

From: corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov
To: [Corridoreisarchives;](#)
CC:
Subject: Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Comment 80094
Date: Monday, November 28, 2005 8:13:48 PM
Attachments: [Darryl Issa letter 80094.doc](#)

Thank you for your comment, John Stickler.

The comment tracking number that has been assigned to your comment is 80094. Please refer to the tracking number in all correspondence relating to this comment.

Comment Date: November 28, 2005 08:13:44PM CDT

Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS Scoping Comment: 80094

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Privacy Preference: Don't withhold name or address from public record

Attachment: C:\Documents and Settings\Susan Hurst\My Documents\Power Line issue
\Darryl Issa letter.doc

Comment Submitted:

The Cleveland National Forest, Trabuco District, incorporates the Santa Ana coastal range of mountains in Southern California. Over the decades it has been whittled down to half its original size, now left with the bare bones of the granite spine of the range. It must NOT be further compromised by unnecessary energy corridor easements.

Commercial interests, including Congressman Darrell Issa, have plans to run a 2,000-foot-wide easement for an electric transmission line for 30 miles inside its eastern border. This will destroy the remaining eastern environment of the Forest.

Attached is a detailed protest submitted by my wife and I when the transmission line

COPY

To: Congressman Darrell Issa
Re: Ten Reasons Why the Forest Route is a Bad Idea

We commend you for your efforts to stop SDG&E from running their proposed power line through the Great Oak ranch. The Rainbow Route would be a disaster for the Pechanga Band and the Temecula Valley.

SO WOULD THE FOREST ROUTE!

The non-profit organization CAUTION (Communities Against Unnecessary Transmission lines In Our Neighborhoods) was chartered in 2000 to fight against the 500,000-kilowatt power line proposed by the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District. This array of 190-foot steel towers was to run 29 miles from Corona southward inside the boundary of the Cleveland National Forest into San Diego County.

Initially it was tied to an ill-fated hydroelectric power plant sponsored by Enron. Fortunately, that plan has faded away, thanks in part of the withdrawal of Enron and in part to the strenuous objections of CAUTION.

Now here comes the Forest Route again!

There are numerous valid reasons why the Forest Route is a bad idea. Here are ten of them:

The Office of Ratepayer Advocates reviewed the proposal to connect the power grids in San Diego and Riverside Counties and announced in February, 2003 that the California Public Utilities Commission should not allow the link to be built.

The California PUC determined there is no need for this connection. It announced this decision after a careful study of the issue in August 2003.

San Diego Gas & Electric Company carefully studied the Forest Route, among 30 possible routes, and rejected it. In fact, SDG&E has an existing right-of-way, east to the Imperial Valley that could be used to connect the two grids, if it proves necessary. There is no need whatsoever to destroy the Cleveland National Forest.

You may have been told that this Forest Route power line will impact only four homeowners. If so, you were misled. A study in 2001 identified 2,200 privately owned parcels in and adjoining the National Forest along the 29-mile route. Needless to say, with La Cresta and Tenaja on that alignment, we are talking about a considerable amount of value in private land. A damaging project of this magnitude will generate significant opposition and a powerful legal backlash.

The extreme risk of fire caused by downed power lines is unacceptable. The Cleveland National Forest is one huge, dry tinderbox waiting for a light. As we speak, the Pines Fire near Julian fire still burns out of control – caused by high-power lines brought down by a helicopter.

The proposed Forest Route, with its 190-foot towers, lies directly beneath Camp Pendleton's aircraft takeoff and landing patterns. Their helicopter training school is nearby. Have you spoken with the Marines about this plan?

The Nature Conservancy has spent tens of millions of dollars purchasing undeveloped land between the Santa Rosa Plateau and the Cleveland National Forest to create a corridor for wildlife – a natural passageway for mountain lions, bobcats and the protection of endangered species. The Forest Route transmission lines would erect a powerful electric curtain right across the mouth of this corridor, just where it enters the National Forest.

Science is only now beginning to discover the damaging effects of electromagnetic fields (EMFs). At 500,000 kilowatts the radiation will literally zap thousands of acres 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, causing untold damage to the health of human residents and wildlife alike.

The mere construction of concrete and steel towers in the National Forest, every 200 yards for 29 miles, will kill many forms of wildlife outright.

It is ironic that in your efforts to help the Pechanga Band you propose running this horrific transmission line right through their ancestral homeland – where they camped, hunted and buried their dead. In that pristine Tenaja Valley, for thousands of years, they held their sacred ceremonies. And now, excavating footings for the towers will be digging out the bones of their ancestors, killing them again – as if killing them once wasn't enough! In fact, a final irony, the buzzing, humming high-power line will run directly over the old Tenaja Ranger Station, the site of the Native American Interpretive Center proposed by the U.S. Forest Service.

Congressman Issa, we expected you to represent our interests in Washington. Now it appears that you are representing the interests of the power companies in their greedy effort to rape our valley and our lives.

John & Soma Stickler
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plan was first announced.

Questions about submitting comments over the Web? Contact us at:
corridoreiswebmaster@anl.gov or call the Energy Corridor Programmatic EIS
Webmaster at (630)252-6182.