
From: Ken Womack [mailto:chiefrph@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2009 11:49 AM
To: San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop Project
Subject: San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop Transmission Lines

Mr. Jensen Uchida,

First let me take a moment to comment on the huge crowd of excited people gathered at the public hearing July 23rd, at Visalia Convention Center. This shows how important this subject is to the local residents and I believe will help to inform everyone of the impact these lines have. The input from the residents effected most, will help, I believe will allow the California PUC to come to the best decision for all affected.

My concern with the location, Alternative 2 through the Elderwood area affects some of my clients negatively. I own CJ Hammers Pump Co., in Visalia, CA and several of my clients have wells that may be impacted by this route. In particularly those with the older Wagon Wheel wells developed years ago.

These wells which consist of one deep shaft and several laterals drilled by lowering men down the main shaft and drilling by hand can no long be constructed, due to the danger associated with the process. These wells tend to produce several hundred gallons of water per minute and therefore can irrigate sever hundred acres with just the one well and pumping system. To replace one Wagon Wheel Well at a production of 1800/gpm would require up to 18 Rock wells and pumping systems at a cost of 25 to 30 thousand per well and pumping system. Not to mention the fact that a large percent of the holes drilled may not produce enough water to be useful at all. I myself have 15 acres just above Elderwood and I have 5 wells of which only 3 produce enough water to be useful. My maximum production is around 150/gpm and even this drops off late in the summer.

By my calculation, which are only estimates it could cost as much as 1/2 million dollars to replace ONE Wagon Wheel well, to allow the property owner to continue to farm say 200 acres. With the legal restriction and other cost in today's farming markets, in many cases this would render the property unsuitable to continue to be farmed and in fact could ultimately reduce the proper value.

I hope this information sheds some light on the inherent problems associated with the construction of the Transmission lines over productive farm property. The best resolution I see at this time is use of Alternative 3 through the less viable farming property.

Respectfully

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