

News Release

CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Forest Service to Complete Additional Work on Sunrise Powerlink Proposal

SAN DIEGO, CA -- The Cleveland National Forest has received a request for a special use authorization from San Diego Gas & Electric's (SDG&E) to construct, operate and maintain a new 500 kV transmission line on the forest known as Sunrise Powerlink.

The Cleveland National Forest is preparing a Supplemental Information Report (SIR) pertaining to the proposed Sunrise Powerlink project. The SIR will include additional information the Forest Service has received pertaining to the project and will help inform the forest's decision.

"With the information gathered in the Supplemental Information Report and the other documents submitted previously, I believe we will have the information we need to make a prudent decision regarding the Sunrise Powerlink project," William Metz, Forest Supervisor of the Cleveland National Forest, said.

The forest has also published its notice for public comments on proposed amendments to the CNF plan in local area newspapers. The comment period is 45 days and begins immediately. The notice will meet the requirements of the Appeals Reform Act, and provide the public opportunity to comment on the Forest Service's pending decision and establish standing in the process. Comments should be confined to issues directly related to the proposed use of the Cleveland National Forest. The Forest Supervisor will consider written and oral comments submitted--including comments during previous phases of the Sunrise Powerlink proposal -- before making a decision on the project. Written comments must be submitted to: William Metz, Forest Supervisor, 10845 Rancho Bernardo Rd. Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92127, ATTN: Sunrise Powerlink Comments. Oral comments may be submitted at 858-673-6180 (Voice) TTY 711 (CRS). Comments may be faxed to 858-673-6192 (Fax). Electronic comments may be emailed to mailroom_r5_cleveland@fs.fed.us, with a subject line of "*Sunrise Powerlink Comments*".

The Forest Service is working collaboratively with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to review changes in the original project design to determine if they are within the scope of the existing environmental analysis. The review will be finalized once SDG&E submits their Final Project Modification Report.

The timeline for the release of the SIR is projected to be by the end of June, contingent on final information supplied by SDG&E.