



Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Line Project

“Our Connection to a Clean Energy Future”

Project Description

- 117-mile, \$1.883 billion 500-kilovolt electric “superhighway” from Imperial County to San Diego with 1,000 megawatt capacity (enough energy for 650,000 homes)
- Approved by the California Public Utilities Commission in December 2008, U.S. Bureau of Land Management in January 2009 and U.S. Forest Service in July 2010
- Project schedule: Fall 2010 construction start and 2012 in-service

Project Benefits

- Improves reliability by strengthening the electric transmission grid in California and the Southwestern U.S.
- Facilitates renewable energy development and creates “green jobs” in Imperial County, which has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country
- \$1.7 billion economic investment in the U.S. and more than \$300 million in direct labor expenditures
- Creates 400 – 500 construction jobs and facilitates thousands of renewable energy industry jobs
- Key component of SDG&E’s clean energy and carbon reduction strategy
 - 33% Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) by 2020
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020
- Provides over \$100 million in annual energy savings to consumers

Infrastructure Needed to Tap Region’s Expansive Renewable Energy Potential*

- Sunrise will link 1,000 MW of a much larger renewable energy potential
- Experts have identified the San Diego and Imperial Counties / Baja, California Mega-Region as one of the top locations in the U.S. for renewable energy
- Recent studies indicate this Mega-Region could become a global showcase for clean energy with a potential of more than 12,000 MW of renewable electricity:
 - **Solar Energy – 6,550 megawatts**
Source: Renewable Energy Transmission Initiative (RETI) Phase 2A Draft Resource Report
 - **Wind Energy – 3,495 megawatts including Baja California**
Sources: RETI Phase 2A Draft Resource Report
 - **Geothermal Energy – 2,000 megawatts**
Source: Imperial Irrigation District Summit Blue Report 2008

* **Note:** References are to gross potential without project specific economic analysis

Current Status of Major Permits

- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
 - January 2009 – Rehearing requests filed by Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club and Utility Consumers Action Network (UCAN)
 - July 2009 – Rehearing requests denied
 - August 2009 – Appeals filed in the CA Supreme Court and Court of Appeal
 - August 2010 – California Court of Appeal rejects UCAN’s petition for review of the CPUC decision approving the Sunrise Powerlink
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - March 2009 – Appeals of the Record of Decision filed by Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians, project opponents and individual activists (two have been dismissed)
 - July 2009 – Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) rejects appellants “Motion to Stay” the project in its entirety pending decision on the one remaining appeal (any appeals of IBLA decisions to be filed with the Federal District Court)
 - February 2010 – Lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California (Sacramento) by the same parties appealing the BLM Record of Decision
 - May 2010 – IBLA dismissed project opponents’ challenge to the BLM environmental review and upheld the BLM’s Record of Decision in full
- U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
 - July 2010 – A 45 day public appeal process and 45 day resolution of appeals followed the Record of Decision (ROD).
 - October 2010 – USFS rejects all 12 appeals of the ROD filed by project opponents.