

RESOLUTION NO. 2007- 367

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO OPPOSING CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH TENSION POWER LINES THROUGH ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS OF THE MORONGO BASIN

On Tuesday, December 4, 2007, on motion of Supervisor Hansberger, duly seconded by Supervisor Gonzales and carried, the following resolution is adopted by the Board of Supervisors of San Bernardino County, State of California.

WHEREAS, the County supports the use of renewable resources and encourages programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and also places a high value on protecting and preserving the natural resources of the California desert; and

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is proposing a project called "Green Path North" to construct new high tension power transmission lines for the purpose of attaining alternative energy goals in the Los Angeles region; and

WHEREAS, one of the proposed alternatives includes an alignment through the unincorporated county areas of the Morongo Basin; and

WHEREAS, evidence now shows that a preferred alignment for the Green Path North proposed project has been pre-determined by the LADWP; such alignment traverses through the western portion of the Morongo Basin, including such areas as Morongo Valley, Pioneertown, Flamingo Heights, and Landers; and

WHEREAS, this proposed alignment would endanger natural wildlife, sensitive habitat areas and important cultural resources. The Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, for example, is a nature preserve and wildlife corridor that currently serves as a home for numerous native wildlife species, including rare birds, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals, as well as causing substantial impairment to outstanding scenic vistas in the vicinity; and

WHEREAS, this proposed alignment is likely to have immediate and long-term detrimental impacts on the environment, including the local natural vegetation and wildlife. It would also cause degradation to the economic stability and aesthetic quality of the region; and

WHEREAS, the local residents of the Morongo Valley and the Morongo Basin will not receive, and have no desire to receive, any benefit or energy savings from this project; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the area of the proposed alignment for the project have voiced their strong objections against the Green Path North project and their strong desire to support the California Desert Coalition in their opposition to this project; and

WHEREAS, other existing energy corridors are available to the LADWP for this project that would not create adverse impacts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of San Bernardino opposes the construction of high tension power lines through environmentally sensitive areas in the Morongo Basin, and recommends that additional power lines be located within existing energy corridors.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS: Mitzelfelt, Biane, Hansberger, Gonzales

NOES: SUPERVISORS: None

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS: Ovitt

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO) ss.

I, DENA M. SMITH, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Bernardino, State of California, hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of the record of the action taken by the Board of Supervisors, by vote of the members present, as the same appears in the Official Minutes of said Board at its meeting of December 4, 2007. Item# 7 DE

DENA M. SMITH
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By

