

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Roy Wilson and Marion Ashley

SUBMITTAL DATE: July 15, 2008

SUBJECT: Resolution 2008-346, A Resolution of the County of Riverside Opposing Construction of High Tension Power Lines Through Environmentally Sensitive Areas of Riverside County

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Adopt Resolution 2008-346, A Resolution of the County of Riverside Opposing Construction of High Tension Power Lines Through Environmentally Sensitive Areas of Riverside County
2. Send a letter signed by Supervisor Wilson and Supervisor Ashley and a copy of Resolution 2008-346 to the Mayor and City Council for the City of Los Angeles, and the General Manager and President of the Board of Directors for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, voicing the concerns of the County of Riverside related to the Green Path North Project.

BACKGROUND: The County of Riverside has been monitoring the Green Path North Project, a new 500 kV transmission line corridor project being proposed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). The potential corridors that are being considered will traverse parts of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

The County of Riverside has concerns with any route that would affect the Coachella Valley, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP). The construction and maintenance activities to support a new transmission line would leave a lasting impact on an already fragile habitat that has been set aside to protect rare and endangered desert flora and fauna, and protect public lands that have historical and cultural significance.

Roy Wilson, Chairperson
Supervisor, Fourth District

Marion Ashley
Supervisor, Fifth District

The County of Riverside opposes any new transmission corridor projects that may traverse land that is designated within the CVMSHCP, and would affect the visual esthetics of Joshua Tree National Park. Furthermore, the County opposes any proposed alternative transmission corridor that is located North of the Interstate 10 freeway between the Southern California Edison-Devers II substation and the City of Banning. The County encourages the LADWP to work diligently with all potentially affected communities including any negotiations with energy partners such as Southern California Edison to provide an alternate route that has the least impact on the environment and the citizens within the two county areas.

1 WHEREAS, the County of Riverside is opposed to any proposed alternate transmission
line corridors that would be located North of the Interstate 10 freeway between the
2 Southern California Edison-Devers II substation and the City of Banning; and

3 WHEREAS, other existing high tension transmission line corridors are available for the
"Green Path North" project that would not create adverse environmental impacts; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the residents of the area of the proposed transmission line alignment have
voiced their strong objections against the "Green Path North" project; and

6 WHEREAS, the County of San Bernardino has adopted Resolution 2007-367 in
opposition to the proposed Green Path North transmission corridor; and
7

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Riverside opposes the
construction of high tension power lines through MSHCP designated lands that have
been set aside to protect environmental sensitive populations within the Coachella
9 Valley; and

10 FURTHER RESOLVE and recommend that LADWP work diligently with all potentially
affected communities including any negotiations with energy partners such as Southern
11 California Edison to find existing alternative transmission corridors that will have the
least impact on the environment and the citizens of both Riverside and San Bernardino
12 counties.

13 NOW THEREFORE, the Board of Supervisors for the County of Riverside, in regular
14 session on July 15, 2008, do hereby by APPROVE AND ADOPT RESOLUTION
2008-346.
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16 _____
17 Roy Wilson, Chairperson
18 Riverside County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor, Fourth District

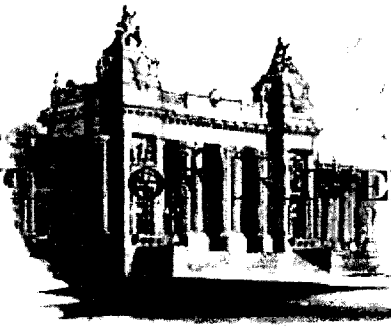
19 _____
20 Bob Buster
21 Supervisor, First District

20 _____
21 John Tavaglione
22 Supervisor, Second District

23 _____
24 Jeff Stone
Supervisor, Third District

23 _____
24 Marion Ashley
Supervisor, Fifth District

COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Bob Buster 951-955-1010
District 2	John F. Tavaglione 951-955-1020
District 3	Jeff Stone 951-955-1030
District 4	Roy Wilson 951-955-1040
District 5	Marion Ashley 951-955-1050

July 15, 2008

Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa and City Council Members
City of Los Angeles
200 North Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Mr. H. Daniel Nahai, CEO and General Manager
Mr. Nick Patsouras, President
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Board of Commissioners
111 North Hope St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Green Path North Project

Honorable Mayor Villaraigosa, City Council Members, Mr. Nahai and Mr. Patsouras,

The County of Riverside has been monitoring the Green Path North Project, a new 500 kV transmission line corridor project being proposed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) that will traverse parts of Riverside and San Bernardino counties. It is the understanding of county staff that the Green Path North Project is designed to bring geothermal and other renewable energy sources to the City of Los Angeles. The County of Riverside applauds your efforts to increase California's alternative energy portfolio.

However, the County of Riverside has concerns with any route that would impact the county's Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The MSHCP was adopted by all of the cities and the county within the Coachella Valley and approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and serves as a mechanism to ensure controlled and managed development within the desert region. The construction and maintenance activities to support a new transmission corridor would leave a lasting impact on an already fragile habitat that has been set aside to protect rare and endangered desert flora and fauna, and protect public lands that have historic and cultural significance.

The County of Riverside encourages the City of Los Angeles and the LADWP to evaluate alternate corridors that have been designated by the Department of the Interior-Bureau of Land Management. Many of these corridors have adequate capacity for additional transmission lines and would help preserve the decades of work undertaken by numerous local, state and federal agencies in the development and approval of the Coachella Valley MSHCP.

Page 2

RE: Green Path North Project

The County of Riverside supports responsible renewable energy projects, especially those that can be generated and distributed locally as can be attested to by our commitment to solar, wind and geothermal energy production in our region. All of these projects have had transparent public participation and input through the CEQA process and through public forums that educate the community on proposed project details.

The County of Riverside supports the intent of Resolution 2007-367 adopted by the County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors on December 4, 2007, in opposition of the Green Path North Project.

Finally, the County of Riverside respectfully opposes any new transmission corridor project that traverses land that is part of the Coachella Valley MSHCP or affects the visual aesthetics of Joshua Tree National Park. Furthermore, the County opposes any new transmission line corridor that is north of the Interstate 10 freeway between the Devers II substation and the City of Banning. The County of Riverside encourages the City of Los Angeles and the LADWP to work diligently with all potentially affected communities and with energy partners such as Southern California Edison to provide an alternate route that has the least impact on the environment and the citizens within the two-county areas.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roy Wilson, Chairperson
Supervisor, Fourth District

Marion Ashley
Supervisor, Fifth District

cc: Sierra Club