

LEGAL NOTICE FOR DECISION
CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST
Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Line Project
San Diego County, California

Forest Supervisor William Metz signed a Record of Decision on July 9, 2010, approving the Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Line Project (Sunrise Powerlink). The decision authorizes the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Sunrise Powerlink on National Forest System lands. Authorization of this project will be implemented by issuing a 50 year special use permit for the construction, operation, and maintenance of project facilities. A temporary special use permit will be issued for locations needed to support project construction that are outside of the long-term special use permit area. Required mitigation measures will be incorporated into the special use permit conditions.

The decision includes non-significant, project specific Land Management Plan amendments to provide an exception to plan standards associated with visual resources and riparian areas. The decision also includes a non-significant, project specific amendment to authorize construction in an area of "Back County Non-Motorized" land use zone.

The transmission line project and associated plan amendments were analyzed in a jointly prepared Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) in compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements, respectively. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) served as the lead agency pursuant to CEQA, while the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) acted as the lead federal agency responsible for compliance with the requirements of NEPA. The Forest Service was a cooperating federal agency, and the decision adopts the Final EIR/EIS prepared by the CPUC and BLM.

The Final EIR/EIS is available online at:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/sunrise/toc-feir.htm>

The Record of Decision is available online at:

<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/cleveland/projects/sunrise-powerlink/index.shtml>

Decision Subject to Appeal

This decision is subject to administrative review (appeal) pursuant to 36 CFR Part 215.

The appeal must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, or express delivery) with the Appeal Deciding Officer at:

Appeal Deciding Officer
Randy Moore, Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service
1323 Club Drive

Vallejo, CA 94592
Attn: APPEALS

The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered appeals are: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic appeals must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), or Word (.doc) to appeals-pacificsouthwest-regional-office@fs.fed.us or fax to (707) 562-9229. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to an electronic message, a verification of identity will be required. A scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

Appeals, including attachments, must be filed within 45 days from the publication date of this notice in the San Diego Union Tribune, the newspaper of record. Attachments received after the 45 day appeal period will not be considered. The publication date in the San Diego Union Tribune, the newspaper of record, is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an appeal. Those wishing to appeal this decision should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

Individuals or organizations who submitted comments or other expression of interest during the comment period may appeal this decision as described in 36 CFR 215.11(a). The notice of appeal must meet the appeal content requirements at 36 CFR 215.14.

Implementation

If no appeals are filed within the 45-day time period, implementation of the decision may occur on, but not before, 5 business days from the close of the appeal filing period. When appeals are filed, implementation may occur on, but not before, the 15th business day following the date of the last appeal disposition.

For additional information concerning this decision or the Forest Service appeal process, contact Bob Hawkins, 707-562-8699 or rhawkins@fs.fed.us.