Comment Letter I10

Comments On Environmental Impact Report Jacumba Solar
Major Use Permit

I Derik Martin am the owner of a house and 175 acres just north of the project. My physical address there is 1425 Carrizo Creek and I am listed as R 2 in the EIR report. I10-1

The first point that I would like to make is that the Environmental Impact Report was conducted prior to the completion of the Eco Sub Station. The report makes references to the visual aesthetics of the exiting Eco Sub Station but has no current photos depicting the true magnitude of this atrocity. The photos of the Eco Sub Station inaccuracies are not only because they were taken prior to the completion but also because of the altitude (low) and angles they were taken from. I have provided more accurate photos both prior to the Eco Substation and Current to this year. I realize this is a separate project but make reference to it for two reasons, one because Dudek conducted the EIR for the Jaucumba Solar and the Eco Sub Station and two because the Jacumba Solar project is much larger than the Eco Sub Station and closer to my house. So the impact on my view and the general overall impact will be greater. I10-2

The EIR report lists that the areas is already visually modified. The Philosophy that the area is already modified and that it's ok to add to the blight is ridiculous. We are talking about people's quality of life, property values and the general impact on the Environment of tearing up 300 acres! A good analogy would be if someone took a trash can and dumped it and spread it in your front yard, then it's ok to take three trash cans and dump them as well because your lawn has already been modified? This project is roughly three times the size of the Eco Substation which sits in my front yard; the idea that you can plant a few trees and the mess will go away is ludicrous. My property value has plummeted, the dust and dirt and closer of I-80 was for years! Not months but years and the visual and environmental effects are forever. I10-3

The EIR doesn't have any photos of the view from my house, only one photo view 2 at the freeway elevation and one 1.5 miles from the project. The view from my house is so enlightening and revealing. I invite you or anyone from the county to come see it for yourself rather than rely on these misleading photos. I10-4

This project is one of three in the past 3 years! At some point the county needs to decide what far East County is going to be, a visually blighted area of power lines and sub stations, wind turbines and solar power facilities or a nice quiet area to get away and enjoy nature, you can't have both and at this time it looks like the decision is to go with the power companies and make it a blighted industrial zone. This leaves residents like me with property of little to no value. I10-5

The CEQA process wasn't followed for both the Tie in project to the Eco Sub Station or the Eco Substation. Both project time frames were inaccurate as was the visual impact. SDG&E has told me I10-6

Response to Comment Letter I10

Derik Martin
June 1, 2015

I10-1 The County acknowledges receipt of Derek Martin's input and appreciates the comments regarding the potential impacts associated with implementation of the project. This comment does not address the adequacy of the DEIR, therefore no further response is required.

I10-2 Cumulative discussion throughout Chapters 2 and 3 of the Final EIR has been revised to include the most up to date status of both the ECO substation and ESJ Phase 1 projects (Table 1-7). Specifically, cumulative impacts with respect to aesthetics is included within Section 3.1.4, and analysis shows that impacts would be less than significant.

I10-3 The County acknowledges this comment; however it does not address the adequacy of the DEIR, therefore no further response is required. Aesthetics impact analysis with respect to implementation of the project is included within Section 2.1 of the DEIR.

I10-4 The County acknowledges this comment; however it does not address the adequacy of the DEIR, therefore no further response is required. To clarify, neither CEQA nor the County of San Diego protect private views.

directly that they still have 8 years to modify the impact of the Sub Station This was never included in any of the CEQA required documentation nor is it being enforced by The County of San Diego. I10-6 Cont.

This Poject has the same players, same county, same EIR assessment company (Dudek) and same state so why would this project be any different. I suspect that Dudek is in conflict of interest since their number one client is SDG&E and anything that benefits them (SDG&E) benefits Dudek. If you look at the simulation photo of the Eco Substation that Dudek created for CEQA and the county and then compared it to the finished product they look nothing alike. There was nothing every proposed that said Highway 80 would be closed or partially shut down for 2 years! I10-7

Dudeks findings were that my view and the impact on my residence is "Less than significant" this is such a gross fallacy that I hope someone will visit my land and see the truth, my photos can't reveal the true impact of the destruction of land that's taken place near my home already. I10-8

In closing I ask, what benefit other than permit fees does the County Of San Diego and the residence of the county get for passing and allowing such destruction? How can such devastation of our rural landscapes make our lives better? Lower power bills? (Rates went up 40% the past 2 years). Green energy/ sacrifice? These projects are not green they all involve the destruction of land and displacement of animals and lower the quality of life for residents. Nothing about them are green unless you're talking green as in money for the developers, CPUC and Utilities. I10-9

Derik Martin

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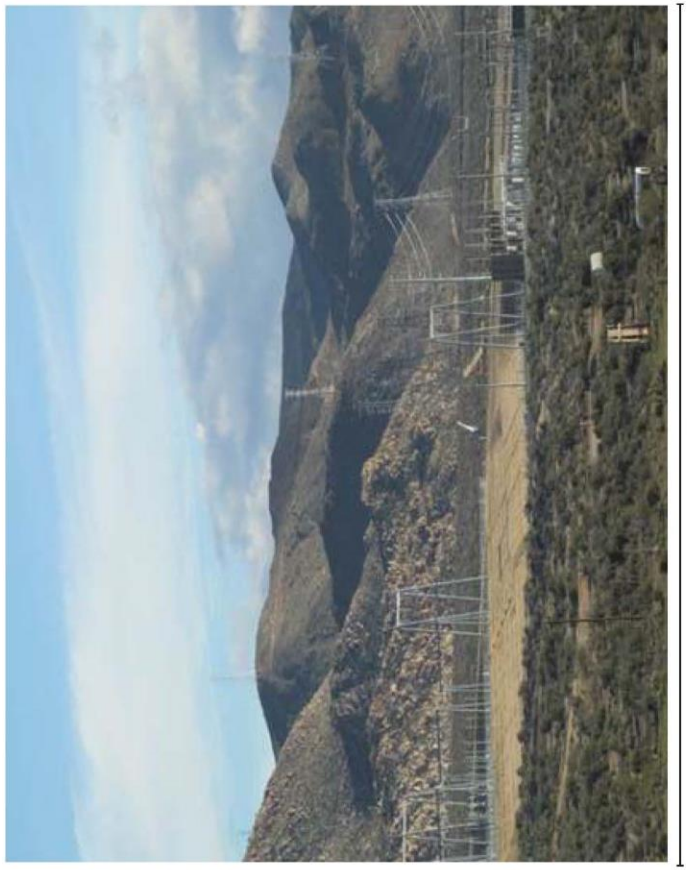
I10-5 The County acknowledges this comment; however it does not address the adequacy of the DEIR, therefore no further response is required.

I10-6 The County acknowledges this comment; however it does not address the adequacy of the DEIR, therefore no further response is required.

I10-7 The County acknowledges this comment; however it does not address the adequacy of the DEIR, therefore no further response is required.

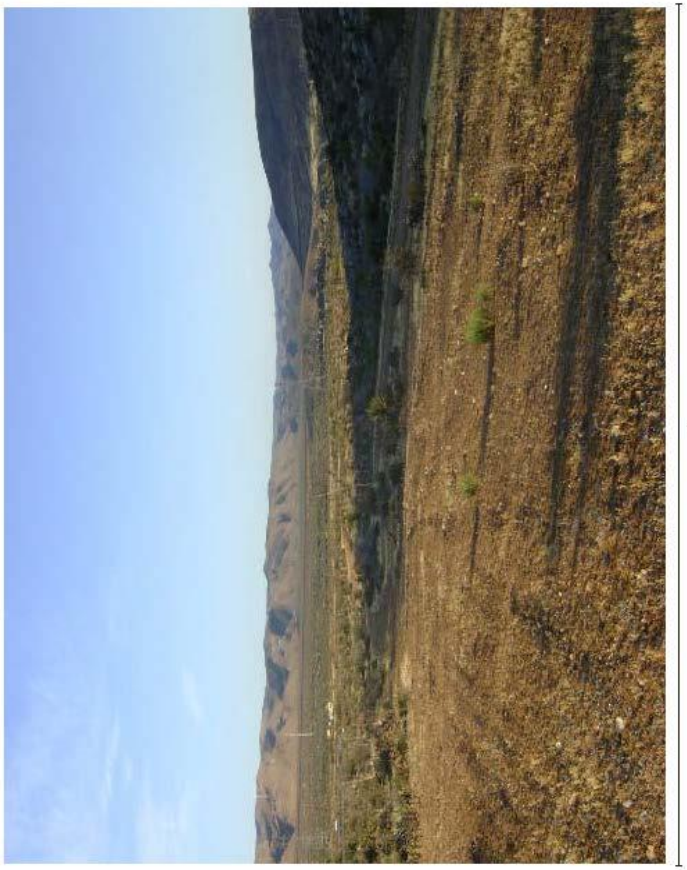
I10-8 The County acknowledges that the commenter disagrees with the conclusion reached about visual impacts in the DEIR. The commenter has provided no evidence in support of his contention. To clarify, neither CEQA nor the County of San Diego protect private views.

I10-9 The County acknowledges this comment; however it does not address the adequacy of the DEIR, therefore no further response is required.



I10-10

I10-10 The County acknowledges receipt of these photos of the ECO substation. See Response to Comment I10-2.



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