage to Trousdale itself (paving sidewalks etc). Patching is not an effective repair and effects the operation of the cars and buses using Trousdale. This effect also endangers the safety of the drivers.

13-7

Comment Set 13, cont.

K. Harbison
August 24, 2003

- and pedestrians, particularly children
8. The transmission line itself, near the foot of Trousdale must cross two (2) 8 foot diameter high pressure water lines that are the principal source of water supplying all of San Francisco. The P&T line would have to go under the water lines. The bottom of the lines are about 16 feet below pavement level. The integrity and stability of these lines would be constantly threatened.
9. A new \$400,000,000 Peninsula Hospital is to be soon constructed at the foot of Trousdale. It will be positioned much closer to Trousdale than the present (to be demolished) hospital. What will be the effect of the line and the EMFs on the hospital and its operation?

13-7

13-8

13-9

Comment Set 13, cont.

A. H. Harrison
August 24, 2003
- 5 -

10. The new hospital will have its main access drive entrance right on Trousdale directly over the intersection of the two (2) water 8 foot mains. The confluence of the two water mains, the high voltage line and the main access intersection will present a tremendous construction challenge (requiring a major traffic and hospital detouring challenge) for months - affecting the whole area of Millbrae/Burlingame El Camino Trousdale. The DEIR doesn't even consider this!
11. Trousdale carries the main gas, electric, water and sewer runs (as well as cable TV) for this whole part of the city residential area serving hundreds of homes. Telephone as well. How would the transmission line fit in with these utility runs. Hundreds of

13-10

13-11

Comment Set 13, cont.

Atkinson
August 24, 2003
-6-

water, telephone, sewer, gas, electric and cable TV laterals would have to be crossed. To do this, how deep would the line have to be? How high the excavation?

13-11

12. Maintaining the line would require access structures. How large are they - where are they.

13-12

Finally, all of the above issues must be considered for the several mile loop run down El Camino under heavy traffic and many businesses, motels, etc.

13-13

It blows my mind that the Draft EIR would label the run down Trousdale and up El Camino (several miles of inhabited heavy traffic, schools and hospital involvement) the most "environmentally advantageous" route.

13-14

Comment Set 13, cont.

S. Sarkisian
August 24, 2003
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All of these situations – and great
people exposure – are avoided very
simply by using the "Partial
Underground Alternative".

Summary –

I strongly oppose Option 1B and
strongly support the "Partial
Underground Alternative".

Thank you
Sarkis Sarkisian
2955 Trousdale Dr.
Berkeley, Calif. 94701

13-14

Comment Set 13, cont.

**S.S. SARKISIAN & ASSOCIATES
CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS**

2955 Trousdale Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010

Tel: (650) 697-0926
Fax: (650) 697-0926

September 18, 2003

*Billie Blanchard
California Public Utilities Commission
40 Open Environmental Group
135 Montgomery Street Suite 800
San Francisco, Calif. 94104*

*Re: Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission
Line Project (Application No. A-02-09-043)*

Dear Ms. Blanchard:

*I work out of an office in my home on
Trousdale Drive in Burlingame, which I have
owned since 1964.*

*The project in question, if run down Trousdale
Drive, would have a severe impact on the value
of my home. I believe its impact would be 15% to
20% reduction. This is simply not fair, when
another routing (much more economical to build) is
available to the P.U.C.*

*But I am writing this letter for another very
specific subject area. I am a licensed Civil
Engineer in the State of California and am considered
an expert in Construction Matters by the Courts.*

*Trousdale Drive has in it several main utility
system runs for this whole upper part of Burlingame.*

13-15

13-16

Comment Set 13, cont.

**S.S. SARKISIAN & ASSOCIATES
CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS**

2955 Trousdale Drive
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Tel: (650) 697-0926
Fax: (650) 697-0926

Calif. P. U. C.

*9/18/2003
- 2 -*

These utility systems include

- 1. Electricity*
- 2. Gas*
- 3. Sewer*
- 4. Water*
- 5. Cable TV*
- 6. Telephone*

13-16

Since Trousdale is a residential street with homes on both sides, all these systems have laterals running to the houses on both sides. We are talking of hundreds of laterals, the location of the mains themselves run around. It would be a monstrous job to get a 230KV line down Trousdale under all these laterals and systems.

The main water supply to the City of San Francisco from Crystal Springs Reservoir runs across Trousdale down near the bottom near Magnolia Street. These water mains (2) are under high pressure and are each eight (8) feet in diameter!

13-17

To run the 230 KV line down to El Camino, it would have to go under these 8 ft mains, probably down 20 feet. This huge excavation provides (again) a monstrous construction problem.

Comment Set 13, cont.

S.S. SARKISIAN & ASSOCIATES
CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS

2955 Trousdale Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010

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Calif. P.U.C.

9/18/2003

- 3 -

of excavation, shoring, dewatering and will need some huge manholes for cable maintenance purposes. I'm not even sure that the expense of this crossing is known to the estimators of the costs of the various routings.

What's even more dangerous is that these water mains are about 70 years old (I believe) and not in good condition. There is a real danger of a leak or blowout that would result in

1. Major problems with water supply to S.F.
2. Flooding of lower Millbrae and Burlingame
3. Major interference with access to Peninsula Hospital & its emergency
4. Possible flooding of the Millbrae Sewage Treatment Plant
5. Major damage and even shut down of all the utility systems now running up Trousdale
6. To say nothing of the real interruptions to all the residents and businesses of

13-17

Comment Set 13, cont.

S.S. SARKISIAN & ASSOCIATES
CONSTRUCTION CONSULTANTS

2955 Trousdale Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010

Tel: (650) 697-0926
Fax: (650) 697-0926

Calif P.U.C.

*9/18/2003
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this area (thousands of people). The ensuing litigations would tie up the courts for years.

13-17

I am amazed that the EIR done by the Aspen Environmental Group failed to mention or consider these essential, aged, 8 ft water main situation. I don't agree with Aspen at all.

Please run the 230 kV line north in the watershed along 280 and across Sneath Lane, and avoid all the above stated problem areas.

13-18

*Thank you -
Sarkis S. Sarkisian*

Responses to Comment Set 13 – Sarkis Sarkisian

- 13-1 The commenter's opposition to PG&E Route Option 1B and use of Trousdale Drive and El Camino Real is noted.
- 13-2 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF.
- 13-3 Please refer to Sections D.8.7.2 and D.8.8.2, Public Health and Safety, for a discussion of effects on cardiac pacemakers (Impact PS-3). The electric fields associated with the Proposed Project's transmission lines may be of sufficient magnitude to impact operation of a few older model pacemakers resulting in them reverting to an asynchronous pacing. Cardiovascular specialists do not consider prolonged asynchronous pacing to be a problem; periods of operation in this mode are commonly induced by cardiologists to check pacemaker performance. Therefore, while the transmission line's electric field may impact operation of some older model pacemakers, the result of the interference is of short duration and is not considered significant or harmful (Class III). No mitigation measures are required or recommended.
- 13-4 Please see General Response GR-1 regarding EMF. As discussed in Section D.8.7.4, Consideration of Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF), no-cost/low-cost mitigation is proposed by PG&E with priority given to schools and daycare centers. Also, please see Response to Comment Set D (City of Burlingame).
- 13-5 Please refer to Sections D.8.7.2 and D.8.8.2, Public Health and Safety, for a discussion of effects on radio and television interference (Impact PS-1). Mitigation Measure PS-1b addresses the documentation and response to impacts to television interference. Individual sources of adverse radio/television interference can be located and corrected on the power lines.
- 13-6 The PG&E Route Option 1B would have similar impacts as those described for the underground segment of the Proposed Project. Several mitigation measures are identified in the Draft EIR that are designed to minimize disruption impacts to residents and businesses. Refer to Draft EIR transportation and traffic Mitigation Measures T-1a (Prepare Transportation Management Plans), T-1b (Restrict Lane Closures), and T-3a (Repair to Damaged Road ROWs); traffic Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) 13.6 (restricted access plan) and 13.8 (detours for pedestrian and bicycle access); land use Mitigation Measures L-4a (Provide Construction Notification), L-4b (Provide Public Liaison Person and Toll-Free Information Hotline), L-4c (Provide Compensation to Displaced Residents), L-4d (Maximum Distances from Residences), L-7a (Provide Continuous Access to Properties), and L-7b (Coordinate with Businesses); noise APM 15.1 (noise suppression techniques); and utilities Mitigation Measure U-1b (Protection of Underground Utilities).
- 13-7 Impact T-3, Physical Impacts to Roads and Sidewalks, in Section D.12.3.3, Transportation and Traffic, addresses damage to roadways and resurfacing requirements. Mitigation Measure T-3a (Repair Damaged Roadways) expands on APM 13.3 to ensure that potential impacts to roadways would be reduced to less than significant levels.
- 13-8 To ensure that the line is buried at an appropriate distance from the water supply line and all underground utilities, Mitigation Measure U-1b (Protection of Underground Utilities) would be implemented to reduce potential impacts to less than significant levels. Please refer to Section

D.14.3.5, 230 kV Underground Transmission Line, and D.14.4.1, PG&E Route Option 1B – Underground for a more detailed impact discussion along Trousdale Drive.

- 13-9 Please refer to General Response GR-1 regarding EMF and responses 13-6 and 13-7 discussing construction impacts. In addition, specifically Mitigation Measure T-6a (Ensure emergency response access) in Section D.12.3.5 reduces the potential for construction interference to affect emergency vehicles.
- 13-10 Please refer to Response to Comment 13-8 for a discussion of existing underground utilities and Response to Comment 13-6 for a list of mitigation measures that would reduce potentially significant construction disturbance impacts to less than significant levels.
- 13-11 Please refer to Project Description, Section B.3.3, and Figures B-9, B-10, and B-11 for descriptions of underground construction and design of the duct banks.
- 13-12 As discussed in the Description of the Proposed Project, Section B.3.3, PG&E would excavate and place up to approximately 43 pre-formed concrete splice vaults at approximately 1,600-foot intervals during trenching for pulling cables and housing cable splices. The vaults would be used initially to pull the cables through the conduits and to splice cables together. During operation, vaults provide access to the underground cables for maintenance, inspections, and repairs. Vaults would be constructed of steel-reinforced concrete (either prefabricated or cast-in-place), with inside dimensions of approximately 22 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 8 feet deep. The vaults would be designed to withstand the maximum credible earthquake in the area, as well as heavy truck traffic loading.
- The total excavation footprint for a vault would be approximately 26 feet long by 12 feet wide and 10 feet deep. Installation of each vault would take place over a 3-day period with excavation and shoring of the vault pit being followed by delivery and installation of the vault, filling and compacting a backfill, and repaving of the excavation area. Manhole openings would provide access to the vaults.
- 13-13 Please see Responses to Comments 13-6, 13-7, and 13-8 for a discussion of construction impacts and potential disturbances to existing underground utilities.
- 13-14 The commenter's support for the Partial Underground Alternative and opposition to the PG&E Route Option 1B and use of Trousdale Drive/El Camino Real are acknowledged.

Responses to Comment Set 13, Sarkis Sarkisian, supplemental letter

- 13-15 Please see General Response GR-2 regarding property values.
- 13-16 Please see Responses to Comments 13-6, 13-7, and 13-8 for a discussion of construction impacts and potential disturbances to existing underground utilities.
- 13-17 Please see Responses to Comments 13-8 and CC13-2 for a discussion regarding the water main pipeline.
- 13-18 The commenter's opposition to the use of Trousdale Drive and support for the use of Sneath Lane are noted.