

# **COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR SENSIBLE POWER**

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June 16, 2006

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Communities United for Sensible Power (CUSP) is a newly formed umbrella organization of San Diego County communities – from the Pacific coast to the Anza-Borrego desert – opposed to the massive power line project proposed by San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E).

With this letter we are submitting to you hundreds of signatures of San Diegans who agree with us. These signatures were collected in the short space of a few hours at EarthFair in Balboa Park. They represent the many thousands of people in San Diego County who oppose this project.

The estimated \$1.4 billion misnamed “Sunrise Powerlink” project would string wires from 160-foot metallic towers for 120 miles including through established suburban neighborhoods, some of the most beautiful pristine areas of San Diego County’s unspoiled backcountry and, incredibly, the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

The line would create an incongruous industrial corridor despoiling communities and countryside for the purpose of connecting to the Southern California Edison (SCE) system and allowing the export of electricity from Mexicali power plants located across the border and built by Semptra Energy, parent company of SDG&E.

The touted goal of solar generated electricity to travel along this line is yet to be realistically demonstrated. Moreover, the project runs contrary to the findings of the San Diego Regional Energy Strategy 2030 published in July 2003, which emphasizes local control of energy assets and in-county generation.

In addition to all other objections, the line may not even be needed, especially if other alternatives were used, including programs such as your own recently launched million solar roof program combined with the upgrading and re-powering of locally based power plants.

We do not believe that energy companies which financially benefited from their own market manipulation during the 2000 – 2001 energy crisis should be rewarded now in order to promote their own self-serving strategies for more profit.

Above all else, we are adamantly opposed to the use of preserved state park land for such a massive, intrusive and incongruous project. There is no justification to allow such blight upon the land of the park. We ask you to stand up for the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park by letting your Parks Department know that you also do not want to see such a terrible precedent set.

We hope that you realize that you have the power to make a difference concerning this terrible project. We rely on you to make that difference.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter of paramount importance to the residents of San Diego County.

Sincerely,

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Paula Abney  
Torrey Pines Concerned Citizens  
San Diego, CA

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Mary Aldern  
Citizens Alliance for Sensible Energy  
Ranchita, CA

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Kathleen Beck  
People's Powerlink  
Wynola, CA

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Diane Conklin  
Mussey Grade Road Alliance  
Ramona, CA

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Laura Copic  
Carmel Valley Concerned Citizens  
San Diego, CA

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Richard Jensen  
Ocotillo Wells Citizens Alliance for  
Responsible Energy, Ocotillo Wells, CA

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Dayon Higgins  
Rancho Penasquitos Concerned Citizens,  
San Diego, CA

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Scot Martin  
Citizens United for Responsible Energy  
Borrego Springs, CA

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Harvey Payne  
Rancho Penasquitos Concerned Citizens  
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Jim Ward  
Canebrake Community Group  
Canebrake, CA