

# INFORMATION ABOUT COMMUNITIES UNITED FOR SENSIBLE POWER (CUSP)

## ***WHO ARE WE?***

CUSP IS A COLIAITON OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FROM THE COAST TO THE DESERT OPPOSED TO THE SDG&E TRANSMISSION LINE: BORREGO SPRINGS – CITIZENS UNITED FOR RESPONSIBLE ENERGY (CURE); CANEBRAKE - CANEBRAKE CITIZENS GROUP (CCG); CARMEL VALLEY- CARMEL VALLEY CONCERNED CITIZENS (CVCC); JULIAN/WYNOLA - PEOPLES POWER LINK (PPL); OCOTILLO WELLS - OCOTILLO WELLS CITIZENS ALLIANCE FOR RESPONSIBLE ENERGY (OWCARE); RAMONA – MUSSEY GRADE ROAD ALLIANCE (MGRA); RANCHITA/SANFELIPE, WARNER SPRINGS, MESA GRANDE, SANTA YSABEL– COMMUNITY ALLIANCE FOR SENSIBLE ENERGY (CASE); RANCHO PENASQUITOS - RANCHO PENASQUITOS CONCERNED CITIZENS (RPCC); TORREY HILLS - TORREY HILLS CONCERNED CITIZENS (THCC); AND INDIVIDUAL AFFILIATE MEMBERS

## ***WHAT DO WE STAND FOR? HERE IS OUR MISSION STATEMENT***

We, the community members of CUSP, are allied for sustainable, renewable and reliable energy produced locally securing our energy independence for the future needs of San Diego County. We support the creation of a modern, diverse and economical energy supply. We also support conservation of energy resources and environmentally sound energy generation to preserve our communities and the beauty of our collective natural world. We are opposed to Sunrise PowerLink.

## ***WHAT DO OUR MEMBERS HAVE TO SAY? HERE IS A SAMPLING:***

**CITIZENS UNITED FOR RESPONSIBLE ENERGY – Scot Martin, Borrego Springs:** While CURE is a proponent of reliable energy, we are committed to advocating for the responsible development of a comprehensive renewable and sustainable energy plan that promotes protection of our natural resources ahead of corporate profit. CURE is opposed to energy development, including "renewable energy" projects and infrastructure, that impact protected lands. We support forward thinking sustainable energy projects that complement the communities in which they are located without negatively impacting natural resources where they are developed. CURE does not support the SDGE Sunrise Powerlink proposal because of the significant impacts to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, open spaces and preserves along the length of the route.

**CARMEL VALLEY CONCERNED CITIZENS – Laura Copic:** Carmel Valley Concerned Citizens (CVCC) opposes the Sunrise Powerlink because we are convinced there are more efficient, local alternatives that will better add reliability and renewable resources to our energy mix and that have fewer harmful impacts on our parks, preserves and communities. Approval of the Powerlink would squelch the momentum and incentive to pursue these superior alternatives and make us more dependent upon imported energy. Moreover, the Sunrise Powerlink proposal promotes a "transmission first" strategy that runs contrary to California's Energy Action Plan (EAP) and the San Diego Regional Energy Strategy 2030 which favor maximizing energy efficiency, demand reduction, distributed generation, the development of renewable resources and other in-county generation **before** transmission as preferred strategies to attaining our future energy needs.

**PEOPLE'S POWERLINK – Kathleen Beck, Wynola:** People's Powerlink wishes to defeat the SPL and all other unnecessary, destructive, obsolete and deceptive energy projects proposed for greater San Diego. We wish to develop local sources of renewable energy and to replace conventional energy production and transmission with up-to-date, in-basin technology.

**MUSSEY GRADE ROAD ALLIANCE – Diane Conklin, Ramona:** The Alliance has worked to preserve and protect Mussey Grade Road and environs for seven years. This power line is yet again another ill conceived project that would adversely affect where we live, including the 2,200 acre Boulder Oaks open space we worked with the County of San Diego to preserve. This preserve is only one of a half dozen across San Diego County that SDG&E wants to slice through on their way to profits. We object, disagree, protest and oppose this destructive project that would take us backward, not forward into 21<sup>st</sup> century intelligent and innovative energy solutions.

**COMMUNITY ALLIANCE FOR SENSIBLE ENERGY – Mary Aldern, Ranchita:** We protest as part of the CPUC mandated check-and-balance system, because, after nearly a year of review, this proposal is still overly expensive, destructive, and unnecessary to citizens, ratepayers, and the environment, while being financially lucrative to the Investor Owned Utility (IOU) and its stockholders. We pressure the city and county governments and communities to become more energy independent, to use clean, conservation-minded in-county, renewable and self-sufficient energy sources, and to practice energy conservation and energy-efficiency, as is thoroughly stated in the San Diego Regional Energy Report 2030. We believe that companies should explore all alternatives before asking other Americans to sacrifice their health and livelihoods, or destroy protected wildlife and land.

**RANCHO PENASQUITOS CONCERNED CITIZENS – Harvey Payne:** Rancho Penasquitos Concerned Citizens opposes the Sunrise Powerlink. We have two choices when it comes to providing for more electricity in the future. We can build a transmission line through our state park, our open spaces and our neighborhoods and transmit electricity over hundreds of miles, or, we can generate electricity locally through rooftop solar and/or re-powered or new power plants. Rooftop solar and power plants built by others do not make money for SDG&E/Sempra. A billion dollar transmission line paid for by ratepayers at a guaranteed rate of return of over 11% does. Once again, Sempra is dictating our energy future and attempting to take advantage of the ratepayers.

**TO FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CUSP, SEE OUR WEBSITE:  
WWW.CUSPSANDIEGO.ORG OR CALL (760) 787 - 0794**