D December 2014
Final PEIR

Response to Comment Letter I84

Linda White
February 21, 2014

I84-1 The County of San Diego (County) agrees that revisions to the construction water demand estimate was required and revisions have been made the initial estimates. With increased water demand, impacts to groundwater resources remain less than significant. See common responses WR1 and WR2 for details. Construction and operational water use was considered and addressed in Sections 3.1.5.3, Groundwater Resources, and 3.1.9.3, Water, of the DPEIR.

I84-2 Issues raised in this comment related to fire hazards were considered and addressed in Section 3.1.4.3, Wildfire Hazards, of the DPEIR. See also response to comment I37-3.

I84-3 The Rough Acres Ranch campground is considered in the DPEIR as a cumulative project; however, it is not part of this project and as such would not be considered by the decision makers. Rough Acres is being processed under a separate Major Use Permit, and concerns related to that project may be identified during the public review period. This comment does not raise a specific issue related to the Proposed Project or the adequacy of the environmental analysis in the DPEIR and no additional response is provided or required.
| I84-4 | Potential adverse impacts to oaks (*Quercus* sp.) were considered and addressed in the DPEIR (see Chapter 2.3, Biological Resources). |
This comment relates to effects from the Sunrise Powerlink project on the commenter and does not raise specific issues related to the Proposed Project or the adequacy of the environmental analysis in the DPEIR. The information in this comment will be in the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) for review and consideration by the decision makers.

The commenter expresses concerns related to safety and security. As this issue relates to the adequacy of emergency services, the topic is discussed in Section 3.1.7, Public Services, of the DPEIR. Social and economic effects are not environmental issues and as such are not evaluated in an environmental impact report (see 14 CCR 15064(e)).

The County acknowledges the commenter’s concern associated with stray voltage. The County assumes the commenter is referring to electric and magnetic fields (EMF). Recognizing there is a great deal of public interest and concern regarding potential health effects and hazards from exposure to EMFs, the DPEIR provides information regarding these potential issues; see Section 3.1.4.5 of the DPEIR. However, the DPEIR does not consider EMFs in the context of the CEQA for determination of environmental impact because there is no agreement among scientists that EMFs create a health risk and because there are no defined or adopted CEQA standards for defining
health risks from EMFs. As a result, the EMF information is presented for the benefit of the public and decision makers. Furthermore, in response to this comment and other comments regarding EMF, a memorandum was prepared by Asher R. Sheppard, PhD to support the information provided in the DPEIR and provide more detail; see Appendix 9.0-1. The memorandum concludes that EMF from the Proposed Project are highly localized and pose no known concern for human health.

The County acknowledges the commenter’s opposition to the Proposed Project. The information in this comment will be provided in the FPEIR for review and consideration by the decision makers.

References