

EWG MEETING, AUGUST 24, 2006

GOOD MORNING.

MY NAME IS DIANE CONKLIN AND I LIVE IN RAMONA, ONE OF THE DOZEN COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THIS PROPOSED POWER LINE.

I AM A COMMUNITY ORGANIZER. I BEGAN WORKING IN MY COMMUNITY SEVEN YEARS AGO WHEN I MOVED THERE. I STARTED THE MUSSEY GRADE ROAD ALLIANCE AND I HEAD UP THE RAMONA TREE TRUST, A 501C(3) ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS 60 TREES ALONG OUR MAIN STREET.

I AM ALSO AN ORGANIZING MEMBER OF COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR SENSIBLE POWER (CUSP), A GRASSROOTS CITIZEN ORGANIZATION THAT STANDS FOR SUSTAINABLE, RENEWABLE, RELIABLE AND ECONOMICAL ENERGY FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY. CUSP, MADE UP OF SOME 12 COMMUNITIES FROM THE COAST TO THE DESERT, IS OPPOSED TO THE SUNRISE POWERLINK.

WE ARE HERE TODAY TO INTRODUCE OURSELVES AND TO LET YOU KNOW THAT WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AGAIN AT YOUR SEPTEMBER 28TH MEETING. WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY YOUR STAFF THAT WE WILL HAVE A LONGER TIME TO PRESENT OUR VOICE AND VIEWPOINT TO YOU THEN. WE REQUEST NOW A 15 MINUTE PRESENTATION ON THAT MEETING'S AGENDA.

IN THE MEANTIME, I WOULD ASK YOU TO CONSIDER, WHEN LISTENING TO THE PRESENTATION BY JIM AVERY TODAY, THESE THINGS:

- SDG&E IS SEMPRO.
- SEMPRO SETTLED A CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT EARLIER THIS YEAR BASED ON ALLEGATIONS OF ITS ACTIVITIES DURING THE SO-CALLED CALIFORNIA ENERGY CRISIS. THE CORPORATION PAID OUT SOME \$350 MILLION RATHER THAN DEFEND ITS HONOR AND INTEGRITY IN COURT. THEIR CHOICE, BUT SOMETHING TO KEEP IN MIND.
- BECAUSE THEY SETTLED THE CASE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CALCULATE WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN EXTRACTED BY THE CORPORATION VERSES WHAT TAX AND JOB REVENUES THE COMPANY PROVIDES THE AREA. SO WE ARE LEFT UNINFORMED REGARDING THESE ISSUES.
- SDG&E SERVED IN AN ADVISORY CAPACITY TO THE WORKING GROUP THAT PRODUCED THE ENERGY2030 SAN DIEGO REGIONAL ENERGY STRATEGY: CREATING A MORE SECURE ENERGY FUTURE FOR THE SAND DIEGO REGION AND PREPARED FOR SANDAG.
- THE WAY WE LOOK AT IT, TRANSMISSION IS ONE OF 9 GOALS; IT IS NOT THE ONLY GOAL AND IT IS NOT HELPING IN COUNTY GENERATION OR

CONSERVATION OR EVEN REDUCTION OF PEAK DEMAND. RATHER, IT MANAGES TO BYPASS THE OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS. ONE WAY TO SEE IT IS THAT SDG&E'S SO-CALLED SUNRISE POWERLINK IS THE SUV OF ELECTRICITY. GOING BACKWARDS, NOT FORWARDS.

- THE COMPANY WANTS TO RUN ITS POWER LINE THROUGH OR ADJACENT TO A HALF DOZEN OR MORE COUNTRY AND CITY OPEN SPACE PRESERVES AND OUR UNIQUE DESERT STATE PARK BECAUSE THEY FIGURE NO ONE WILL NOTICE OR CARE ENOUGH TO OBJECT. OUR TAX DOLLARS PAID FOR OR SUPPORT THESE PRESERVED OPEN SPACES AND WE DO CARE AND WE DO OBJECT.
- I ATTENDED THE CAISO MEETING ON BEHALF OF CUSP EARLIER THIS MONTH. THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS VOTED ON THEIR 70-PAGE STAFF REPORT -- RELEASED FOUR WORKING DAYS BEFORE THE BOARD MEETING -- OVER OUR OBJECTIONS. YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T GET TO READ THE FINAL REPORT EITHER -- BEFORE IT WAS HASTILY VOTED OUT TO FIT SDG&E'S SCHEDULED ROLL OUT OF ITS RESUBMITTED APPLICATION TO THE CPUC THE FOLLOWING DAY.
- I UNDERSTAND THERE WILL BE NO VOTE TAKEN TODAY BY THIS ENERGY WORKING GROUP. BEFORE YOU DO VOTE, WE WANT A CHANCE TO GIVE YOU OUR REPORT -- INCLUDING A REPORT ON WHO SDG&E SAYS SUPPORTS THEM ON THEIR WEBSITE. THEY HAVE BEEN BUSY TALKING TO ELECTED OFFICIALS AND GETTING PRIVATE GREEN LIGHTS WITHOUT PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE ISSUE. WE THINK THIS IS UNFAIR AND IS UNDEMOCRATIC.
- WE NEED TO REMEMBER THAT THE 26,000 MILES OF POWER LINES IN CALIFORNIA DIDN'T SAVE US IN 2000 AND 2001 AND WE ARE STILL PAYING THE \$ 30 BILLION DOLLAR PRICE AS RATEPAYERS AND CITIZENS.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO TALKING WITH YOU AGAIN NEXT MONTH.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.