

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

RAMIREZ CANYON PARK
5750 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90265
PHONE (310) 589-3200
FAX (310) 589-3207
WWW.SMMC.CA.GOV



October 24, 2011

Ms. Juralynne Mosley
Presidential Substation Project
c/o Environmental Science Associates
1425 North McDowell Blvd, Suite 105
Petaluma, California 94954

**Presidential Substation Project (CPUC A.08-12-023)
Draft Environmental Impact Report Comments
SCH No.2009021059**

Dear Ms. Mosley:

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) is the principle State planning agency in the project area. The Tierra Rejada Valley, and in particular the concerned portion of the valley, is a regionally significant habitat linkage area that cannot withstand many more deleterious impacts--such as the proposed project.

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) concludes that Alternative System B is the Environmentally Superior Alternative and the only project alternative without significant environmental impacts. The DEIR provides feeble justification for this demonstrably more damaging and expensive proposed project. The data used to project future electrical demand appears speculative and with a potentially growth-inducing outcome. Likewise the DEIR makes a strong case for less damaging alternatives, other than the project, as being more than adequate to meet the project objectives of increased electrical transmission capability and flexibility.

The Conservancy joins the considerable opposition to the proposed project including the cities of Thousand Oaks, Moorpark and Simi Valley, and urges the CPUC only to move forward with Alternative System B. With civic and citizen opposition from all sides and a scenic location riddled with designated Critical Habitat for rare species, the blunt approach of the proposed project does not work with the area's constraints. Better sub-route selection as recommended by the City of Moorpark is the solution. Without better analysis of the project impacts on specific subsections of the wildlife corridor and area viewshed, the DEIR shall remain deficient.

Ms. Juralynne Mosley
Presidential Substation Project (A.08-12-023) DEIR Comments
October 24, 2011
Page 2

Please direct any questions and future documentation to Paul Edelman of our staff at the above letterhead address, by phone at (310) 589-3200 ext. 128, or by email at edelman@smmc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

ANTONIO GONZALEZ
Chairperson