

SANDAG Energy Working Group September 28, 2006

Thank you for having us today. My name is Carolyn Morrow, I am a board member of CASE, Community Alliance for Sensible Energy, a business owner and rancher.

We, as concerned citizens and not energy experts, have had an exceptionally steep learning curve in the last 8 months. But one thing we all agree on – there are viable alternatives to the project known as the Sunrise Powerlink. And none of these alternatives include impacting Anza Borrego State Park.

As noted many times, Anza Borrego is the crown jewel in the California state park system. It is the habitat of many animals including the Peninsular bighorn sheep and a number of sensitive plants. The line will dramatically impact the wilderness areas, requiring a major increase in the easement width, adding service roads, plus destroying viewsheds and campgrounds.

Parks are supposed to be ‘forever’ - for our children, their children and their children - and are set aside to prevent development from impacting these very special areas. If this project is approved and if it goes through the park, it will be a very sad day for all wilderness

areas. It will set a precedent for the entire nation – how would you feel having these towers in the Grand Canyon or Yosemite?

Please consider the alternative opinions carefully. The San Diego backcountry and Anza-Borrego State Park should not be destroyed to satisfy SDG&E's shareholders and supply power to Los Angeles – especially when there are more viable alternatives.