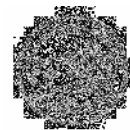


PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



To : Readers of the Draft Environmental Impact Report

From : Billie Blanchard, EIR Project Manager

Subject: **Notice of Availability**, Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed San Diego Gas & Electric Company's Otay Mesa Power Purchase Agreement Transmission Project
CPCN Application No. CA.04-03.008; State Clearinghouse No. 2004071138

Date : March 3, 2005

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for consideration of San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E) application to build and operate the Otay Mesa Power Purchase Agreement (OMPPA) Transmission Project. If approved, the Proposed Project would install a new 230-kilovolt (kV) electric transmission circuit that would connect Calpine's Otay Mesa Generation Project (OMGP), currently under construction near SDG&E's existing Miguel Substation, with SDG&E's existing Sycamore Canyon Substation, and a second 230 kV electric transmission circuit that would connect the OMGP to SDG&E's existing Old Town Substation. Additional Project components would include a new transition station and modifications to the existing Sycamore Canyon, Miguel and Old Town Substations. The new 230 kV transmission circuit evaluated in the EIR includes approximately 18 miles of overhead 230 kV transmission circuit to be located within existing SDG&E right-of-way and ten miles of 230 kV transmission circuit to be located underground primarily within existing SDG&E right-of-way and public roadways. According to SDG&E, the Project is proposed as the primary infrastructure needed to connect the OMGP to SDG&E's transmission system.

The DEIR details the Proposed Project, evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of SDG&E's Proposed Project, identifies those impacts that could be significant, and presents mitigation measures, which, if adopted by the CPUC or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The DEIR also evaluates alternatives to the Proposed Project, including the No Project Alternative, as required by CEQA. The DEIR was released for public review on March 3, 2005. The 1,000+ page DEIR will be available for review at several area libraries and on the project website (address is listed on page two of this notice). Copies of the DEIR on CD, or a separately bound Executive Summary, may be requested by mail. The CPUC also has a limited number of copies of the complete DEIR document available to the public upon request at the addresses listed below.

Written comments on the DEIR must be postmarked and received no later than April 16, 2005; please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number. Written comments on the Draft EIR should be sent to:

Billie Blanchard, CPUC
c/o Dudek & Associates, Inc.
605 Third Street
Encinitas, CA 92024

In order to help affected communities understand the Proposed Project and the DEIR, and to explain how the public can participate in the CPUC's decision-making process, the CPUC will hold informational meetings on March 15, 2005 at the Chula Vista - South Branch Library, 389 Orange Avenue, Chula Vista, CA. At these informational workshops, the EIR Team and CPUC staff will be available to respond to questions and provide clarification regarding the impact analysis and conclusions presented in the DEIR.

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At a future date, the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), Carol Brown, may hold a Public Participation Hearing (PPH) for formal verbal comments on the DEIR where the public can speak on the record about any other issues of concern related to SDG&E's CPCN Application. Details on the information meetings are as follows:

CPUC Informational Meetings
March 15, 2005 Chula Vista – South Branch Library Multi-Purpose Room B 389 Orange Avenue Chula Vista, CA 91911
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM and 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

If a PPH will be held, a separate future notice will be sent out by the ALJ office.

Sources of Project Information

Additional information and the electronic version of the DEIR will be available at the project website:

<http://www.dudek.com/cpuc/sdge-omppa-trans-proj/>.

This site will be used to post all public documents during the environmental review process and to announce upcoming public meetings.

You may also contact the EIR Team by U.S. mail:

U.S. Mail: Billie Blanchard, CPUC
c/o Dudek & Associates, Inc.
605 Third Street
Encinitas, CA 92024

DEIR comments will be accepted by U.S. Mail at the foregoing listing and must be postmarked by April 16, 2005. Please include your name, address, and telephone number.