

Docket Nos. 50-275
and 50-323 ✓

JUN 8 1973

Stephen E. Whitesell
5910 Hoffman Lane
Fair Oaks, California 95528

Dear Mr. Whitesell:

Your letter addressed to the Deputy Director for Reactor Projects has been referred to me for response.

I have enclosed a copy of the Final Environmental Statement for Diablo Canyon for your information. As you will see there have been some revisions since the Draft Statement was published. For instance, a map has been included (page 3-51) which shows location of the routes traversed by the transmission lines.

According to information available in a USDA, Forest Service report (reference 6, page 4-23) the principal nesting areas of the condor lie 40 to 75 miles south of the transmission line route. Sites have also been identified within approximately 5 to 10 miles from the Diablo to Midway routing. However, these sites are not regarded as constituting a major nesting area.

With respect to your suggestion that the transmission lines be relocated, you might wish to refer to the considerations given to alternate routes during the Show Cause Hearing held May 17-20, 1972, the transcript of which should be available in the San Luis Obispo County Free Library, 1954 Bishop Street, San Luis Obispo, California. Another detailed source on this subject is the transcript of hearings before the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California starting January 19 and ending June 28, 1971.

At the time the preparation of a detailed environmental impact statement became a requirement, a very substantial part of the transmission line construction including access roads had already been completed.

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Evaluation of alternate routes therefore would have to consider the additional environmental impact which would result if the selected route were to be abandoned.

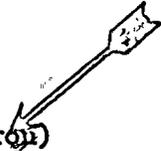
The expression of your interest is very much appreciated. I shall call the attention of the appropriate members of the staff to the information cited by Wilbar to insure that it has been taken into account.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Gordon K. Dicker

Gordon K. Dicker, Chief
Environmental Projects Branch 2
Directorate of Licensing

Enclosure:
Diablo Canyon Final Environmental
Statement

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