

Comment Set H0020
Jacki Ayer

From: airspecial@aol.com
To: sunrise@aspenerg.com
Sent: Fri Aug 15 13:55
Subject: Fwd: Clarification request

Dear Aspen staff,

On page 2-5 of the recirculated Draft EIR/EIS, the following statement is made:

The RWEP is being evaluated in the Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS because of the agreement that was signed between Sempra Generation and SCE in which Sempra Generation has agreed to sell SCE

up to 250 MW of power from the La Rumorosa wind power facility under development (Sempra, 2007).

From this statement, am I to understand that the RWEP would not be evaluated if Sempra did not plan to sell a portion of the energy to SCE? In other words, if all of the 1250 MW were reserved for SDG&E customers, then the RWEP would not be evaluated? Please help me understand what difference it makes in the RWEP evaluation that some of the energy will be sold to SCE.

I would also like to understand what the Commission knows about provisions (if any) that are being made by SCE to transmit the 250 MW that they are purchasing from the RWEP. I do not see where this is addressed in the recirculated document. To my knowledge, SCE has no transmission infrastructure anywhere near the point at which the energy will enter the U.S. Does SCE plan to construct transmission infrastructure to use the power? Or does the Commission assume that the power purchased by SCE will be transmitted along with all the other power generated by La Rumarosa to wherever Sempra intends it to go? As it is described in the recirculated Draft EIR/EIS, SCE's plan to purchase 250 MW of power seems rather pointless, so it appears that the description is incomplete. Please provide me with the information I need to understand why the Commission considers this transaction to be so important (as the above excerpt from the recirculated document suggests).

Thank you and have a good weekend.

Jacki

I would also like to get a copy of any documentation or evidence that the PUC has of an agreement between SCE and SDG&E on this agreement to sell RWEP power to SCE. I have accessed the link included in the recirculated EIR (http://public.sempra.com/newsreleases/viewPR.cfm?PR_ID=2183&Co_Short_Nm=SE). Is this the only source of information upon which the Commission is relying in the DEIR discussion of this topic?

H0020-1

H0020-2

H0020-3

Responses to Comment Set H0020

Jacki Ayer

H0020-1 As stated in Section 2.1 of the RDEIR/SDEIS, La Rumorosa is being analyzed as an indirect effect of the Sunrise Powerlink Project because, as noted in the Sempra Addendum to the Application for Presidential Permit, the electricity generated by the new wind turbines in Mexico is dependent on the addition of transmission capacity to the SDG&E transmission system in the Jacumba area. The SWPL does not have adequate capacity to carry this load. The Sunrise Powerlink or an alternative 500 kV transmission line, built along either the proposed route or one of the southern routes, would be required to transmit the wind energy.

On August 4, 2008 SCE withdrew its Advice 2143-E from the CPUC relating to the Baja Wind Contract, stating that SCE would require additional time to prepare and present material relevant to the Commission's consideration of this matter. As such, Section 2.1 of the RDEIR/SDEIS has been changed as follows:

On June 30th, 2007, Sempra, the parent company of SDG&E, entered into an agreement with Cannon Power Corporation of San Diego to develop a wind project near the town of La Rumorosa in the municipality of Tecate. On December 20, 2007, Sempra Generation filed an Application for Presidential Permit (APP) for an entity called Baja Wind U.S. Transmission, LLC to construct a transmission line that would connect the Sempra La Rumorosa Wind Energy Projects (RWE) with the existing Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) transmission line. On March 19, 2008 Sempra Generation filed an Addendum to the Application for Presidential Permit (APP) with additional details of the project.

~~The RWE is being evaluated in the Sunrise Powerlink Project EIR/EIS because of the agreement that was signed between Sempra Generation and SCE in which Sempra Generation has agreed to sell SCE up to 250 MW of power from the La Rumorosa wind power facility under development (Sempra, 2007).~~ As illustrated in Figures 2-2, 2-3, and 2-4, the Sempra/SDG&E projects analyzed in this EIR/EIS, consist of the following components:

Please note that the RWE is subject to approval from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) of its Application for a Presidential Permit and completion of all necessary environmental review. The Sempra project would also need to comply with Mexican laws and regulations for those components located in Mexico

H0020-2 As stated above, on August 4, 2008 SCE withdrew its Advice 2143-E from the CPUC relating to the Baja Wind Contract and therefore does not, at this time, plan on importing Baja wind energy from Sempra Generation. However, renewable energy purchased by SCE does not need to reach SCE transmission infrastructure, it would need only to reach the CAISO grid. Renewable generators delivering anywhere on the CAISO grid are eligible for compliance with RPS goals.

H0020-3 Advice Letters 2143-E, 2143-E-A, and 2143-E-B from SCE to the CPUC can be found at the SCE website at <http://www.sce.com/NR/sc3/tm2/pdf/2143-E.pdf>, and CPUC Energy Division Resolution E-4168 addresses the status of the Advice 2143 and can be found at http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/Published/Comment_resolution/83967.htm.