

Sue Sinclair
Western Area Power Administration
Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630-4710

MARCH, 2, 2007

Reference: Draft Environment Impact Statement, Trinity Public
Utilities District dated 8 Feb.2007

Dear Sue Sinclair,

After a detailed review of the above referenced Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the more detailed maps you forwarded later I find that your planed installation of power poles will be on my planned Building site. This will effectively make the site useless.

In order to satisfy your requirement with minimum impact on the building site I believe You could go directly from pole number 5/3 (reference attached map) to pole 5/5. This appears to be within your maximum pole separation criteria and would leave the building site useable, minimize the view obstruction, and reduce the impact of the electromagnetic fields set up by the power lines.

My son Michael Quail will be available on location the week of March 4 through the 7th. If some one will meet with him he can help resolve the problem. He can be reached while in the area at Ph 530-778-3487 or at the summer home at 671 Jessup Gulch Road, Lewiston, CA

I'm sorry I can not be there myself but I just got out of the hospital and can't travel yet..

Sincerely,
Stanton Quail



ATTACH = 1 - Shows line from 5/3 up on hill to 5/5 below building site. Angle structure 5/4 on building site would be removed / bypassed.

February 20, 2007

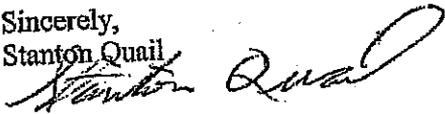
Mr. Steve Tuggle
Natural Resources Manager, N 1400
Western Area Power Administration
Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630-4710

Dear Sir:

Upon review of the comprehensive report I'm deeply concerned that the placements of the poles and power lines where they enter my parcel # 025-040-2900 are on my developed building site. My son expects to build his retirement home there in the near future. Additionally, I've spent a considerable amount of money to set up the site with bulldozing and survey costs to support the lot line change as the location straddled two properties. There is not another location on the 20 acres for a building site with the view, private lake access, road access, and power and water availability. I've had several offers to buy the site with the best offer from a retired school teacher for \$3000 per acre if I installed a septic tank and leach field.

It is requested that we work out a different location for the power poles where you plan on entering my property and I would like someone to physically walk me through the planned installation to see if there are other problems. I'm having some difficulty as all the info I have is the plane and the map on page 166 of that plan.

Sincerely,
Stanton Quail



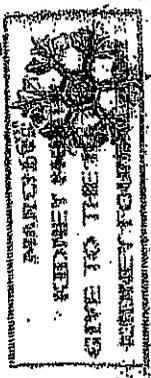
From: Stanton Quail <shirley_stan@sbcglobal.net>
To: <trinityeis@wapa.gov>
Date: 2/20/2007 3:15 PM
Subject: Environmental Impact Statement, Trinity PUD

Reviewed the EIS for Trinity PUD Direct interconnection and am deeply concerned on the placement of the poles as you enter my property o25-040-2900. . That location is a planned building site. A letter is being forwarded on this subject.

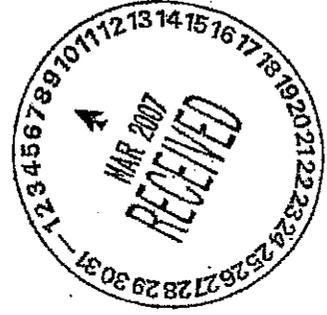
Stan Quail

Carolyn Hinckelmann
PO Box 1331
Hayfork, CA 96041-1331

REDDING CA 960
07 MAR 2007 PM 3.1



Steve Tuggle
Natural Resources Mgr.
M1400
Western Area Power Admin.
Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive,
Folsom, CA 95630-4710



956304710

TO: Western Area Power Administration

We here in the East Fork Canyon are laughing over the plan you cooked up with TCPUD.

For 50 years we tried to get public power here. What we got was to be Red lined & Black listed. Beyond a few mouthy "1955 DAM Agreements" there was nothing from Congressman Wally Heugen.

TUPD got \$350,000 as a cash gift every year but not one penny was spent to expand the grid. Now, you put in a new, shorter line to Weaver ville that is supposed to save on transmission costs. And, those savings will go to lower the bills of those already on the grid -- not one red cent will go to expand the grid. We've been told if we want power, we can pay TUPD \$100,000 per house.

Lyndon Johnson electrified Texas in the 1930s at public expense but, Trinity County citizens, who helped, via their

② taxes pay for one electric project after another, can go to Hell.

Property values here remain static because we can't get power on phones & the population is shrinking (within 1000 feet of me are 3 abandoned houses). We paid for everyone else's electrification, but, we will never see it ourselves, unless we pay millions out of our own pocket: we can't, we were already picked clean by PG&E PUD for others.

I have lived all over the U.S.A. & in Europe & been a few other places & Trinity County is the only place where people in the richest country in the world are denied power while the U.S. is paying in Iraq to restore war-damaged lines & the poorest hovels in Africa sprout satellite dishes. You & TUPD make me sick.

C. Munn
Box 1331
Hayfork CA 96041

MAIL ROUTING		
CODE	INITIAL	DATE
X N0000		
X N0020		
X N1000		
N2000		
N4000		
N5000		
N6000		
N8000		
Library/Recycle		
F/Code		

FEB. 14

SUBJECT:
PROPOSAL, 16 MILES OF 60KV LINE

I HAVE NOTHING BUT POSITIVE COMMENTS, FOR YOUR PROJECT. FUNDING HAS BEEN APPROVED, SO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS, MAKE YOUR SELECTION, & ISSUE THE WORK ORDER TO BEGIN PROJECT, (YES IT IS THAT SIMPLE)

SHOULD YOU RECEIVE NEGATIVE COMMENTS, ESPECIALLY FROM THE "ECO. INDUSTRY" (ECO. WAGLO'S), THEN SIMPLY FILE THEM IN THE PAPER SHREDDER!

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF TRINITY COUNTY PUBLIC UTILITIES & THE PEOPLE THEY SERVE THIS PROJECT MUST GO FORWARD.

"GIT ER DONE"

BEST OF LUCK
BOB SUSAVILLA
P.O. Box 645
Hay Fork, Ck.
96041



March 26, 2006

Mr. Steve Tuggle, Natural Resources Manager
Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630-4710

Comments on DOE/EIS-0389: Trinity Public Utilities District Interconnection Project

The Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization based in Arcata, California. For nearly 40 years the NEC has addressed watershed and habitat issues throughout the North Coast of California. Of particular concern has been the biological health of the Klamath River basin, including the Trinity River and its environs.

There seems little justification for constructing 16 miles of new 60-kV power lines from Trinity Power Plant to the Weaverville Switchyard. The stated objective — "to enhance the reliability of service for the customers of Trinity PUD [who] routinely experience nearly 20,000 consumer hours in outages per year" — is in no way addressed by the proposed project, as the power lines will pass through nearly 16 miles of forest whose trees, according to the DEIS, will generally stand higher than the power lines. In this area the greatest threat to power lines is falling trees. Despite an exorbitantly large proposed 80-foot right-of-way for the project, the new lines will be just as much at risk of failing as the old lines.

Given the obvious conclusion that new power lines strung through a forest are just as much at risk as old power lines through a forest, what, really, is the "need" for this project? Why is there a "need" to increase the capacity of the power lines from 12 kV to 60 kV? Could it be to **accommodate development and growth in the Weaverville area**? This potential is compelling enough that it would need to be addressed in the cumulative effects evaluation of state and federal laws (NEPA and CEQA); that is, what are the anticipated future developments that may be associated with this powerline project? The absence of such consideration brings the DEIS into non-compliance with CEQA and NEPA.

575 H STREET ~ ARCATA, CA 95521
(707) 822-6918 ~ Fax (707) 822-0827 ~ email: nec@ournec.org
www.yournec.org

The DEIS states, "The No Action Alternative appears to have the fewest overall impacts; however, it does not meet Western's need for power system reliability." Again, given the high winds and predictable snows in the proposed power line route, which is almost completely enshrouded by trees taller than the proposed lines themselves, "reliability" is an elusive goal, at best.

Under "Alternatives Analysis," the DEIS states, "The system and routing alternatives described above were not considered in detail for this EIS because the Proposed Project upgrades and/or rebuilds of the existing transmission lines within the existing ROW would minimize potential adverse effects compared to constructing new lines in previously undisturbed areas." Yet construction of "new lines in previously undisturbed areas" is the prescription for more than half of the project. Even were it true that the upgrades and/or rebuilds "would minimize potential adverse effects compared to constructing new lines in previously undisturbed areas," this can not be said for the rest of the project, whose foreseeable cumulative impacts on water quality, soils, wildlife, fisheries, aesthetics, natural resources, noise, EMFs and many other qualities have been dramatically understated in the DEIS. In addition, the upgrades and rebuilds within the existing corridor will amount to new line construction, given the amount of ground disturbance, and the size of the ROW, that will be required.

Northern Spotted Owl

It is dubious at best to consider conserving and managing "acreage off-site to mitigate the loss of NSO habitat" that would occur under this project. Designating 28 acres as "Critical Habitat" is an illusory safeguard, and illegal under NEPA. Northern spotted owls are not afforded protection in the EIS as mandated under state and federal laws, including the state and federal Endangered Species Acts, NEPA and CEQA. Also at issue is lack of compliance with the Northwest Forest Plan, and the Interconnection Project's failure to address the ongoing Spotted Owl Recovery Plan.

Timber Sales

Creation of Timber Sales to accommodate the project on BLM and USFS lands should be completed prior to adoption of the DEIS. Information on timber sales is essential for determining this project's compliance with state and federal laws.

Sincerely,



Greg King
Executive Director



February 14, 2007

Steve Tuggle
Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630

Dear Mr. Tuggle,

Please send, ASAP, all applicable and current documents, including EIR/EIS, regarding the new power lines requested by the Trinity County Public Utilities District, to my office so that the Northcoast Environmental Center may adequately review this initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Greg King".

Greg King
Executive Director

575 H STREET ~ ARCATA, CA 95521
(707) 822-6918 ~ Fax (707) 822-0827 ~ email: nec@ournec.org
www.yournec.org

DFG Message

From: TrinityEIS EIS
To: Norton, Brandy
Date: 2/28/2007 9:37 AM
Subject: Re: Trinity Public Utilities District Direct Interconnection Project, Draft EIS

CC: Bridges, John; Schriener, Misti Kae
Brandy:

Thanks for your message. We will continue to keep you informed about the project, especially if anything changes.

Mark

>>> "Brandy Norton" <BNORTON@dfg.ca.gov> 2/23/2007 2:24 PM >>>
Trinity PUD EIS Team,

I have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Trinity Public Utilities District Direct Interconnection Project, in Trinity County. The project is proposing to construct, own, operate and maintain approximately 16 miles of 60-kilovolt transmission line, associated access roads, a new switchboard, and interconnection facilities.

The Department of Fish and Game has determined that the project, with proper implementation of the proposed mitigation measures is not likely to result in take of a State listed species or species of special concern or cause significant impacts to biological resources. If the project changes, or if stated mitigation measures can not be implemented, please contact us so that potential impacts to sensitive species may be re-evaluated.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this determination.

Thank you,
Brandy Norton

Brandy Norton, Biologist
Habitat Conservation Planning
California Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001
530-225-2349
Cell: 530-510-1858
Fax: 530-225-2343



California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region
John W. Corbett, Chairman



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

www.waterboards.ca.gov/northeast
5550 Skyline Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403
Phone: (877) 721-9203 (toll free) • Office: (707) 576-2220 • FAX: (707) 523-0135

Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

March 23, 2007

Mr. Steve Tuggle
Natural Resource Manager, N1400
Western Area Power Administration
Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Dr.
Folsom, CA 95630-4710

Subject: Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the
Trinity Public Utilities District Direct Interconnection Project
File: USFS

Dear Mr. Tuggle:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced document. As the California state agency responsible for the protection of state waters in this area, we are concerned that the project may result in impacts to water quality. The document identifies many mitigation measures that would minimize or avoid such impacts. We strongly recommend that all mitigation measures related to the protection of water quality and preservation of the integrity of stream and wetlands be included in the project design and construction specifications. The following addresses our specific concerns regarding the project:

1. Erosion and sediment control – We understand that the project will result in new land disturbance associated with roadways and utility line right-of-way (ROW), including the clearing of timber and brush and some new road construction. In addition, the project would utilize some existing ROW containing roadways or other disturbed areas. Please be aware that the Trinity River watershed below Lewiston Dam is listed as impaired by excessive sediment pursuant to Section 303(d) of the Federal Clean Water Act. Sediment from dirt roads is considered one of the primary causes of this impairment. The EIR commits to obtaining permit coverage under the statewide General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activity (General Permit). Under provisions of this permit, temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control measures will be required for areas of new construction. We would also request that the project proponent implement similar erosion and sediment control measures for areas of existing disturbance that are located within the project area. Western Area Power Administration previously spoke with Fred Blatt in our office regarding

California Environmental Protection Agency

Recycled Paper

permitting for timber harvesting and brush clearing associated with the proposed project. We have determined that the timber and brush clearing activities can be addressed through the General Permit.

2. Dredge/fill activities within waters of the state – The EIS discloses that the project will require numerous crossings of “dry washes” or other waters of the state. Please be aware that under provisions of the California Water Code, permits are required for activities that would result in discharges or threatened discharges of waste (including sediment) to waters of the state. Specifically, fill or excavation within waters of the state (including wetlands, ephemeral or intermittent streams) requires permitting from this agency. In the case where these waterbodies are also considered waters of the US, such a permit would serve as water quality certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.
3. Roads located on decomposed granite soils – Significant portions of the project area are located in watersheds containing decomposed granite which is commonly known to be highly unstable and erosive and easily transported to watercourses in runoff during rainfall events to the detriment of the beneficial uses of water. Millions of dollars have been spent in the adjacent Grass Valley Creek watershed to reduce the effects of decomposed granite sediment on streams in the area, as well as the Trinity River. Additionally, the Trinity River watershed below Lewiston Dam is listed as sediment impaired under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and contains anadromous salmonids listed as threatened or endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). For these reasons, we recommend adding language to the Final EIS specifying that access roads in the decomposed granite portions of the project area shall be rocked with clean gravel, along with the other control measures being implemented to prevent the discharge of sediment to nearby watercourses.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me at (707) 576-2065.

Sincerely,



John L. Short
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

032307_JLS_Trinity_Public_Uilities_District_Direct_Interconnection_Project_CEOA_COMMENT.doc

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING
1657 RIVERSIDE DRIVE
P. O. BOX 496073
REDDING, CA 96049-6073
PHONE (530) 229-0517
FAX (530) 225-3578
TTY (530) 225-2019



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March 20, 2007

Mr. Steve Tuggle
Natural Resources Manager, N1400
Western Area Power Administration
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630-4710

IGR/CEQA Review
Tri-299-54.4
Trinity PUD
Direct Interconnect Project
EIS
SCH# 2007022066

Dear Mr. Tuggle:

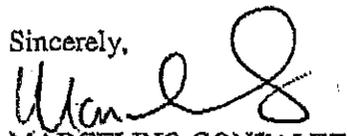
The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) submitted on behalf of the Trinity Public Utility District, for the Direct Interconnect Project. The project is located in Trinity County near the communities of Lewiston and Weaverville.

The power line extension project is located away from the State Highway. As stated in the document, none of the segments cross the State Highways. The project would result in timber harvesting activities. The amount of harvesting proposed is not a significant increase and is typical of this area. Lumber trucks would access the highways from established road connections.

The Weaverville Switchyard is accessed from State Route 299. As identified in the document, a Caltrans encroachment permit is required to address access to that facility. For more information regarding encroachment permit fees or the encroachment permit process, the applicant may contact the District 2 Permits Office located at 1657 Riverside Drive in Redding. The telephone number is (530) 225-3400. Encroachment permit applications are also available from the Caltrans website at www.dot.ca.gov.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed project. If you have any questions, please call me at 225-3369.

Sincerely,


MARCELINO GONZALEZ
Local Development Review
District 2



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Cynthia Bryant
Director

April 3, 2007

Mark Wieringa
U.S. Department of Energy
Western Area Power Administration
P.O. Box 281213
Lakewood, CO 80228-8213

Subject: Trinity Public Utilities District Direct Interconnection Project
SCH#: 2007022066

Dear Mark Wieringa:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Draft EIS to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on April 2, 2007, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) enclosed. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project's ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

"A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation."

These comments are forwarded for use in preparing your final environmental document. Should you need more information or clarification of the enclosed comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts
Director, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
cc: Resources Agency



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Region Arcata Area Office
1655 Heindon Road
Arcata, California 95521
Tel (707) 825-5163; Fax (707) 825-4840

MAR 29 2007

In response refer to:
2007/01961

Mr. Steve Tuggle
Natural Resources Manager, N1400
Western Area Power Administration
Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, California 95630-4710

Dear Mr. Tuggle:

This letter transmits NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) comments regarding Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Trinity Public Utilities District Direct Interconnection Project (Project). The Project entails removal of approximately 5.3 miles of 12-kilovolt (kV) distribution line, and the construction and operation of approximately 16 miles of new 60-kV transmission line, a tap structure and associated equipment, and a new switchyard. The Project will occur predominantly on Federal land adjacent to the upper Trinity River and near the towns of Lewiston and Weaverville, Trinity County, California. NMFS has reviewed the draft EIS, and offers the following comments.

General Comments

The Project involves the installation of new power poles and distribution lines through several tributary watersheds below Lewiston Dam that contain Federally threatened Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and its designated critical habitat, most notably Rush Creek and Little Browns Creek. Many of the upper Trinity River tributaries suffer from excessive sediment loading caused primarily by road-related erosion. All of the power poles installed as part of the Project will be located away from existing stream channels, which will minimize construction-related discharge of sediment into coho salmon habitat. However, the Project will have to utilize existing roads and stream crossings to access the new power-pole locations, and short sections of new road and stream crossings will be constructed to access locations inaccessible via the current road network. Construction and use of stream crossings and new road segments can potentially introduce fine sediment into nearby water courses, which can simplify instream habitat, raise instream turbidity levels, and physiologically harm coho salmon. Although WAPA has proposed Mitigation Measures meant to minimize sediment-related effects arising from Project activities, NMFS remains concerned about potential sediment-related impacts pending future review of the specific Project details.



Specific Comment

Page 3.2-4: NMFS points out that the impassable culvert within Little Browns Creek (County Road 232 at the Roundy Road Crossing) is currently funded for replacement during summer 2007. Once completed, the new bridge crossing will allow anadromous fish passage into 3 miles of high quality stream habitat above the current crossing.

NMFS appreciates the opportunity to comment on WAPA's draft EIS for the Trinity Public Utilities District Direct Interconnection Project. Please contact Mr. Rick Rogers at (707) 825-5167, or via e-mail at rick.rogers@noaa.gov, if you have any questions concerning this letter or require additional information.

Sincerely,



For Irma Lagomarsino
Arcata Area Office Supervisor

cc: C. Reid, NOAA Program Planning and Integration
Copy to file - ARN #150308SWR2007AR00135



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Pacific Southwest Region
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 520
Oakland, California 94607

IN REPLY REFER TO:
ER# (ex. ER07/133)

Hardcopy

26 March 2007

Mr. Steve Tuggle, Natural Resources Manager
Western Area Power Administration, Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630-4710

Subject: ER 07/133; Review of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Trinity
Utilities District Direct Interconnection Project, Trinity County, CA

Dear Mr. Tuggle:

The Department of the Interior has received and reviewed the subject document and has no comments to offer.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project.

Sincerely,

Patricia Sanderson Port
Regional Environmental Officer

cc:
Director, OEPC
BLM, Regional Office



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

March 30, 2007

Steve Tuggle
Natural Resources Manager
Western Area Power Administration
Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, California 95630-4710

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Trinity Public Utilities
District Direct Interconnection Project (CEQ# 70039)

Dear Mr. Tuggle:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the DEIS referenced above. Our review is pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

This project is intended to improve system reliability by providing a shorter, new, direct interconnection with Western Area Power Administration (Western)'s transmission system at the Trinity Power Plant. The project involves removal of 5.3 miles of existing 12kV distribution line and construction of new 50kV transmission line on a 8.5 mile new right of way (ROW), and a new switchyard. The U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation participated as cooperating agencies, with the U.S. Department of Energy as the Lead Federal Agency. Four main system alternatives and 3 main routing alternatives were considered but only one alternative was analyzed in the DEIS, as it minimizes potential adverse impacts by using existing ROW, to the extent possible. We have rated this project as Lack of Objections (LO) (see enclosed *Summary of Rating Definitions*).

EPA strongly supports Western's adoption of the Environmental Protection Measures (Section 3.2) and the U.S. Forest Service Resource Management Plan Policies (Appendix E) identified in the DEIS. These protective measures are important because the project will permanently disturb 149.50 acres, including critical habitat for the coho salmon and the northern spotted owl. In addition, the existing access roads and transmission line ROW that would be used to construct the Proposed Project cross several streams that are governed by Riparian Reserve policies and Late Successional Reserves. EPA recommends that Western commit to these protection measures and policies in the Record of Decision.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this DEIS. When the FEIS is released for public review, please send (1) copy to the address above (mailcode: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact me at 415-972-3846 or Summer Allen, the lead reviewer for this project at 415-972-3847 or allen.summer@epa.gov.

Sincerely,



Nova Blazej, Manager
Environmental Review Office

Main ID # 4847

Enclosures: Summary of EPA's Rating Definitions

Cc: Carol Borgstrom, U.S. Dept. of Energy

SUMMARY OF EPA RATING DEFINITIONS

This rating system was developed as a means to summarize EPA's level of concern with a proposed action. The ratings are a combination of alphabetical categories for evaluation of the environmental impacts of the proposal and numerical categories for evaluation of the adequacy of the EIS.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE ACTION

"LO" (Lack of Objections)

The EPA review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal. The review may have disclosed opportunities for application of mitigation measures that could be accomplished with no more than minor changes to the proposal.

"BC" (Environmental Concerns)

The EPA review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. Corrective measures may require changes to the preferred alternative or application of mitigation measures that can reduce the environmental impact. EPA would like to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

"EO" (Environmental Objections)

The EPA review has identified significant environmental impacts that must be avoided in order to provide adequate protection for the environment. Corrective measures may require substantial changes to the preferred alternative or consideration of some other project alternative (including the no action alternative or a new alternative). EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

"BU" (Environmentally Unsatisfactory)

The EPA review has identified adverse environmental impacts that are of sufficient magnitude that they are unsatisfactory from the standpoint of public health or welfare or environmental quality. EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts. If the potentially unsatisfactory impacts are not corrected at the final EIS stage, this proposal will be recommended for referral to the CEQ.

ADEQUACY OF THE IMPACT STATEMENT

Category 1" (Adequate)

EPA believes the draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information.

"Category 2" (Insufficient Information)

The draft EIS does not contain sufficient information for EPA to fully assess environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment, or the EPA reviewer has identified new reasonably available alternatives that are within the spectrum of alternatives analysed in the draft EIS, which could reduce the environmental impacts of the action. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the final EIS.

"Category 3" (Inadequate)

EPA does not believe that the draft EIS adequately assesses potentially significant environmental impacts of the action, or the EPA reviewer has identified new, reasonably available alternatives that are outside of the spectrum of alternatives analysed in the draft EIS, which should be analysed in order to reduce the potentially significant environmental impacts. EPA believes that the identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussions are of such a magnitude that they should have full public review at a draft stage. EPA does not believe that the draft EIS is adequate for the purposes of the NEPA and/or Section 309 review, and thus should be formally revised and made available for public comment in a supplemental or revised draft EIS. On the basis of the potential significant impacts involved, this proposal could be a candidate for referral to the CEQ.

*From EPA Manual 1640, "Policy and Procedures for the Review of Federal Actions Impacting the Environment."

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
75 HAWTHORNE STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105-3901

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Steve Tuggle
Natural Resources Manager
Western Area Power Administration
Sierra Nevada Region
114 Parkshore Drive
Folsom, CA 95630-4710

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