



File Code: 1950-3/2720-1

Date: August 21, 2007

Dear Interested Public:

Enclosed is the Record of Decision for the Southern California Edison (SCE) Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project Final Environmental Impact Statement. The ever increasing demands placed on our public lands create challenges for the Forest Service in weighing effects of implementing verses not implementing proposals designed to address infrastructure needs for adjacent communities. The SCE Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project presents precisely this type of challenge and the decision was not taken lightly.

After careful review, I have decided to implement a combination of Alternatives 2 and 4 along with the mitigation and protection measures noted in the document. The Alternative 2/4 combination includes authorizing a 50-year term special use permit to Southern California Edison for the construction, use, and maintenance of 500-kV transmission line facilities within a 160-foot wide, approximately 13.1 miles long, route on National Forest System (NFS) lands. The line will be located on the Santa Clara-Mojave Rivers Ranger District east of Del Sur Ridge. In addition, the existing 66-kV line improvements will be removed and appropriate special use permit(s) will be issued to authorize activities outside of the 160-foot route on NFS lands (e.g. construction). The decision includes amendments to the Forest Land Management Plan.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to 36 CFR 215. Only those individuals and organizations who submitted written or oral comments during the 45-day comment period (36 CFR 215.6) and otherwise meet the specific requirements of the 36 CFR 215.13 have standing to appeal. The appeal must be filed with the Appeal Deciding Officer in writing within 45 days following the publication date of this legal notice of decision in the *Los Angeles Times Newspaper*. At a minimum, the appeal must meet the content requirements of 36 CFR 215.14. An appeal, including any attachments, must be submitted (regular mail, fax, e-mail, hand-delivery, express delivery, or messenger service) to the Appeal Deciding Officer as outlined on Page 8 of the Record of Decision. If you have any questions related to my decision, please direct them to Project Manager Marian Kadota by calling (805) 961-5732.

Sincerely,

JODY NOIRON
Forest Supervisor

