

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 30  
was approved as Minute Item  
No. 30 by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 2  
to 0 at its 9/27/90  
meeting.

MINUTE ITEM

30

9/27/90

W24517

PRC 7458

DUGAL

GENERAL LEASE - RIGHT-OF-WAY USE

Charles Warren, Executive Officer, presented Calendar Item 30, attached. Item 30 is a general lease for right-of-way use of three parcels of school land in the County of Lassen. The lands proposed are to be used for construction and maintenance of an overhead 69 kilovolt transmission line, and the maintenance for an existing 7.2 kilovolt distribution line. All the other agencies have approved.

Paul Herman, a concerned citizen, who lives two miles north of the proposed transmission line appeared before the Commission to express his objections to the Negative Declaration and the project based on the environmental assessment.

Commission-Alternate Ed Manning asked if there were alternatives considered in the initial study.

Dwight Sanders, Chief of the Planning and Research Development Division, noted that there were alternatives considered. The alternatives were covered in the environmental documents: 1) the Bureau of Land Management which did an environmental assessment and issued a FONSI on the line; 2) the Rural Electrical Administration also did an environmental assessment initiative - FONSI, both of which are equivalent to a Negative Declaration under CEQA and; 3) the Commission's environmental document.

We had the opportunity to use either or both of those documents, and felt that they were not adequate and did an independent judgement checklist, initial study and conducted and issued a proposed Negative Declaration which was widely circulated and commented upon.

Comments were received from 16 individual letters from people in the area, and comments from the Energy Commission and the Department of Fish and Game.

Mr. Sanders indicated that the alternative question was somewhat complicated by the fact that the issue and project had already been litigated in the Superior Court in Lassen County. The judge in the litigation confirmed that the line, as proposed, was the best line in terms of all alternatives presented to the court.

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(continued)

Mr. Sanders also noted the project was analyzed by staff and revised so that it was a mitigated project proposed Negative Declaration. Staff also feels as a result of the changes to the project description we can legitimately make a finding based on the evidence that there are no significant impacts to the installation of the line.

The following items were entered into the record:

1. A letter received from the Department of Fish, as a result of our formal consultation with them on the Bank Swallow;
2. A letter received from the State's Correctional Facility in Susanville, in which they are in support of the installation of the line because of its service to them;
3. Petitions which contain the names of 104 individuals who are in opposition to the project and asked a variety of entities to take specific action: 1) Lassen County to adopt an emergency ordinance that would stop the project; 2) the Plumas-Sierra Board of Directors to suspend all work on the transmission line and the eminent domain proceedings; 3) that the Rural Electric administration suspend funding or any consideration of the line and, 4) that the State of California Governor's Office make a determination to the 16 KV project's compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and
4. Enter into the record a series of 19 depositions submitted by Mr. Gary F. Woolverton, Attorney-at-Law in Susanville, California. The deposition raises issues to the routing and health of the line and alternatives.

After considerable discussion Calendar Item 30 was approved.

The Commission voted 2-0 to approve the Item as presented.

Attachment: Calendar Item 30

A 1

S 1



STATE OF CALIFORNIA—THE RESOURCE AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKERIAN, Governor

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

601 LOCUST STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
(916) 225-2300

September 26, 1990

Mr. DeNight Sanders, Chief  
Research and Planning Division  
State Lands Commission  
1907 13th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814


Dear Mr. Sanders:

Findings for Plumas-Sierra REA Long Valley Project SCR 90020692

The Department commented on the negative declaration for the above mentioned project on August 24, 1990, recommending that a study be conducted to determine the presence of bank swallows and to determine the potential impacts on this State-listed, threatened species. On September 13, 1990, we received a report on field investigation for potential bank swallow habitat and a request for formal written findings.

Pursuant to the State Lands Commission request for a formal written finding for the above project, we have conducted a preliminary review of the field investigation report on the potential bank swallow habitat. At this point in time we believe that the proposed Long Valley 69 KV transmission line will not affect the bank swallow. In the event further information indicates the potential presence of this species in your project area we will promptly forward that information to you.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide this information to you. If you have any specific questions regarding this project, please contact Jim Nelson at (916) 225-2315.

  
Banky E. Curtis  
Regional Manager  
Region 1

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA—YOUTH AND ADULT CORRECTIONAL AGENCY

310000 COURTESAN, COUNTY

## CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL CENTER

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111 (415) 237-2181  
P.O. Box 700

1000512



September 25, 1990

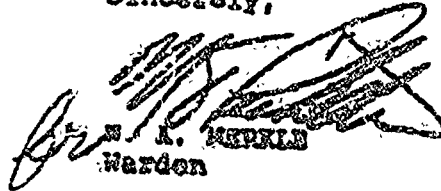
SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
P.O. Box 2600  
Portola, CA 96124Attention: GREG MERVINO  
Line Supervisor

Dear Mr. Mervino:

It is my understanding that there will be a meeting in the near future concerning Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative's being allowed access to a portion of State property known as "School Lands, Sec. 16, T14N, R17E, MDM," in Lassen County. I value the service provided by your utility company and its reliability is crucial to the safe operation of this facility. The placement of this line between Chilcott and Harlong is seen as a positive step toward that end.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



W. A. MERRILL  
Warden

cc: Mr. Bernie Pfile, WSMKC  
Mr. Matt Kraner, Associate Warden, Business Services

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E-17-90

Mr. Wm. Swan

I am opposed to the route the  
Klamath River Rural Electric Cooperative is  
taking to build their new 69 KV Transmission

Our small rural community is the  
most densely populated spot on the 32 mile  
transmission line route. There are miles of  
open land to the east or west of our  
community that could be used instead of our  
front yards or our residential streets.

The Coop could use the east side of the  
valley, the railroad, or Highway 395.

Look at the enclosed petitions - as a  
community - we are opposed to the  
proposed route.

We request that appropriate  
steps be taken

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we request that appropriate alternatives  
will be considered and addressed.

we request public hearings so that  
we can be heard.

Respectfully,

Bob Beckett

P.O. Box 264

Douglas, Calif. 96119

916-627-2278

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PETITION

As members of the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and a resident of the community of Doyle, CA in Lassen County, we are requesting the following actions so that our opposition and concerns in regard to the proposed Plumas-Sierra REC 69KV Transmission Line Project can be heard:

1. Lassen County Board of Supervisors adopt an emergency ordinance that would stop the 69KV Project.
2. Plumas-Sierra REC Board of Directors suspend all work on the transmission line, including the Imminent Domain Proceedings.
3. Rural Electric Administration suspend funding or any continuation of funding of the 69KV Transmission Line Project.
4. State of California Governors Office make a determination as to the 69KV Projects compliance with the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA).

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Shelley [unclear]	P.O. Box 466 Doyle	916 827-2180
[unclear]	P.O. Box 466 Doyle	916 827-2180
[unclear]	P.O. Box 425 Doyle	916 827-2180
[unclear]	P.O. Box 471 Doyle	916 827-2945
[unclear]	[unclear]	827-2106
[unclear]	[unclear]	827-2571
[unclear]	[unclear]	827-2796
[unclear]	P.O. Box 31 Doyle	827-2106
[unclear]	P.O. Box 47 Doyle	827-2545
[unclear]	Box 45 Doyle	827-3176
[unclear]	Box 174	827-1820
[unclear]	P.O. Box 437	827-2325
[unclear]	P.O. Box 136 Doyle	
[unclear]	P.O. Box 261 Doyle	827-2599
[unclear]	P.O. Box 31 Doyle	827-3122
[unclear]	P.O. Box 151 Doyle	
[unclear]	P.O. Box 439 Doyle	827-2424
[unclear]	P.O. Box 57 Doyle	
[unclear]	P.O. Box 466 Doyle	827-2299
[unclear]		
[unclear]	Residence Court	827-2445
[unclear]	P.O. Box 1056 Colusa	827-4419
[unclear]	P.O. Box 383 Doyle	827-2638
[unclear]		827-3280
[unclear]	P.O. Box 351	827-2790
[unclear]	P.O. Box 351	827-2790
[unclear]	P.O. Box 53 Doyle	827-2559
[unclear]	P.O. Box 25 Doyle	827-3247
[unclear]	Box 251 Colusa	253-2587
[unclear]	P.O. Box 212 Doyle, CA	827-2476
[unclear]	P.O. Box 212 Doyle, CA	827-2476
[unclear]	Box 85 - Doyle, CA	827-3247
[unclear]	Box 31 Doyle	827-3122
[unclear]	P.O. Box 273 Doyle	827-2569
[unclear]	P.O. Box 53 Doyle	827-2559
[unclear]	P.O. Box 31 Doyle	827-2106
[unclear]	Box 211 Doyle	827-2717
[unclear]	Box 427 Doyle	827-2792
[unclear]	Box 91 Doyle	827-2791
[unclear]	Box 156 Doyle	827-2791
[unclear]	Box 516 Healy	827-2791
[unclear]	Doyle, CA	



NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
<i>Michael C. ...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 211</i>	<i>827-2717</i>
<i>A. ...</i>	<i>PO Box 552</i>	
<i>...</i>	<i>43400510...</i>	<i>827-2870</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 655</i>	<i>827-2431</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>PO Box 655</i>	<i>827-2431</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 383 Doyle</i>	<i>827-2638</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 231 Doyle CA</i>	<i>827-3382</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 231 Doyle CA</i>	<i>827-3382</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 296 Doyle CA</i>	<i>827-2481</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 133 Doyle CA</i>	<i>827-3294</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 133 Doyle CA</i>	<i>827-3294</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 133 Doyle CA</i>	<i>827-3294</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 133 Doyle CA</i>	<i>827-3294</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 294 Hilling</i>	<i>827-2527</i>
<i>...</i>	<i>P.O. Box 466</i>	<i>827-2130</i>

PETITION

As members of the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative and a resident of the community of Doyle, CA in Lassen County, we are requesting the following actions so that our opposition and concerns in regard to the proposed Plumas-Sierra REC 69KV Transmission Line Project can be heard:

1. Lassen County Board of Supervisors adopt an emergency ordinance that would stop the 69KV Project.
2. Plumas-Sierra REC Board of Directors suspend all work on the transmission line including the Imminent Danger Proceedings.
3. Rural Electric Administration suspend funding or any consideration of funding of the 69KV Transmission Line Project.
4. State of California Governors Office make a determination as to the 69KV Projects compliance with the California Environment Quality Act (CEQA).

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Bob Beckert	P.O. Box 264, Doyle	827-2278
Lora Beckert	" " "	" "
Bonnyelle Beaufort	Box 584, Westing	827-2729
Carol McKenzie	Box 314, Doyle, CA	827-2823
Tom A. McKeage	" " "	" "
M. B. Cox	P.O. Box 256, Doyle, CA	827-2481
Bryan Beckert	P.O. Box 264, Doyle, CA	827-2940
Barbara Cox	P.O. Box 256, Doyle, CA	827-2481
Shirley Paul	P.O. Box 442, Doyle, CA	827-2157
Victoria Whinnell	P.O. Box 354, Doyle, CA	---
Ray Dea-Meyers	P.O. Box 354, Doyle, CA	---
Missie Westlund	P.O. Box 5069, Doyle, CA	827-2182
Alvin Westlund	Land Home Doyle	827-2182
James L. Lawrence	P.O. Box 448, Doyle	827-2984
Diana Cameron	P.O. Box 463, Doyle	827-2991
Brittney Stenberg	1515 Hwy 161, Westing	827-4417
James J. McKeage	P.O. Box Doyle, Doyle, CA	827-2984
Marybeth McKeage	10011, Doyle, Doyle, CA	827-2004
James R. Beckert	P.O. Box 82, Doyle, CA	827-2549
William J. Beckert	P.O. Box 161, Doyle, CA	827-2543
Robert J. Beckert	P.O. Box 235, Doyle, CA	827-2336
Robert M. Beckert	Doyle, CA	---
Edna Beckert	Box 326, Doyle	827-2201
Marybeth Beckert	Box 149, Doyle	---
William Beckert	P.O. Box 4, Doyle	---
Robert Beckert	P.O. Box 116, Doyle	827-3224
James Beckert	PO Box 188, Doyle	827-2450
Peter Beckert	P.O. Box 139, Doyle	827-3384
Bill Beckert	P.O. Box 188, Doyle	827-2450
W. A. Beckert	Box 153, Doyle	827-3204
W. French	511, Paradise, Doyle	---
Andy Beckert	77, Paradise, Doyle	827-2614
L. French	PO Box 77, Doyle	827-2987
Madeline Quast	Box 236, Doyle, CA	827-2256
John Quast	P.O. 361, Doyle, CA	827-2474
D. R. Rogers	Room #1, Mowbray Motel	---
Mary Mallory	P.O. Box 391, Doyle	827-9969
John V. Lehn	Box 207, Doyle	---
James J. Miller	Box 334, Doyle	827-2614
John Beckert	7441, Paradise, Doyle	---
John E. Fata	Box 307, Doyle, CA	---

NAME ADDRESS TELEPHONE NUMBER

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Shelly K. Warrum	1147A Cedar Way Hickory	(916) 827-2208
Tom J. Warrum	141-883 Cookway	827-2124
John Warrum	P.O. Box 247	
Becky Warrum	P.O. Box 244	
Becky Warrum	P.O. Box 263	827-5136

*Des*

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
235 SOUTH LASSEN  
SUSANVILLE, CALIF. 96130  
AREA CODE 916 - 287-8820

RECEIVED  
AUG 23 1990  
STATE LANDS COMMISSION

August 20, 1990

State Lands Commission  
Executive Office  
1807 - 13th Street  
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: File Ref.: 24517

Dear Sirs:

At the request of various affected land owners in Lassen County, I have mailed you various Declarations filed in Superior Court of Lassen County. They are enclosed for your review. Public Hearings appear to be in order.

Sincerely,

*Gary F. Woolverton*

GARY F. WOOLVERTON,  
Attorney at Law

GFW/jg

Enclosure *forwarded to DES*

*Original Enclosure Forwarded to DES*

Assigned to for response	<u>DES</u>
To coordinate with	<u>Sign T/MW</u>
Submitted to you for information.	
Due	<u>September 7, 1990</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> an action to be sent to you.	

Copy forwarded to:	
<u>DR. LK. RUI JR</u>	
Date: <u>9/13</u> by <u>Carl</u>	

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(SEE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
233 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 257-5328

ENDORSED  
**FILED**  
MAY 25 1990

THERESA NAGEL  
CLERK, COUNTY CLERK  
BY **BRUCE D. DYER**

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA:

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

UNITAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF JIM  
UTEGROVE IN SUPPORT OF  
MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM  
ORDER OF POSSESSION

I, James L. Utegrove, say and declare as follows:

QUALIFICATIONS

I am a California registered civil engineer with my principal office in Susanville, Lassen County, California and have qualified to testify as an expert witness in the Lassen County Superior Court on numerous occasions. I do not profess to have any special background in electrical engineering or transmission line engineering. The following discussion concerns routing of primary power lines and access thereto for maintenance,

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1 etc.

2 ASSIGNMENT

3 To inspect and formulate conclusions with respect to the  
4 Plumas Sierra Rural Electrification Cooperative in the Doyle  
5 area.

6 CONCLUSION

7 The adopted route is less desirable than alternate routes  
8 which appear not only feasible but economically more viable.

9 LOCATION/EXISTING 69 KV TRANSMISSION LINE

10 At the present time, PSREC provides electrical power to  
11 several Lassen County communities. This power is generated  
12 out of Caribou (Feather River Canyon) and Belden (Feather  
13 River Canyon). It is then transmitted to Quincy and from  
14 Quincy it is transmitted to Beckwourth. From Beckwourth it  
15 is transmitted to Milford up over the mountain, a distance  
16 of approximately 25 miles. See attached Exhibit "D". This  
17 line is located, mostly or wholly, over land owned by the  
18 forest service. Due to the relative shortness of time of  
19 this assignment, I was not able to measure all of the poles,  
20 but it appears that they are all in the 65 to 75 foot range  
21 and the poles are wood with insulators. When the line  
22 reaches the Milford substation, it transforms down from 69  
23 KV to 12 KV for distribution. The 69 KV line takes a turn  
24 at the Milford substation and goes to Herlong (Herlong  
25 substation) and then is distributed to the Doyle and Herlong  
26 areas. The Milford substation is also utilized to transmit  
27 the power to Jamesville, Gold Run and the Lake Leavitt area.

28

1 There is a substation at Lake Leavitt which generally  
2 provides the power to the prison and that general area.

3 POWER OUTAGES/CAUSATION

4 I was raised in Lassen County. I am somewhat familiar  
5 with the PSREC system. Over the years, there have been power  
6 outage problems. It is very difficult to pin point the cause  
7 of power outage other than to note that most power outage  
8 occurs during heavy storms. Heavy storms alone do not cause  
9 the power outages. Other things must contribute. Age, wear  
10 and tear, lack of maintenance and vandalism by humans and  
11 animals would be the obvious contributing causes. In order  
12 to truly pin point the causation, other than storms, one  
13 almost has to rely on the statements of the PSREC officials.  
14 For the most part, the conclusions reached, herein, on  
15 causation of previous power outage is based upon those  
16 statements.

17 With respect to the distribution lines, the people in  
18 Doyle have accepted them. Power outages resulting from  
19 faulty distribution lines could be solved by new distribution  
20 lines with or without the new transmission line. The  
21 argument that a new transmission line will reduce outages to  
22 distribution lines is based on replacement of older  
23 distribution lines. This could be done anyway.

24 PSREC argues that they cannot upgrade the existing  
25 Beckwourth to Milford transmission line. I believe that is  
26 an erroneous statement. The line can be upgraded and  
27 revitalized or rebuilt completely.

28

1 PSREC has admitted they can build a new 69 KV line in  
2 the existing easements. They claim that it would require  
3 taller poles and they would have to be closer together. See  
4 the second to last paragraph of Exhibit "B-2".

5 PSREC admits that they can upgrade the existing line and  
6 admits that they have, to some degree, already done so. FACT  
7 Source: Exhibit "B", Page 3 PSREC Environmental Assessment.

8 The existing Beckwourth-Milford line is carried on 65 to  
9 75 foot wood poles. The proposed Doyle line will be carried  
10 on wood poles of approximately the same height. PSREC states  
11 (at several places) in their 1989-1990 Construction Work Plan  
12 that wood poles will be utilized. See, generally, 1989-1990  
13 Construction Work Plan. Also see Exhibit "C", attached  
14 hereto. If PSREC wishes to install new poles, they could  
15 just as well do it by replacing the poles on the existing  
16 line. See Declaration of Bob Beckett.

17 PSREC has studied the needs of the PSREC from Milford to  
18 Janesville, Gold Run, Herlong and Doyle, and Lake Leavitt.  
19 The 69 KV line is, at their opinion, adequate until the year  
20 2015. See Exhibit "E" which is Page 7 of PSREC Environmental  
21 Assessment.

22 The officials of PSREC talk openly of some day taking  
23 the transmission line down and increasing the easements from  
24 40 feet to 75 feet. What they have in mind is installing a  
25 115 KV transmission line. The purpose is apparently to hook  
26 into a major power source. The 115 KV line may be beneficial  
27 for a business or leverage standpoint, but it is not needed

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1 until at least 2015. See Exhibits "F1 - F3".

2 Right now, the PSREC is requesting (or taking) a 40 foot  
3 easement. See Exhibit "A" attached to the proposed Grant of  
4 Easement attached to the Bob Beckett Declaration. The 115  
5 KV line would look approximately the same, although the  
6 insulators would increase in size. See Exhibit "F-1". If  
7 the Court will also examine drawing No. 06 through 012,  
8 inclusive, of the PSREC Long Valley Project Plans, the Court  
9 will see that PSREC has described and acknowledged the  
10 existence of existing 75 foot easements.

11 **THE EXISTING LINE IS CAPABLE OF BEING SERVICED**

12 PSREC indicates they have revitalized the line, and  
13 outages are more commonly the problem of the distribution  
14 system. See attached Exhibit "B" herein incorporated by  
15 reference.

16 I am familiar with the terrain where the Beckwourt-  
17 Milford line is located and it, in my opinion, can be  
18 serviced. In my opinion, it can be serviced year round. In  
19 some winter months when the snow is heavy, snow may require  
20 a snowmobile, snow cat or helicopter, but the point is the  
21 line is accessible for maintenance. I am informed that PSREC  
22 has acquired all of the equipment necessary to service the  
23 line in the worst snow storms.

24 **THE PROPOSED LINE WILL DETRIMENTALLY AFFECT VALUE**

25 I am an engineer and a subdivision developer. The  
26 transmission line (as proposed) will seriously affect value.  
27 The poles are or will not be aesthetically pleasing. It may  
28

1 discourage some development completely.

2 Attached Exhibit "G" is a plan which illustrates the  
3 proposed (adopted) route (in red) and three alternate routes.  
4 From Highway 70 to approximately Red Rock Road, the adopted  
5 (proposed) line tends to follow Long Valley Creek. This is,  
6 perhaps, not the best location, but from what I understand,  
7 the PSREC does not have too much choice and, therefore, I  
8 will not comment to any great extent. From Red Rock Road to  
9 Hall Road, south of Doyle, the line tends to follow  
10 Constantia Road. Although it is longer than is possibly  
11 necessary and tends to infringe upon private ownership, the  
12 route is, for the most part, feasible. From Hall Road to the  
13 Herlong substation, though, the adopted proposed route is not  
14 properly located. If there were no other alternate  
15 locations, then this route would have to be accepted as the  
16 most feasible and most economical.

17 In this case, there are alternate routes which are less  
18 expensive to build and will be of substantially less impact  
19 upon the home ownership in the Doyle area.

20 I have read the Declarations of Frank Reger and Bob  
21 Beckett. I agree with the conclusions reached therein.

22 The purple route on Exhibit "G" would have a positive  
23 effect upon home ownership in the Doyle area. The electrical  
24 situation in the area east of Doyle is not good and it is  
25 difficult to subdivide that area due to the lack of power.  
26 The transmission line on the east side of the highway would  
27 go a long way towards making that area more economically

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1 developable.

2 Although time was limited and the time to investigate  
3 the situation was fairly short, I do not believe that there  
4 would be as many people impacted by the line illustrated by  
5 the purple line as there is impacted by the red line.

6 In my opinion, the green line would be the least  
7 expensive to construct and would eliminate the complaints of  
8 the overwhelming majority of the objecting citizens of Doyle.  
9 Unfortunately, to utilize only the green line route, one  
10 still has the transmission line following Constantia Road  
11 which, in my opinion, although feasible, is not the best  
12 location. In my opinion, the purple line running from  
13 approximately Red Rock to a point south of Doyle is best.

14 Other alternatives are to consider locating the line  
15 along Highway 395. See the yellow and brown routes.

16 The last alternative is to possibly combine both the  
17 purple line from approximately Red Rock Road to the point  
18 where the purple line reaches the green line north of Doyle  
19 and at that point proceed on the green line to the Harlong  
20 substation.

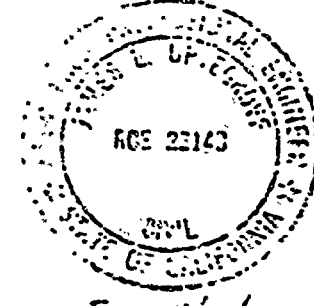
21 It is my opinion that if a new transmission line is  
22 necessary, the route demonstrated by the red line is not the  
23 best. Other routes are available. In my opinion, the red  
24 line route creates the greatest private injury when compared  
25 with the alternate routes that are available. Lastly, since  
26 alternate viable routes exist, the route demonstrated by the  
27 red line is not necessary to accomplish the ultimate goal of  
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the project.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that the opinions reached herein are my own and that this Declaration was executed on this \_\_\_ day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California

*James L. Uptegrove*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES L. UPTEGROVE



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Power supply outages are neither controllable or predictable because the P-SREC system is radially fed from the PG&E 60kV system in Quincy. The PG&E 60kV system is radially fed for approximately 75 miles through mountainous terrain. This power supply situation leads to many outages, particularly during storms. Since PG&E has no immediate plans for loop feed to Quincy, the only solution for P-SREC power supply reliability is a second source of supply. At the present time, no other firm sources are available. Outage time could be reduced if emergency supplies were available. Sierra Pacific Power Company, (SPPCo) with a 60kV line to Portola, was contacted by the Northern California Power Authority (NCPA), the power supply representative for P-SREC, regarding entering into an emergency power supply agreement. P-SREC is a member of NCPA. NCPA found that SPPCo was not interested in such an agreement. Another possibility that is being pursued at this time is the new Municipal Utility District (MUD) in Susanville, CA. The MUD has a 50kV line near Leavitt Substation. Both P-SREC and NCPA will continue to pursue an emergency power supply agreement.

Planned outages are being reduced by P-SREC crews working lines hot and by a reduction in construction related outages. Tie lines between substations are being upgraded to improve inter connection capability. This will improve loop feed capability which will reduce planned outages on the distribution system. The 69kV transmission system does not have loop feed capability which results in outages when planned work cannot be done hot.

P-SREC is presently installing a fault locator at Quincy Substation on the 69kV system. This fault locator will estimate the distance to faults on the 69kV system. Knowing the distance to the fault will significantly reduce outage times on the 69kV system.

This Work Plan includes upgrading substation tie lines, adding fault locating targets on the 12.47kV UG distribution system, adding sectionalizing reclosers on the distribution system, installation of a sectionalizer on the 69kV Sierraville line and installation of a new 69kV GCB at Quincy Substation. These improvements, in conjunction with hot line work and a carefully planned construction program will continue to reduce P-SREC's consumer outage time.

the annual rainfall in the western portion of the service area is approximately 40 inches per year; most of the precipitation in the western portion falls as snow accumulating to more than 10 feet on the mountain tops. In the eastern portion of the service area, the annual rainfall is only about six inches.

Severe winter storms with accompanying high winds, as well as summer thunderstorms, often inflict considerable damage to electrical facilities causing a high number of consumer outages. A newly constructed 69kV transmission line through the area where the greatest damage previously had occurred has eliminated most of the problem. Outages now occur mainly on distribution facilities and are more isolated, thereby enabling repair crews to find and repair damages more quickly.

The principal area agricultural economy is based upon alfalfa and beef cattle. The alfalfa requires irrigation as a result of the low precipitation. The growing season is short due to the high elevation and cool temperatures; frost free days average about 72 per year.

Wildlife abounds in the area and hunting and fishing are major sources of recreation. Deer, bear, coyotes, cougars and many small game animals may be found. Rivers, streams and lakes are numerous in the area, and the trout fishing is considered to be some of the best in the western United States.

Some of the unincorporated towns included in the service area are Beckwourth, Chilcoot, Doyle, Graeagle, Janesville, Litchfield, Milford, Sattley, Sierraville, Standish, and Vinton.

## 2.0 Proposed Action and Alternatives

### 2.1 Project Description

The Chilcoot Substation, on 1.05 acres, is located in the Sierra Valley on Highway 70, approximately 0.9 miles west of Chilcoot in SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 35, T 23N, R 15E, MD9&M.

The substation has been in existence for twenty years and was modernized just

May 14, 1980

Wernie Pfele, General Manager  
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
P.O. Box 2000  
Forsyth, California 96122

707 Nevada Street  
Susanville, California 96150  
(530) 257-8311, Ext. 259

ROBERT K. SOMMERS  
Plant Director  
LAFCo. Executive Office

Dear Mr. Pfele:

As you know, there has recently been some concern regarding your current plans for the proposed 69kV transmission line within Lassen County including some apparent inaccuracies within the environmental documents and the possible need for further review of the project by the Lassen County. As a result, I sent a letter to you on April 17, 1980 requesting up-dated plans and project documentation. At your request, Ms. Mary Ann Mix, of Power Engineers, Inc. promptly sent us a set of plans, copies of relevant correspondence, and copies of phone records of conversations with my staff. Thank you for your timely attention to my request.

Upon receipt of the information packet from Ms. Mix, I had Dick Simon of my staff thoroughly examine our project file and the new information in order to clarify any misunderstanding between Lassen County and Power Engineers, Inc. (representing Plumas-Sierra), which may have led to the recent confusion as to the status of the project and the role of Lassen County in reviewing the proposal.

First, let me clarify Lassen County Planning Commission's role in reviewing the project. Section 13.102.020(2)(a) of the County's Zoning Ordinance (No. 467) allows public utility transmission lines in all zoning districts without the necessity of obtaining a special use permit, provided that maps of the proposed alignment(s) along with a brief description of proposed structures and related improvements are provided to the Planning Commission for their review. The purpose of the review is two-fold: 1) it allows the Planning Commission and the utility agency to agree on mutually acceptable routes which "shall be determined in writing"; and 2) provides the Commission with the information needed to prepare the required findings concerning the consistency of the proposed route(s) with the County's General Plan.

On January 6, 1980, the Planning Commission reviewed the project as described in the Borrowers Environmental Report (ER) dated March 1987, including mitigation, and as shown on the maps dated August 11, 1987. The Commission's findings, as conveyed in my letter to Ms. Mix of January 6, 1980

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EXHIBIT C



COUNTY OF LASSEN

Planning Department  
Local Agency Formation  
Commission

707 Nevada Street, Room 236  
Susanville, California 96130  
(916) 257-8311, Ext. 269

May 14, 1990

Bernie Pfile, General Manager  
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
P.O. Box 2000  
Portola, California 96122

ROBERT K. SORVAAG  
Planning Director  
LAFCA, Executive Officer

Dear Mr. Pfile:

As you know, there has recently been some concern regarding your current plans for the proposed 69kV transmission line within Lassen County including some apparent inaccuracies within the environmental documents and the possible need for further review of the project by the Lassen County. As a result, I sent a letter to you on April 17, 1990 requesting up-dated plans and project documentation. At your request, Ms. Mary Ann Mix, of Power Engineers, Inc. promptly sent us a set of maps, copies of relevant correspondence, and copies of phone records of conversations with my staff. Thank you for your timely attention to my request.

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On January 6, 1988, the Planning Commission reviewed the project as described in the Borrowers Environmental Report (BER) dated March 1987, including mitigation, and as shown on the maps dated August 11, 1987. The Commission's findings, as conveyed in my letter to Ms. Mix of January 8, 1988

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Bernie Pfile  
May 17, 1990  
Page 2

(received by Ms. Mix August 15, 1988 due to our inadvertent delay in sending it) were:

1. The preferred route depicted on the Power Engineers, Inc. maps dated August 11, 1987 would not have significant impacts on the scenic values of the affected areas; and
2. The project, as presented, is consistent with the intent of the designated "Scenic Highway Corridor" for Highway 395, contained in the County General Plan.

I should point out that the proposed alignment has been revised twice since the Planning Commission's review. The first revision was described to us by Ms. Mix over the phone just prior to the Commission's January 6, 1988 meeting--we received the revised maps shortly after January 11. After the Commission's review my staff indicated to Ms. Mix, again over the phone, that the revised alignment would not require additional formal review by the Planning Commission since the new route was designed to reduce visual impacts--the Commission's main concern-- pursuant to comments from the BLM. I concur with staff regarding the subject revised route (maps dated Jan. 11, 1988). The current proposed alignment (second set of revised maps date April 23, 1990) which, according to Ms. Mix was revised in response to BLM comments and "Class II Cultural Surveys", appears to further reduce visual impacts south of Red Rock. If this is the case, the new alignment would not be in conflict with the Planning Commission's original findings and at this time it would seem that formal review of the April 23rd maps would not be necessary. However, I remain concerned about adequate environmental review of the project, and the portrayal within the April 1988 EA of Lassen County's participation in that review.

It is not at all clear, given the information Lassen County has received to date, that full compliance with either CEQA or NEPA has been achieved by the applicants while, at the same time, correspondence from Power Engineers, Inc. implies that compliance with both environmental Acts may be required (reference letters to Lassen County Planning Dept. dated April 7, 1989 and April 23, 1990).

Further, section 3.19 "Aesthetics" of the Environmental Assessment dated April 1988 indicates:

As a result of locating the line in or near the existing right of way, the Lassen County Planning Commission has

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Barnie Pfile  
May 14, 1990  
Page 3

issued a Negative Declaration. No new scenic areas will be involved.

First, the term "issued" is erroneous in the statement above. Issuance of a negative declaration implies lead agency status under CEQA, and full review of ALL potential environmental impacts. Lassen County is not the lead agency for this project, nor has the County considered the full range of possible impacts resulting from the project. This distinction must be very clear to all concerned. Additionally, the location of the line "in or near the existing right of way" was only one of several mitigations outlined as part of the project within the BER of March 1987. Other mitigations considered in the Commission's review included minimal removal of vegetation, use of natural contours for screening where feasible, reseeding disturbed areas and others. There was never a finding implying that new scenic areas would not be "involved". On the contrary, the Commission recognized that some new scenic areas would be involved, but made a finding of no significant impacts to the scenic highway corridor specifically because of the combined mitigation measures included in the project.

Second, Power Engineers, Inc. has declared that Lassen County, among other agencies functioning under the purview of CEQA, has "approved" the project and concurred with a negative declaration and an EA (reference letter to Lassen County Planning Dept. from Power Engineers, Inc. dated January 12, 1988; and revised BER dated June 1989). Please understand that under the circumstances, any "approval" from Lassen County is limited to the mutually agreed upon alignments established in writing, and the required findings regarding consistency with the County General Plan, both referenced in preceding paragraphs.

With regard to Lassen County's "concurrence" with a negative declaration and EA, please note that although the Planning Commission expressed an intent to concur, Lassen County has never received a copy of the draft negative declaration nor the EA from either Plumas-Sierra or Power Engineers. Distribution of draft documents by the lead agency is required by CEQA (Guidelines Section 15072 et. seq.) prior to adoption of the negative declaration. Without an opportunity to review the draft, the County can not determine whether concurrence is appropriate.

My concerns can be summarized by the following questions:

1. Who is the lead agency for this project, i.e. who is responsible for carrying out/coordinating the

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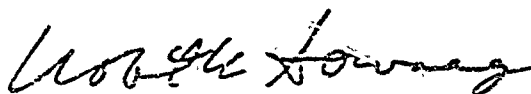
EXHIBIT C

Bernie Pfile  
May 14, 1990  
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- environmental review process and adopting the final environmental document?
2. Is the project subject to both NEPA and CEQA, as implied in correspondence with Ms. Mix? If not, which Act prevails? If so, is the lead agency combining the environmental review or pursuing compliance with each Act separately?
  3. Is the BER dated March 1987, and revised June 1988 in any way related to the actual environmental documentation required by either CEQA or NEPA beyond providing background and environmental setting information? Ms. Mix has indicated that the BER serves as an Initial Study under CEQA (reference her letter to Planning dated August 11, 1987).
  4. Are the draft documents (neg. dec. under CEQA; EA under NEPA) available for review? Is the lead agency intending to distribute the draft documents to Lassen County for review?
  5. In what stage of the process is the project now?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert K. Sorvaag,  
Planning Director

RKS:rws

cc: Supervisor John Gaither  
Banky Curtis, Dept. of Fish and Game  
Dick Stark, BLM Susanville  
James Phillips, BLM Carson City  
Mary Ann Mix, Power Engineers, Inc.  
Bob Beckett  
Robert King, OPR

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EXHIBIT C





April 17, 1990

Sernie Pfile, General Manager  
Plumas Sierra Rural  
Electric Cooperative  
P.O. Box 2000  
Portola, California 96122

COUNTY OF LASSEN

Planning Department  
Local Agency Formation  
Commission

707 Nevada Street, Room 236  
Susanville, California 96130  
(916) 257-8311; Ext. 269

ROBERT K. SORVAAG  
Planning Director  
LAFCA, Executive Officer

Dear Mr. Pfile:

Please provide this office with the most recent plans and project documents that describe the alignments and other improvements associated with Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative's proposed 69 KV transmission line in Lassen County. I am particularly interested in any changes that Plumas Sierra REC is intending to make with respect to this project that may differ from that which the Lassen County Planning Commission reviewed on January 6, 1988, pursuant to Lassen County Code Chapter 18, Section 18.102.2(a), that may necessitate further review by the County.

It has recently been brought to my attention that your Environmental Assessment dated April, 1988, erroneously states, "The Lassen County Planning Commission has issued a Negative Declaration," together with other apparent inaccuracies relating to such items as population, density and land use. Additionally, please provide me with a copy of your most recent applicable environmental documentation pertaining to this project, together with certification as to compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Your response to this matter will enable the County to determine if any additional review pursuant to the County Code will be necessary.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Sorvaag,  
Planning Director

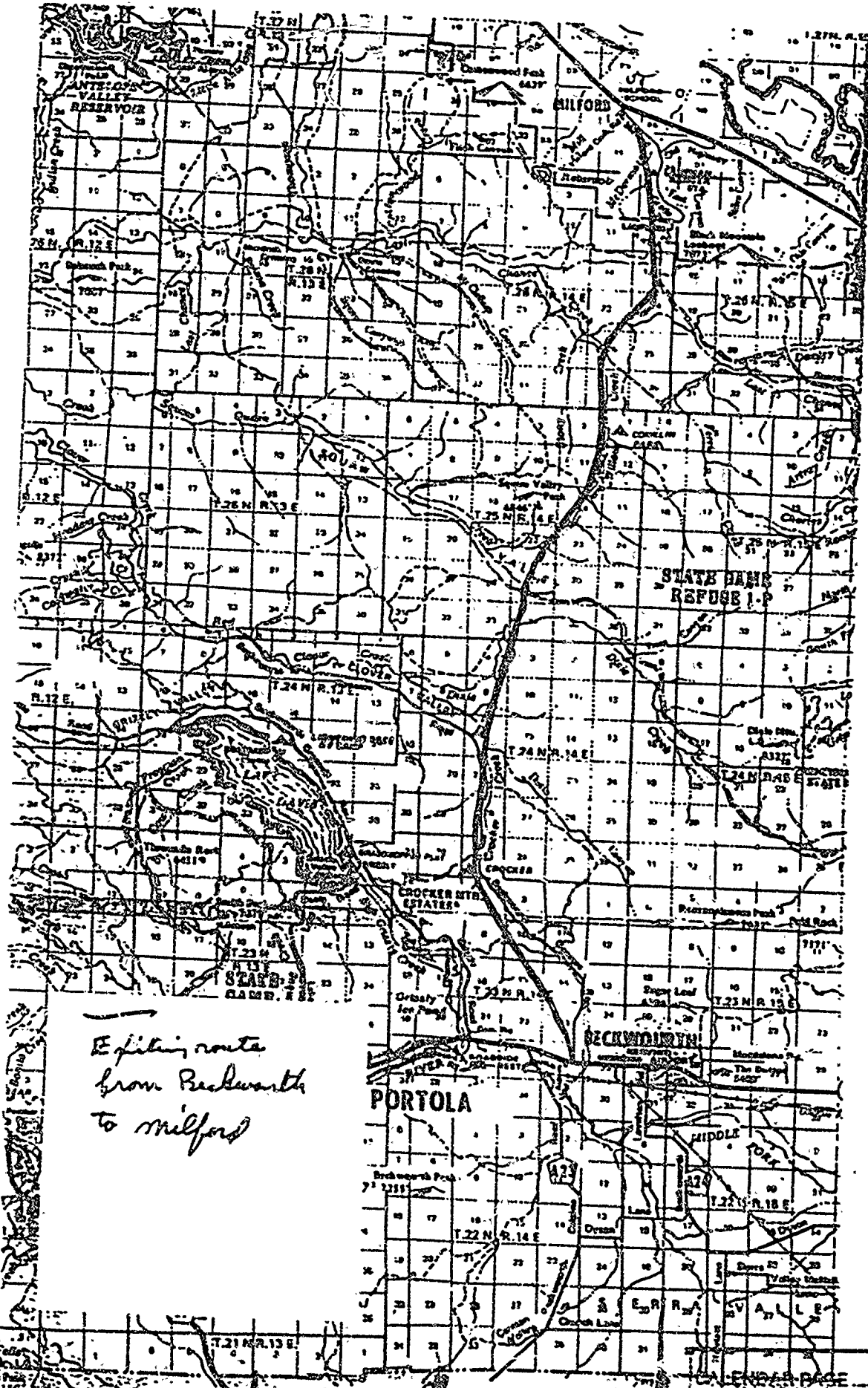
RKS:nes

cc: Supervisor John Gaither  
Banky Curtis, Dept. of Fish and Game  
Dick Stark, Bureau of Land Management (Susanville)  
James Phillips, Bureau of Land Management (Carson City)  
Mary Ann Mix, Power Engineers, Inc.  
Bob Beckett  
Robert King, Office of Permit Assistance, State of  
California Governor's Office/Office of Planning and  
Research

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EXHIBIT C





Exp. route  
from Beckwith  
to Milford

### New Line

A new 69kV line tying together Chilcoot and Herlong Substations would provide a highly reliable power source for the north system. The transformer at Quincy, as well as the entire system, is at 69,000V. The July 1987 *Supplement to the 1980 System Planning Report* confirms there will be no need for a larger voltage line before the year 2015. The line could be constructed adjacent to existing roadways and right of ways, allowing easy access for service twelve months of the year. The existing 69kV line between Beckwourth and Milford could be maintained as an alternate feed to the north system resulting in greater system reliability. The system could be operated as a loop feed ensuring continuity of service during scheduled maintenance. Generation would not be required during construction, and the old "K" line would not require removal. The relatively flat terrain and ease of access would result in less expensive design and construction costs for the Chilcoot to Herlong line versus the Beckwourth to Milford mountainous route.

### 2.3.1 Alternatives to the Preferred Route

#### Union Pacific Railroad

Utilization of the Union Pacific Railroad right of way to accommodate the proposed line was examined. However, the UPRR policy is to deny all requests for easements except for cases in which no other alternative exists. In those cases, UP charges an annual rental fee which would render the proposed action economically unfeasible. Therefore, this alternative has not been pursued further.

#### Highway 395

From a point just south of Doyle, this alternative route would parallel the east side of Highway 395. This route crosses approximately two and one half miles of the Doyle Wildlife Area, and therefore generated considerable concern on the part of the California Department of Fish and Game (F&G).

An on-site meeting with P-SREC representatives and Tom Stone of the F&G was held May 21, 1987.

# More reliable power coming to Lassen County

by Bob Marshall

A \$4.1 million, 32-mile transmission line will soon be bringing more reliable power to the Lassen County members of Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative.

Built in 1935, and hailed as a vast improvement for the cooperative at the time, the old K-line connecting Beckwourth and Milford is now overworked. Increased power use in

Lassen County, along with an aging transmission line, have made the new power line vital to Plumas-Sierra.

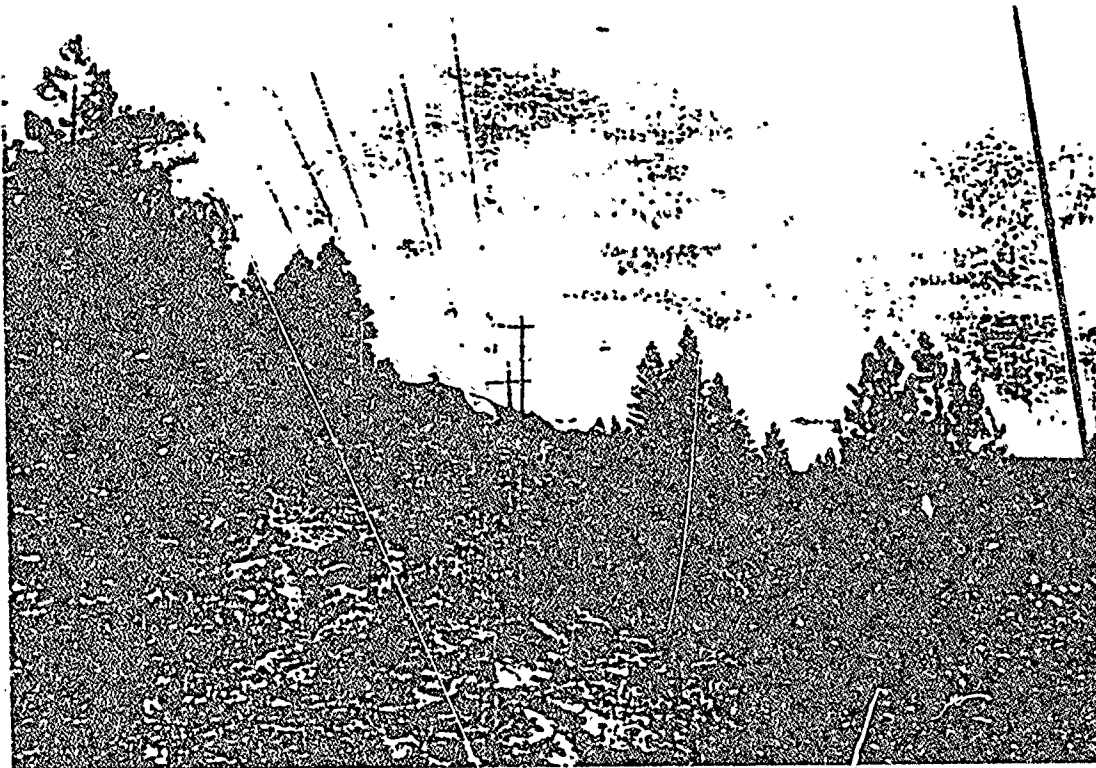
The old transmission line currently runs from Beckwourth, through Clover Valley and down the Milford grade, through terrain that can be impassable in winter.

Greg Nervino, Plumas-Sierra's line superintendent says, "The cooperative needs the new line. New services come on line, irrigation pumps are added and

the price keeps expanding. The old line is inadequate for the load. If we don't get our system upgraded our quality of power will be in trouble within a year."

Replacing the Beckwourth-Milford transmission line (the old K-line) has long been a goal of the cooperative's management. The main transmission

Below and on the cover is the type of line that is being built to improve power reliability in Lassen County.



16 Plumas-Sierra  
July 1970

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line from Quincy to Beckwourth was rebuilt in the 1970s leaving the K-line as the weakest link in the cooperative's system of transmission and distribution lines.

Bernard Pfile, general manager of Plumas-Sierra, says "When the board of directors hired me, they made the new transmission line the #1 priority."

Before the K-line was built, power quality to many co-op members in Lassen County was unacceptable. The long, heavily used line to Susanville with everyone hooked up to it along the way caused problems. One of the jokes at the time ran, "Go put a candle up by the light bulb and see if the power is on."

In 1955, a transmission line was built from Beckwourth to Milford through Clover Valley. The route was the straightest, therefore the least expensive to build.

Maintenance along that line is a different story. The weather along the existing K-line can be brutal, leaving the lines inaccessible except for Sno-Cats and snowshoes.

Doug Lindstrom, Milford line foreman, remembers, "Working the K-line in winter could get really ugly. The snow would be six to eight feet deep around Conklin Park. On several occasions the Sno-Cat would get stuck or break down and we would have to walk off the mountain to safety."

Snow-free due to the warmth of current, the K-line would cool quickly during an outage and allow snow to build up on the line. More than once, the original break would be repaired while the line snapped in several more spots, forcing linemen to hunt the problem down once again. Lassen County members could be off for hours longer than the rest of the system.

Dennis Horton, new south area

---

"If we don't get our system upgraded, our quality of power will be in trouble within a year."

---

Line Superintendent Greg Nervino

supervisor, was a troubleman for many years. He remembers, "Sometimes we had to slog through slush with snowshoes on, trying to find the problem. And then you had to try and fix it, sometimes a mile from support vehicles. One time I got out of the Sno-Cat and sunk up to my armpits in snow."

During one winter outage in the early 1950s the Sno-Cat was dispatched to hunt a problem down on the K-line. In the deep snow, the features of the land became indistinguishable. The Sno-Cat broke through the snow and into a creek. The axle shattered, leaving the two employees on board stranded in the middle of a snowstorm.

Charlie Brown, one of those employees remembers, "I was trying to get the radio backup battery from the back of the Cat. It was frozen to the body of the Sno-Cat. I gave a jerk, and then a second. It came loose on the third try, sending me into the river. I was in the cab in a hurry, out of my frozen clothes and into a sleeping bag. It took quite some time for me to warm up."

A rescue Sno-Cat broke down, too. Finally, a department of water resources Sno-Cat was able to rescue

General Manager Bernie Pfile

---

"When the board of directors hired me, they made the new transmission line the #1 priority."

---

the employees. The co-op's Sno-Cat was covered with ice by the time it was pulled out.

The new transmission line will run from Chilcot, over the pass, up Long Valley, through Constania and then Doyle to the Herlong Substation.

The route will run along an area that is drier and lower in elevation than the old line. The new line will also be far sturdier and easier to reach.

In many places, the new transmission/distribution line will replace an existing distribution line already on the route. Wide easements are being acquired from the property owners due to the slightly larger safety clearance needed for the higher voltage.

Greg Nervino says, "Having the wider easements will allow us to build a much better looking system. If we are forced to build in the existing easements, the power poles will have to be taller and closer together, looking more like a giant picket fence. We prefer to build an aesthetically pleasing system, but the new line must go in."

The line has been rerouted somewhat in a few places to make the property owners along the route happier. But reroutes are expensive, and sometimes the options don't exist.

Nervino says, "We try to make everyone happy, but sometimes we have no choice."

Don Wemple, a member of the board of directors from Milford, adds, "The new and improved version of our power line will bring far better service and reliability to this end of the line."

Fifty-one years ago power was turned on the first time to rural residents of Lassen County. Since then the cooperative has worked at improving the system. Now, the overall reliability of the system will take a large step forward. ■



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EXHIBIT E-2



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
CARSON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE  
1335 Hot Springs Rd., Ste. 200  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

2900  
NV-33330

MAR 22 1988

Power Engineers, Inc.  
c/o Mary Ann Mix  
1920 Airport Way  
P.O. Box 1066  
Hailey, ID 83333

Gentlemen:

On March 14, 1988, we received a letter from Mary Ann Mix, Senior Environmental Specialist, regarding up-grade of the proposed Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative power line near Hallelujah Junction from a 69kV to 115kV. We understand that the differences between the two lines would be: Increase in insulator length from 35 inches to 47 inches, increase the right-of-way width from 50 feet to 75 feet and increasing the spans between the poles thus reducing the number of wood pole structures that would be utilized. The pole heights of 60 feet would remain the same as originally proposed.

The differences between the pole and insulator structures and right-of-way widths needed to accommodate the larger capacity line are not significant changes from the original proposal.

Since it is expected that number of pole structures would be reduced due to the increase in span lengths, we would not object to submission of a application requesting a 115kV voltage powerline with a 75 foot wide right-of-way as described.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Phillips  
Area Manager  
Lakewood Resource Area

E A, April 1988

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EXHIBIT F-1

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# Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative

Highway 70, 6 miles west of Portola  
(516) 882-4291

P.O. Box 2000  
Portola, CA 96122-2000

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President Robert McDonald, Quincy;  
Vice-president Guido Maddalena, Sierraville;  
Secretary/Treasurer Frank V. Dotz, Vinton;  
Sedia Adams, Greasale;

Eugene Shirley, Herlong;  
Donald J. Wempia, Milford.

MANAGER: Bernard "Bernie" Pflie

## Dear Members,

I would like to thank all our members who attended this year's annual meeting. A cooperative is a democracy, and it thrives only when the cooperative members take interest in the direction the cooperative is going.

Each year we try to make the annual meeting more interesting than the last, with demonstrations of our equipment and activities, entertainment and other special features. For those of you who didn't make it, we would like to know why. Lack of child care? Lack of interest? Timing (day-month-season)? Lack of information as to who was eligible to attend? Too far to travel?

We would like to receive comments on the meeting from those members who attended also. How can we improve the meeting? Should we have it outside under giant tents on a Saturday? Should we have it closer to the middle of our service area? Do you want more visual aids?

Please drop us a note in your next bill with your comments. Address the note to me. This is your cooperative and your annual meeting, and you have a say in how it will be run.

Many of our members will be getting a survey in the mail in the near future from the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA). NCPA is doing this survey on behalf of Plumas-Sierra and several other NCPA members to help with load forecasting and load management programs.

Plumas-Sierra REC needs the information from this survey so we can develop load management programs that can take the place of purchasing expensive new power supplies.

If you receive this survey from NCPA in the mail, we would really appreciate it if you take the time to fill it out and return it to us, either by dropping it off or sending it back in the postage-paid envelope. If you have any questions on

this survey please give us a call.

~~~~~

We have applied to the Rural Electric Administration (REA) for a loan of \$6.1 million for improvements on our distribution and transmission lines. The centerpiece is 32 miles of new transmission line from Chilcoot to Herlong which will greatly improve the reliability of power to the northern end of our system. This new line will give us the ability to serve any new load that develops up north, and will also allow us to wheel power to and from other utilities to our financial advantage.

Parts of the loan in reference to distribution lines have been approved. We still need to get the required environmental permits and authorization before we can get approval on the transmission part of the loan. We hope to get approval in a few months so we can start the project.

~~~~~

Our meter replacement program has been coming along, pretty much on schedule. We have discovered a few cases of theft, many meters running too slow and several misapplications of meters. This program will more than pay for itself through increased revenues due to everyone paying their proper utility bill.

~~~~~

Through our association with *Rural* magazine, we will be distributing safety and information booklets to our members. Every three or four months you will receive a booklet from us on inside or outside electrical safety and other topics. The booklets are illustrated and interesting for both adults and children to read. We encourage you and everyone in your family to read these brochures, especially the booklets on safety.

~~~~~

If you don't receive an annual report, please give us a call and we will send you one. This year's report is a 2-page special issue celebrating our 50th anniversary as a cooperative.

~~~~~

Charlie Brown is retiring from Plumas-Sierra on October 1. The retirement party for Charlie will be held November 7 at the Portola Memorial Hall. Those members and friends of Charlie and Ariene who want to attend should RSVP to our office.

Bernard W. Pflie,  
general manager

~~~~~

## Outages

We happily report that there were no major outages last month.

~~~~~

POSTAL MAIL PERMIT NO. 1000 PORTOLA, CALIF. 96122  
PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OP  
P.O. BOX 2000  
PORTOLA, CALIF. 96122-2000

Coop 25

... historical significance. The line is designed with adequate protection from the  
... storms experienced by the area. Construction will be halted during  
... of excessive precipitation so as not to impact the soils or vegetation.

Minor impacts to soil, topography, vegetation, and visual quality will be  
experienced at the structure locations within the transmission line right of way,  
which will be 75 feet wide."

After the structure is placed in the excavation, it is backfilled with the excavated  
material. Any remaining material is spread about the immediate area. Any areas  
disturbed during construction will be reseeded with natural vegetation at a time of  
year favorable for establishment of a successful seeding as advised by the Soil  
Conservation Service in the interest of preventing soil erosion. All litter, waste, and  
debris will be removed from each construction site upon vacation and disposed of in  
a proper dumping area.

The line will be routed so as to limit the amount of vegetation clearing to only that  
necessary for safe line construction and operation. The line will also be routed so as  
to utilize existing contour features for concealment where feasible. Any impact to  
airspace will be insignificant, and air quality will not be affected at all.

Impacts to wildlife will be very minimal. The line will not significantly interfere with  
any migratory, rearing, or wintering activity of area wildlife. Since the Doyle  
Wildlife Area is predominantly a wintering area for mule deer, the anticipated  
construction will occur in the summer months, thereby eliminating any possible  
construction impacts on wintering deer. Some animals resident to the immediate  
construction sites will be temporarily displaced during the construction process but  
will most likely return to inhabit the proximity of the facility soon after site  
vacation. Some animals may even benefit from the increased grazing or browsing  
opportunities presented by the minimal clearing, pruning, and revegetation that  
will be performed. It is probable that a small number of rodents, reptiles, and  
amphibians might be destroyed by construction vehicles and equipment.

A cultural resource survey will be conducted at the area of the proposed new  
construction on BLM land, a distance of approximately 9.25 miles. Should the survey

(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

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Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )

Plaintiff, )

vs. )

ROBERT A. BECKETT and LOMA A.)  
BECKETT, husband and wife, as )  
Joint Tenants; DOES 1 through )  
1000, inclusive, and all )  
persons unknown claiming an )  
interest in the property )  
described in the Complaint, )  
Defendants )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF ROBERT A.  
BECKETT

I, ROBERT A. BECKETT, say and declare:

1. I am one of the Defendants in the above-entitled action.

2. The Plaintiffs are trying to force a power transmission line across my property, as well as across the property of adjoining landowners.

3. An alternate route for the power transmission line

1 is available. The Plaintiffs are in a position to take their  
2 power transmission line through BLM property. The power  
3 transmission line will detrimentally affect the value of  
4 Defendants' property, as well as the value of all properties  
5 surrounding him. In addition, subdivision potential exists  
6 with respect to the various property along the area  
7 contemplated for the line. That power transmission line will  
8 detrimentally affect that value.

9 4. In my conversations with officials of the Plaintiffs,  
10 they have acknowledged that an alternate route is possible.  
11 They argue, though, that although an alternate route is  
12 possible, it may be somewhat more time consuming since they  
13 will have to deal with the Federal Government.

14 5. I have personally discussed the matter with the  
15 officials at BLM and BLM has indicated the feasibility of  
16 using BLM land and have indicated that the Plaintiffs would  
17 have to go through some sort of a permit process.

18 6. I am informed and believe that the Plaintiffs have  
19 not even tried to utilize this permit process in order to use  
20 the BLM land.

21 7. Therefore, I believe that the public interest and  
22 necessity do not require that the proposed project take  
23 private land when an alternate route is available. I do not  
24 believe that the Plaintiffs have satisfied C.C.P. sections  
25 1250.370(b) and (d).

26 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
27 true and correct, and that this Declaration was executed on  
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this 9th day of May, 1990.

Robert A. Beckett  
ROBERT A. BECKETT



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Attorney for Defendants

ENDORSED  
**FILED**  
MAY 31 1990  
THERESA HAZEL  
CLERK COUNTY CLERK  
BRUCE D. DYER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF PAUL  
HERMAN IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Paul Herman, say and declare as follows:

I am writing to voice my objection to PSREC constructing a new high tension line in my community. My reasons are (1) it is not needed to serve the area in which it is being put; (2) the existing line has been in place for many years through U.S. Forest Service land, where it doesn't impact any people at all; (3) the new line is routed down Constantia Road and right in front of my property (60 foot away). Constantia Road is one of the most scenic areas in this part of Northern California, and the visual impact will be

1 horrendous; (4) There are serious questions as to the safety  
2 of people, livestock, and plants living in the proximity of  
3 these high voltage transmission lines. I don't want myself  
4 and my valley to be used as guinea pigs! (5) the PSREC has  
5 chosen the route that affects more people than any other way.  
6 The deer, the tourists, the railroad, the U.S. Forest Service  
7 and the highway department have all successfully fought off  
8 this project. The people whose property is being confiscated  
9 apparently have less say in this than anyone else. Judge  
10 these are the people who live in this valley. Now I ask you  
11 where the hell is justice? (6) this power line will ruin the  
12 aesthetics and natural beauty of my home! This costs me  
13 money. It comes right out of the value of my home and land.  
14 May be the Rural Electric Company will save a few bucks by  
15 putting the line here, but they are taking those bucks from  
16 me by ruining my home. Please tell them to keep their power  
17 line right where it is. I am truly outraged about this  
18 confiscation. They are trying to steamroller me and my  
19 neighbors and squash us because we are the path of least  
20 resistance, not because it is the best route from an  
21 electrical point of view.

22 Consider the rights of the little people for a change.

23 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
24 true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on  
25 this 14 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

26 Paul Herman  
27 PAUL HERMAN  
28

CALENDAR PAGE  
MINUTE PAGE 2329

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
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Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants )

CASE NO.: 20866  
FINAL POINTS AND  
AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT  
OF MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM  
EX PARTE ORDER FOR  
POSSESSION

At this point in time, this Court has received a large amount of evidence, as well as argument and law from both parties.

In order for this Court to determine whether it should grant the Defendants' Motion for Relief From the Ex Parte Order for Possession (an urgency measure), there are two threshold questions. (1) whether or not the Plaintiffs have adequately addressed the environmental issues and impacts which will result from the project and (2) whether or not the Plaintiffs have demonstrated that the project is one which

1 is required by the public interest and necessity, is planned  
2 or located in the manner that will be most compatible with  
3 the greatest public good and one that is planned or located  
4 in a manner which will produce the very least private injury.  
5 It is submitted that the Plaintiffs' attitude towards the  
6 county and the citizens of Doyle can best be described as  
7 cavaliers. Their whole attitude is basically one which says  
8 in bold print "it is right and proper because we say it is  
9 right, correct and proper". The Plaintiffs' response to the  
10 evidence presented by the Defendants was to offer additional  
11 distortion of the facts and not worry one whit about the fact  
12 that their responsive statements had been previously rebutted  
13 by their own previous inconsistent statements and previous  
14 inconsistent patterns of conduct.

15 With respect to the environmental issue, the Plaintiffs'  
16 position is, apparently, that they may not have dotted all  
17 of the "i's" and crossed all of the "t's" and Lassen County  
18 may not know what they are doing, but they have done enough  
19 and therefore this Court should deny the Plaintiffs' Motion  
20 for Relief from urgency order.

21 There is no doubt that this project either falls under  
22 CEQUA or under NEPA. NEPA stands for National Environmental  
23 Policy Act (42 USC 4321-4370). It is assumed that this  
24 project falls under NEPA. If the Plaintiffs had to satisfy  
25 CEQUA they have hopelessly failed. They have also failed  
26 under NEPA.

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1 It is assumed that Plaintiffs have to satisfy NEPA. As  
2 a direct legislative response to continuing citizen concern  
3 for protection of the environment, Congress ushered in the  
4 decade of the 70's by enacting the National Environmental  
5 Policy Act (NEPA), effective January 1, 1970. Prior to NEPA,  
6 federal agencies were generally unrestricted and unconcerned  
7 with the environmental effect of their activities. NEPA was  
8 supposed to have changed that cavalier attitude.  
9 Unfortunately in the case before this Court, NEPA does not  
10 seem to have made much of a change.

11 The purpose of NEPA is to establish a national policy  
12 which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between  
13 man and his environment and to promote efforts which will  
14 prevent damage to the environment and stimulate the health  
15 and welfare of man. 42 USC 4321. Also see Longtin's  
16 California Land Use, 2nd Edition, Volume 1, section 5.71.  
17 NEPA also establishes a continuing policy of the Federal  
18 Government, i. cooperation with State and Local Governments,  
19 to use all practical means to create and maintain conditions  
20 under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony  
21 and fulfill the social economic and other requirements of  
22 present and future generations of Americans. 42 USC 4331(a).

23 It is very obvious that the Plaintiffs' cavalier attitude  
24 as manifested by the various letters between Plaintiff, their  
25 agents and the Lassen County Planning Commission, the  
26 Plaintiffs have failed to create and maintain conditions in  
27 which the environment is projected. In fact, it appears that  
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1 not only did the Plaintiffs misrepresent what they are doing,  
2 they have simply failed to produce adequate proof of the  
3 overall consideration of the environment not only for the  
4 near future, but the distant future. The Court's attention  
5 is directed to the various letters between Plaintiffs and  
6 Lassen County Planning Commission, and in particular, the  
7 Exhibits attached to the County of Lassen's Amicus Brief.

8 NEPA requires that federal agencies consider  
9 environmental impacts at the outset and at every important  
10 stage in the decision making process. Although this  
11 requirement does not explicitly set forth in NEPA, it is  
12 implicit in it's various provisions. See Calvert Cliffs  
13 Coordinating Committee vs. AEC (1971) 449 Fed.2nd 1109. The  
14 communications from the County of Lassen to Plaintiff and  
15 their agents clearly demonstrate that the Plaintiffs have  
16 omitted bringing Lassen into the picture. Lassen does not  
17 know what is going on. The fact that there is a series of  
18 communications from Lassen requesting involvement  
19 demonstrates that the Plaintiff did not consider  
20 environmental impacts at the outset and at every important  
21 stage in the decision making process. It is absolutely  
22 imperative that, under NEPA, the federal agency involve Local  
23 Government (42 USC 4331(a)). The fact that the Plaintiffs  
24 have, to date, all but ignored Lassen County in their  
25 cavalier appropriation of land demonstrates, again, that the  
26 Plaintiffs have not worked cooperatively with the County and  
27 have not demonstrated, except superficially, that they are  
28

1 attempting to fulfil social economic and environmental  
2 requirements and needs of Lassen County and it's citizens.  
3 Plaintiff does not satisfy environmental issues by saying  
4 they satisfied environmental issues. They must proof it.  
5 When there is a question as to whether they have proven it,  
6 then the matter should be referred to the Council on  
7 Environmental Quality. Title 2 of NEPA establishes the  
8 Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and defines it's  
9 membership and duties. It is the primary watchdog of the  
10 environmental review process. The CEQ has been given powers  
11 relating to examination of the quality of the environment,  
12 review of federal programs and activities, preparation of  
13 environmental quality reports and preparation of guidelines.  
14 Although the Federal Courts have generally stated that the  
15 guidelines of CEQ are advisory rather than mandatory, they  
16 have been followed by the Courts as a reasonable approach to  
17 interpretation of NEPA. See Longtin, supra, section 5.72.

18 If the action of the federal agencies instrumentality  
19 does not significantly affect the quality of the human  
20 environment, then EIS need not be prepared. It is quite  
21 obvious in this case that there are a large number of  
22 citizens, as well as the County of Lassen itself, which feel  
23 that the action of the Plaintiffs significantly affects the  
24 quality of the human environment. It is suggested that this  
25 project be placed on hold and require the Plaintiffs to  
26 submit their project to the CEQ. At that point in time, the  
27 County of Lassen can be brought into the picture and the  
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1 County of Lassen's concerns, as well as the concerns of the  
2 City of Doyle, can be made known to the CEQ and the CEQ can  
3 then render an advisory ruling. In the meantime, the Court  
4 should vacate all of it's Ex Parte Orders for Possession.

5 On all those cases where an environmental impact  
6 statement is required, the EIS must be a detailed statement  
7 which is issued only after consultation with other  
8 appropriate governmental agencies and which addresses the  
9 environmental impact of the proposed action, unavoidable  
10 adverse environmental effects, alternatives, the relationship  
11 between local short-term uses of the environment and the  
12 maintenance and enhancement of long term productivity and  
13 irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources. See  
14 42 USC 4332(c) and 40 CFR 1500, et seq. For a discussion of  
15 the appropriate persons to prepare at EIS and the lead agency  
16 system see 40 CFR 1501.5. Also see, generally, Longtin,  
17 SURELL, section 5.74(3).

18 There are other action forcing requirements under NEPA.  
19 In addition to NEPA's EIS requirements, there are seven other  
20 "action forcing" provisions in NEPA. They require federal  
21 agencies to: (A) utilize an interdisciplinary approach to  
22 planning and decision making; (B) insure appropriate  
23 consideration of unqualified environment values; (C) study  
24 and develop alternatives to proposals involving unresolved  
25 conflicts over a use of resources; (D) recognize the world  
26 wide and long range character of environment problems; (E)  
27 make usable environmental information generally available;

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1 (F) initiate ecological information for resource oriented  
2 projects and (G) assist the CEQ. See, generally, Longtin,  
3 section 5.74(4) and see section 1.02(2) of NEPA.

4 Conclusion on environmental issue: It is very obvious  
5 that the Plaintiffs' cavalier statement or statements that  
6 we have satisfied and complied with all environmental issues  
7 is not enough. The Plaintiffs have the burden of proving  
8 that they have complied with all environmental problems and  
9 have satisfied NEPA and the NEPA requirements of working with  
10 local agencies to the satisfaction of the local agency. It  
11 is obvious that the Plaintiffs have failed with respect to  
12 the environmental conditions that they must satisfy which are  
13 preliminary to the project.

14 This leaves the second threshold question which is  
15 whether or not the Plaintiffs have satisfied C.C.P. section  
16 1240.030. It is submitted that the Plaintiffs have not  
17 factually demonstrated that the project is in the public  
18 interest. With respect to the public interest, the  
19 Plaintiffs have failed. The residents of Doyle are up in  
20 arms. They have appeared before the Board of Supervisors.  
21 They have signed Petitions. All of this information is  
22 before this Court. In addition, the citizens of Doyle have  
23 filed many Declarations in opposition to this project. The  
24 Lassen County Board of Supervisors through their attorney  
25 have filed an Amicus Brief in this action. That Amicus Brief  
26 raises serious questions about whether the Plaintiffs have  
27 satisfied the "public interest" requirement. The obvious

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1 answer is that the public is adverse to the project.

2 With respect to the issue of necessity, the Plaintiffs  
3 have again failed. Their statements in the recent past have  
4 been to the affect that the existing transmission line  
5 between Beckwourth and Milford is totally adequate. Then,  
6 when they think they want to install a new transmission line,  
7 they reverse their position and begin arguing that the  
8 Beckwourth-Milford line is not adequate. The Plaintiffs have  
9 previously stated in various public statements that the  
10 outage problems are caused mostly by outage problems at the  
11 source; i.e. between Quincy and the Feather River  
12 Hydroelectric Plants. Now that the Plaintiffs want to run  
13 a line through the middle of Doyle, they argue that the  
14 outage problems are caused by the transmission line between  
15 Milford and Beckwourth and that if this line were installed,  
16 it would solve the problems. They now ignore their previous  
17 statements that the problems result in the Feather River  
18 Canyons and between the Feather River Canyons and Quincy.

19 The Plaintiffs have not demonstrated that the project is  
20 planned or located in a manner that will be most compatible  
21 with the greatest public good and the least private injury.  
22 To the contrary, the Plaintiffs have justified their project  
23 by saying that based upon their opinion this route is better  
24 than the others. They have not brought in any facts which  
25 have demonstrated that they analyzed the other routes, such  
26 as along the highway, along the railroad, etc. They are  
27 continuing to utilize the cavalier approach and present their  
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1 factual case upon their own experts' conclusions without  
2 providing the Court with the factual basis as to why one  
3 route was selected over another route. Bob Beckett has made  
4 a thorough study of the situation. His Declaration is very  
5 clear. It is very complete. He provides the Court with  
6 photographs. Jim Uptegrove and Mr. Reger have analyzed the  
7 situation. They have at least raised the question as to  
8 whether the conclusions reached by the Plaintiffs resolve the  
9 issue.

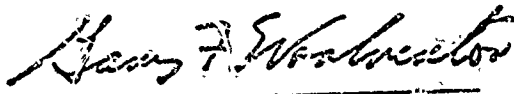
10 With respect to the issue of "least private injury",  
11 there is no question that prudence would require that the  
12 Plaintiffs use another route around the Doyle area proper.  
13 There is absolutely no reason why the Plaintiffs have to  
14 proceed directly through the subdivision and divide  
15 residential lots with a large obscene and ugly power line.  
16 If there is any question about the issue of "least private  
17 injury", the Court's attention is directed to Exhibit "D"  
18 attached to the Amicus Brief of the County of Lassen. There  
19 are four pages of signatures indicating that those people  
20 feel that there is substantial private injury and those very  
21 signatures indicate that this project has not been planned  
22 with the greatest public good in mind. Those very signatures  
23 also demonstrate that the Plaintiffs have ignored the  
24 requirements of NEPA.

25 Finally, the Plaintiffs have admitted that in the not to  
26 distant future, they intend to convert the 69 KV to a 115 KV  
27 line. Although the Plaintiffs have admitted that they intend  
28

1 to do this for purposes of "wheeling electricity" they, in  
2 recent Declarations, deny any such intent. See Declarations  
3 of Bob Beckett. Attached hereto are the Articles of the  
4 Plaintiff. Those very articles demonstrate that "wheeling  
5 electricity" is not contemplated under their Articles of  
6 Incorporation. See attached articles.

7 It is respectfully requested that this Court grant the  
8 Defendants' Motion and vacate or set aside its Ex Parte  
9 Order for Possession.

10 DATED: June 11, 1990

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12 \_\_\_\_\_  
13 GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
14 Attorney for Defendants

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# Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative

Highway 70, 3 miles west of Portola  
(916) 832-4261

P.O. Box 2000  
Portola, CA 96122-2000

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President Robert McDonald, Quincy,  
Vice-president Guido Maddalena, Sierraville;  
Secretary/Treasurer Frank V. Dotta, Vinton;  
Sadie Adams, Grass Valley;

Eugene Shirley, Herlong;  
Donald J. Wemple, Millard.

MANAGER: Bernard "Bernie" Pfile

## Dear Members,

I would like to thank all our members who attended this year's annual meeting. A cooperative is a democracy, and it thrives only when the cooperative members take interest in the direction the cooperative is going.

Each year we try to make the annual meeting more interesting than the last, with demonstrations of our equipment and activities, entertainment and other special features. For those of you who didn't make it, we would like to know why. Lack of child care? Lack of interest? Timing (day-month-season)? Lack of information as to who was likely to attend? Too far to travel?

We would like to receive comments on the meeting from those members who attended also. How can we improve the meeting? Should we have it outside under giant tents on a Saturday? Should we have it closer to the middle of our service area? Do you want more visual aids?

Please drop us a note in your next bill with your comments. Address the note to me. This is your cooperative and your annual meeting, and you have a say in how it will be run.

Many of our members will be getting a survey in the mail in the near future from the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA). NCPA is doing this survey on behalf of Plumas-Sierra and several other NCPA members to help with load forecasting and load management programs.

Plumas-Sierra REC needs the information from this survey so we can develop load management programs that can take the place of purchasing expensive new power supplies.

If you receive this survey from NCPA in the mail, we would really appreciate it if you take the time to fill it out and return it to us, either by dropping it off or sending it back in the postage-paid envelope. If you have any questions on

this survey please give us a call.

We have applied to the Rural Electric Administration (REA) for a loan of \$6.1 million for improvements on our distribution and transmission lines. The centerpiece is 32 miles of new transmission line from Chilcoot to Herlong which will greatly improve the reliability of power to the northern end of our system. This new line will give us the ability to serve any new load that develops up north, and will also allow us to wheel power to and from other utilities to our financial advantage.

Parts of the loan in reference to distribution lines have been approved. We still need to get the required environmental permits and authorization before we can get approval on the transmission part of the loan. We hope to get approval in a few months so we can start the project.

Our meter replacement program has been coming along, pretty much on schedule. We have discovered a few cases of theft, many meters running too slow and several misapplications of meters. This program will more than pay for itself through increased revenues due to everyone paying their proper utility bill.

Through our association with *Ruralist* magazine, we will be distributing safety and information booklets to our members. Every three or four months you will receive a booklet from us on inside or outside electrical safety and other topics. The booklets are illustrated and interesting for both adults and children to read. We encourage you and everyone in your family to read these brochures, especially the booklets on safety.

If you don't receive an annual report, please give us a call and we will send you one. This year's report is a 24-page special issue celebrating our 50th anniversary as a cooperative.

Charlie Brown is retiring from Plumas-Sierra on October 1. The retirement party for Charlie will be held November 7 at the Portola Memorial Hall. Those members and friends of Charlie and Ailene who want to attend should RSVP to our office.

Bernard W. Pfile,  
General Manager

## Outages

We happily report that there were no major outages last month.

POSTMASTER: Change Address to Box 2000, Portola, CA 96122-2000

CA 96122-2000  
P.O. BOX 2000  
PORTOLA, CA 96122-2000

CALENDAR PAGE  
MINUTE PAGE 2340

Department of State  
Incorporation Number  
172189

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
AUG 10 1937  
FRANK C. JORDAN  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
By FRANK C. JORDAN

PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS: That we, the undersigned, have this day voluntarily associated ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation under the General Corporation law of the State of California.

AND WE HEREBY CERTIFY:

FIRST: The name of this corporation shall be PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE.

SECOND: The purposes for which this corporation is formed are:

- (a) To generate, manufacture, purchase, acquire and accumulate electric energy for its members and to transmit, distribute, furnish, sell and dispose of such electric energy to its members only, and to construct, erect, purchase, lease as lessee and in any manner acquire, own, hold, maintain, operate, sell, dispose of, lease as lessor, exchange and mortgage plants, buildings, works, machinery, supplies, apparatus, equipment and electric transmission and distribution lines or systems necessary, convenient or useful for carrying out and accomplishing any of the foregoing purposes;
- (b) To acquire, own, hold, use, exercise and, to the extent permitted by law, to sell, mortgage, pledge, hypothecate and in any manner dispose of franchises, rights, privileges, licenses, rights of way and easements necessary, useful or appropriate to accomplish any or all of the purposes of this corporation;
- (c) To purchase, receive, lease as lessee, or in any other manner acquire, own, hold, maintain, use, convey, sell, lease as lessor, exchange, mortgage, pledge or otherwise dispose of any and all real and personal property or any interest therein necessary, useful or appropriate to enable this corporation to accomplish any and all of its purposes;
- (d) To assist its members to wire their premises and install therein electrical and plumbing appliances, fixtures, machinery, supplies, apparatus and equipment of any and all kinds and character (including such as arc applicable to water supply and sewage disposal). And, in connection therewith and for such purposes, to purchase, acquire, lease, sell, distribute, install and repair electrical and plumbing appliances, fixtures, machinery, supplies, apparatus and equipment of any and all kinds and character (including such as are



1 applicable to water supply and sewage disposal) and to  
2 receive, acquire, endorse, pledge, guarantee, hypothecate,  
3 transfer or otherwise dispose of notes and other  
evidences of indebtedness and all security therefor;

4 (e) To borrow money, to make and issue bonds, notes and  
5 other evidences of indebtedness, secured or unsecured,  
6 for moneys borrowed or in payment for property acquired,  
7 or for any of the other objects or purposes of this  
8 corporation; to secure the payment of such bonds, notes  
9 or other evidences of indebtedness by mortgage or mortgages,  
10 or deed or deed of trust upon, or by the pledge  
11 of or other lien upon, any or all of the property,  
12 rights, privileges or permits of this corporation,  
13 wheresoever situated, acquired or to be acquired;

14 (f) To do and perform, either for itself or its members,  
15 any and all acts and things, and to have and exercise  
16 any and all powers, as may be necessary or convenient  
17 to accomplish any or all of the foregoing purposes, or  
18 as may be permitted by the Act under which this corporation  
19 is formed and to exercise any of its powers  
20 anywhere; provided, however, that this corporation  
21 shall render no service to or for the public.

22 The enumeration of the foregoing powers shall not be  
23 held to limit or restrict in any manner the general powers of  
24 this corporation, and this corporation shall be authorized to exercise  
25 and enjoy all of the powers, rights and privileges granted to  
26 or conferred upon corporations of the character of this corporation  
27 by the laws of the State of California now or hereafter in  
28 force.

29 **THIRD:** The principal office of the transaction of the  
30 business of the corporation will be located in the County of  
31 Plumas, State of California.

32 **FOURTH:** The number of directors, who shall be selected  
33 from the members of this corporation, shall be seven (7), and the  
34 names and addresses of the persons who are appointed to act as  
35 the first directors, are:

| <u>Name</u>       | <u>Address</u>                           |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Mr. H. Heckendorf | Blairden, Plumas County, California      |
| R. F. Ranelli     | Vinton, Plumas County, California        |
| Alden H. Johnson  | Sierreville, Sierra County, California   |
| John F. Kropa,    | Sloat, Plumas County, California         |
| Roy E. Harwood    | Milford, Lassen County, California       |
| Edward W. Rund    | Spring Garden, Plumas County, California |
| J. H. Laughlin    | Blairden, Plumas County, California      |



1 FIFTH: The corporate existence of this corporation  
2 shall begin upon the filing of the articles of incorporation with  
3 the Secretary of State and shall continue perpetually.

4 SIXTH: This is a membership corporation and shall not  
5 be authorized to issue shares of stock and is not formed with a  
6 view to pecuniary gain or profit to its members. The undersigned  
7 shall be members of this corporation upon the filing of the  
8 Articles of Incorporation with the Secretary of State. Any other  
9 person, firm, or corporation may become a member of this corporation  
10 in the manner and upon the terms and conditions specified in  
11 the By-laws. There shall be one class of members. Only one  
12 membership may be held by each person, firm, or corporation who  
13 or which becomes a member of this corporation. The voting power,  
14 property rights and interests of the members shall be equal and  
15 as specified in the By-laws.

16 SEVENTH: Subject to the provisions of any mortgage  
17 given by this corporation, at the close of each fiscal year the  
18 Board of Directors after paying or providing for the payment of  
19 all operating expenses of this corporation, including an amount  
20 for prospective operating expenses for a reasonable period, and  
21 all interest and instalments on account of principal of notes,  
22 bonds or other evidences of indebtedness of this corporation  
23 shall have become due and be unpaid or which have accrued at the  
24 end of the fiscal year but which shall not then be due, and after  
25 paying or making provision for the payment of all taxes, insurance  
26 and all other non-operating expenses which shall have become due and  
27 be unpaid and all taxes, insurance and all other non-operating ex-  
28 penses which shall have accrued at the end of the fiscal year but  
29 which shall not then be due, shall apply all receipts of this cor-  
30 poration remaining thereafter for the following purposes and in the  
31 following order of priority:

(1) the establishment and maintenance of a reserve for the  
payment of interest on and principal of all outstanding

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1 notes, bonds or other evidences of indebtedness of this corporation  
2 in an amount which shall equal the amounts of principal and inter-  
3 est required to be paid in respect of such notes, bonds or  
4 other evidences of indebtedness during the ensuing fiscal year;

5 (2) the establishment and maintenance of a general  
6 reserve fund for working capital, insurance, taxes (including  
7 Federal income taxes, if any) depreciation, obsolescence and con-  
8 tingencies in an amount which the Board of Directors shall deem  
9 reasonable;

10 (3) for the payment to the members of this corporation  
11 of refunds in proportion to the amounts of their respective pur-  
12 chases of electric energy and goods from this corporation during  
13 the fiscal year.

14 provided, however, that in no case shall any of such refunds be  
15 paid to any member who is indebted to this corporation until such  
16 indebtedness is paid or arrangements in respect thereof satisfac-  
17 tory to the board of directors shall have been made.

18 EIGHTH: The number of directors may be changed by an  
19 amendment to the Articles of Incorporation.

20 IN WITNESS WHEREOF we, as incorporators and named  
21 hereinabove as directors, have hereunto set our hands and seals  
22 as such incorporators and directors in the County of Plumas, State  
23 of California, the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1937.

24 Wm. H. Hechendorf  
25 R. F. Ramelli  
26 Alvin H. Lewis  
27 John A. Fessenden  
28 Norm E. Harwood  
29 Edward W. Brand  
30 B. H. Langdon  
31

(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
225 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUZANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 257-5522

ENDORSED  
FILED  
MAY 31 1990

JENNIFER HAZEL  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )

Plaintiff, )

vs. )

ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )

Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF JESSICA J.  
TALBOTT IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Jessica <sup>M.</sup> Talbott, say and declare as follows:

As a resident of the Doyle area, I would like to express my concern regarding the proposed 69,000 volt power line PSREC wants to install.

First, life is dangerous enough already without enhancing our habitats with potentially cancer-causing rays and high voltage. The research on the potential health hazards isn't conclusive enough yet, and I don't believe the people of Doyle want to become lab rats. Let the test results surface before we spend millions of dollars and possibly some lives

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1 on this project.

2 Second, I think condemning peoples' properties by eminent  
3 domain strongly resembles armed robbery. PSREC is stomping  
4 all over our civil rights and it makes me nauseated to know  
5 in this case 23 people don't have any! They have shown  
6 little or no respect or regard for the unfortunate souls who  
7 happen to be standing in their way, particularly by insulting  
8 them with ridiculously low bids for their easements. These  
9 people will not be able to do anything with that portion of  
10 their property except drive through it. Not only will a  
11 portion of their land be forcibly taken from them, but the  
12 remainder will now be worth much less due to size reduction  
13 and an unsightly line and poles in the yard. The PSREC is  
14 worried about deer traffic, not these 23 people and their  
15 families.

16 Third, in my mind, this line isn't even justified, at  
17 least not to the Doyle people. We were told the main reason  
18 "we want it" is to reduce the yearly down-time of the line  
19 from 20 hours to 5 hours. Personally, I am not affected by  
20 a loss of power. I would much prefer 20 hours with no power  
21 than that horrible line in my yard.

22 Fourth, I wouldn't be surprised if the residents of those  
23 properties start grazing animals underneath the lines for  
24 lack of anything else to use the land for. I and Animal  
25 Rights groups would question what the lines would do to their  
26 health, and add economic light to the issue, what if these  
27 are prize breeders or show animals? What if they get sick

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or die or somehow lose some of their value? What then?  
Fifth, the line is just plain ugly! They say they can't  
put it next to Highway 395 because of Lady Bird Johnson's  
Highway Beautification Act, but I'm more concerned with the  
residents' visual rights than those of the tourists passing  
through. They shouldn't rate higher than me and my  
neighbors.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the  
foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was  
executed on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1990 at Susanville,  
California.

*Jessica Talbott*  
JESSICA TALBOTT



GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
235 S. LASTER STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 237-5528

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Attorney for Defendants

ENDORSED  
MAY 31 1990  
BRUCE D. DYER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF JAMES A.  
SUMMERS AND HELEN SUMMERS  
IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

We, James A. Summers and Helen Summers, say and declare  
as follows:

We are residents of Doyle, California where this new 69  
KV or 115 KV power line is supposed to be placed. This new  
power line will be very close to and may even be across my  
property.

I am 73 years old and have a Pacemaker and I have some  
real concerns about the effect that this power line could  
have on my Pacemaker. According to my doctor: "Patients who

1 work directly with equipment which generate strong electric  
2 fields (welders, high powered transmitters and electric power  
3 generation and destruction equipment for example) may have  
4 to take special precautions".

5 Both my wife and myself also have some real concerns of  
6 other possible health hazards that could be caused by these  
7 high voltage lines being too close to us.

8 The above-mentioned reasons are the reasons that we are  
9 not in favor of having these power lines so close to us.

10 We declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing  
11 is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed  
12 on this 21 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

13 James A. Summers  
14 JAMES A. SUMMERS

15 Helen G. Summers  
16 HELEN G. SUMMERS

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
233 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUBANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 837-8528

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Attorney for Defendants

ENDORSED  
**FILED**  
MAY 31 1990  
JUDGE  
BRUCE D. DYER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF ART W.  
SANDERS AND GLADYS E.  
SANDERS IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

We, Art W. Sanders and Gladys E. Sanders, say and declare  
as follows:

Reasons why we are against the 69,000 volt electric  
transmission line proposed to cross through Doyle and  
specifically, bisecting our 10.5 and highway frontage  
property:

The transmission line as proposed, destroys the value of  
our property for any future development. The property is for  
sale and if the power company wants the high voltage line as  
they propose, they should buy the property.

1 We believe there may be serious health problems involved.  
2 Our tenants have two young children and are expecting a  
3 third. I, (Mrs. Sanders), have a heart condition. Our  
4 neighbor to the north, Mr. Summers, wears a pacemaker because  
5 of a heart condition and, in our opinion, should not live  
6 almost under a magnetic field of that magnitude.

7 It is our feeling that PSREC Manager and Board of  
8 Directors, and especially the Chief Engineer, Mr. Greg  
9 Hervino, are determined to violate our property in which we  
10 have invested a lifetime of resources, simply because we have  
11 the nerve to suggest viable alternatives to such action. If  
12 due process dictates that the line be on our property, then  
13 why can it not be routed along the edge instead of the middle  
14 of our land?

15 At a town meeting in Doyle, a day prior to the Resolution  
16 of Necessity meeting, two alternate routes were shown on  
17 local maps. Favor for either alternate was virtually  
18 unanimous, but the principals of PSREC insisted that the east  
19 side alternative was not cost effective because of an  
20 uncooperative railroad company. The west side alternative  
21 was not viable because it would disturb the wildlife habitat.  
22 No mention was made of the four opposing property owners  
23 mentioned by Plaintiff's counsel at the Court hearing of May  
24 9, 1990. It is our feeling that the deer would not be  
25 troubled in any way.

26 At this point, reimbursement is not a prime issue.  
27 However, for the record, Mr. Ted Carr of Ryan and Associates,  
28

1 did make a verbal offer on behalf of PSREC of \$1,100.00  
2 instead of the \$550.00 that is on deposit with the Court.  
3 We doubt that Mr. Carr would deny this under oath.

4 We declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing  
5 is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed  
6 on this 22 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

7  
8 Art W. Sanders  
ART W. SANDERS

9  
10 Gladys E. Sanders  
GLADYS E. SANDERS  
434-330 Foothill Ln  
Doyle, CA 96109

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GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 E. LASSON STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 237-5528

ENDORSED  
**FILED**  
MAY 31 1990

BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )

Plaintiff, )

vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )

Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF EMMA  
CANNON IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Emma Cannon, say and declare as follows:  
I am positive that the lines PSREC are proposing to put  
in are highly dangerous to both humans and animals. The  
proposed lines will go directly in front of my property. As  
I raise horses and dogs, I cannot possibly have any other  
feelings than that this proposed line can ruin my livelihood  
as it is a proven fact that this KV line will be a direct  
detrimental effect on the reproductive system.

Also, most important, I have a 14 year old daughter that  
will be directly affected also.

1 As I bought this property to try to provide a future home  
2 for my daughter and she has been oriented all of her life to  
3 raise and train dogs and horses, this will completely destroy  
4 this. Our property value will decrease to the point that we  
5 can't sell to get enough money to get into a comparable  
6 place.

7 Also, I cannot understand how or why an appraiser of  
8 sound mind that is honest, can value 5.01 acres with 3 wells,  
9 a 4 bedroom, 2 bath mobile at \$18,955.00. This is totally  
10 ludicrous.

11 Questions were asked and unreasonable answers given:

12 1. Why tell the public that a 69 KV line is proposed  
13 with a 60 foot easement when PSREC got the okay for a 115 KV  
14 line with a 25 foot easement.

15 2. Why did the power company find it necessary to make  
16 me feel threatened that they would take my land without just  
17 compensation. I did not sign immediately. Carbon copy  
18 enclosed.

19 3. Why run a high power transmission line that has  
20 nothing to do with the existing service, through a populated  
21 area.

22 4. If this line is detrimental to the environment of  
23 deer, why isn't it detrimental to the environment of my  
24 family and animals.

25 5. Why was I offered \$35.00 for .11 acres of land - when  
26 I refused to pay that, I was told by the appraiser that he  
27 was authorized to go as high as \$110.00.

1           6. Why did the 5 acres across from me recently sell for  
2 \$65,000.00 and mine isn't worth a comparable value?

3           7. Why can't this line be put in a more true  
4 environmentally sound place than through the 3 most populated  
5 areas of Doyle? Better routes exist.

6           When I bought this property in April, 1988, I bought it  
7 with dreams of being able to give my daughter a future that  
8 we could build together. Since this proposed power line  
9 threat, our whole lives have changed.

10           I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
11 true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on  
12 this 26 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

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14           *Emma Cannon*  
15           \_\_\_\_\_  
16           EMMA CANNON  
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(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 E. LASSEN STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (516) 287-3822

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Attorney for Defendants

ENDORSED  
**FILED**  
MAY 31 1990  
JULIE LACY  
DECLARATION OF  
**BRUCE D. DYER**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

FLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )

CASE NO.: 20866

Plaintiff, )

DECLARATION OF JULIE  
LACY IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

vs. )

ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )

Defendants. )

I, Julie Lacy, say and declare as follows:

I am apposed to the "proposed" route for the new transmission line, because the route goes through populated areas where it can cause possible health risks and depreciate land values. While the studies which connect cancer and power lines are not conclusive, there are millions of Federal dollars currently being employed to investigate this possibility. As a single mother, I am concerned for my children's health, and I have worked hard to payoff my land. Why should I or any other private citizen give land to a

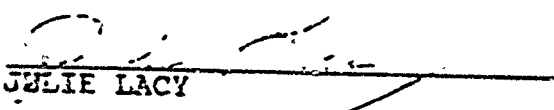


1 company who is in business to make profits?

2 At the Doyle meeting, I asked why the line could not be  
3 moved to less populated areas and was told that it would  
4 impact the environment. I am a member of the National  
5 Wildlife Federation, and very concerned about possible harm  
6 to wildlife, but I believe that the impact of this project  
7 will have on humans is of far greater importance.

8 Another possible route for the line might have been along  
9 railroad property. The response to this suggestion was that  
10 the railroad wants too much money. Why should the power  
11 company pay for land when they have the resources (money and  
12 lawyers) to take it from those who don't have the resources  
13 to fight back.

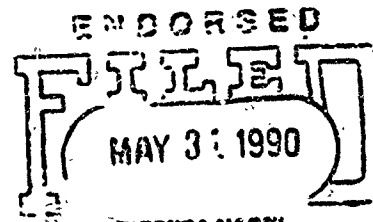
14 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
15 true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on  
16 this 15 day of May, 1990 at Susarville, California.

17  
18   
19 JULIE LACY

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
235 E. LASSEN STREET  
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Attorney for Defendants



BRUCE D. DYER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF ROY A. MCKENZIE IN SUPPORT OF VACATION OF ORDER OF WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Roy A. McKenzie, say and declare as follows:

I have been asked to state my professional opinion of the effect of the proposed high voltage line, to be build by PSREC, thru the Doyle area, as it relates to future property values in this community.

As I understand the proposed route, it would pass thru the heart of two existing subdivisions, named Long Valley Rancho's to the south of town and Willow Springs to the west of Highway 395. These two area's, in my opinion, represent the most logical area's for the future growth of this

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community and am certain, in my mind, that a high voltage transmission line in these areas, would not only be unsightly, but would present a health and safety hazard to the children playing in their yards, and to the future residents of the area. Thus it tends to make living in these areas undesirable and decrease property values in the future.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on this 25 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

*Roy A. McKenzie*  
ROY A. MCKENZIE  
HONEY LAKE REALTY

(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUBANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 257-3325

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Attorney for Defendants

EMBOISED  
FILED  
MAY 31 1990  
T. H. HIGEL  
BRUCE D. DYER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

|                                |                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC ) | CASE NO.: 20866          |
| COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )    |                          |
| Corporation, )                 |                          |
| )                              |                          |
| Plaintiff, )                   | DECLARATION OF WILL HAIL |
| )                              | IN SUPPORT OF            |
| vs. )                          | VACATION OF ORDER OF     |
| )                              | WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC. |
| ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )   |                          |
| )                              |                          |
| Defendants. )                  |                          |
| )                              |                          |

I, Will Hail, say and declare as follows:

In regard to the 69 KV power line, proposed to be installed along the Doyle ranching area and residential area. As a Real Estate salesman who has been selling real estate in this area for the past 2 1/2 years, I would like to express my opinion.

Property values will no doubt decline and some cases it will cause properties to become next to impossible to sell. I will agree that the power availability is a major factor in the desirability of unimproved lots and land. It can also



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become a detriment. In properties that are already residents, too many power lines or too high of voltage in a line becomes a factor against the sale of that property. I have had one sale fall out of escrow because of the power line being too close to the house. I have also had a property that sold at a discounted price just because of the power line that went through an alfalfa field. I have also had potential buyers reject an area because of too many power lines.

I feel there is another route that can be taken for the 69 KV line that would have a much less impact on the values of the property in the Doyle, California area and would suggest the power company take it.

This route is as follows: See green, purple, yellow and brown on Declaration of James L. Uptegrove.

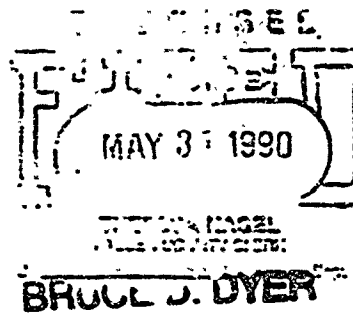
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on this 31 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

Will Hall  
WILL HALL  
JOY REALTY



(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 257-8822



Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF DONNA  
FENNEL IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF WRIT  
OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Donna Fennel, say and declare as follows:

I object to the proposed transmission line. It is ugly,  
unsightly and reduces the value of the property in Doyle.  
Alternate routes are available. They should be utilized.  
I am also concerned about the fact that transmission lines  
are a health hazard. The alternate routes will not present  
the same health hazard or unsightly line.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on

1 this \_\_\_ day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

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3 *Donna C. Fennel*  
4 DONNA FENNEL  
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GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 S. LASSEN STREET  
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Attorney for Defendants

RECORDED  
**FILED**  
MAY 31 1993  
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT  
BRUCE D. DYER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF DARREN A.  
PRICE AND SHELLY PRICE  
IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

We, Darren A. Price and Shelly Price, say and declare as follows:

The reason that we do not want the 69 KV line is because we have two boys. Their ages are 10 and 6. We also raise and breed dogs. The line will bring our property value down.

We feel that the line should be put on the east side of the railroad tracks, and not where the line would bother anyone.

1 We declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing  
2 is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed  
3 on this 28 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

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5 *Darren A. Price*  
6 DARREN A. PRICE  
7 *Shelly Price*  
8 SHELLY PRICE  
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(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
235 E. LASSEN STREET  
GURANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95920  
TELEPHONE: (916) 287-8828

ENDORSED  
FEBRUARY  
MAY 31 1990  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF GLENN  
WARNER AND BENNE JO WARNER  
IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

We, Glenn Warner and Benne Jo Warner, say and declare as follows:

We would like to let it be known that we are very unhappy with the prospect of having a large electric line going over our property. It will not be nice to look upon. We will not be able to use our property as we plan to. It will lower our property value. The most important is the damages it can cause to our family and neighbors' health. If this line goes in it will go nearly over the top of our closest neighbors' houses. We can see seven families from our property that

CALENDAR PAGE \_\_\_\_\_  
MINUTE PAGE 2386



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will be greatly affected, and that is not more than one mile of the line proposed. Being on our side of the road, they did not even have a chance to try to say no to PEREC. Their children and possibly our grandchildren could be forced to walk to school under this line with great danger to their health. It is very hard for us to understand the lack of concern for peoples' health, when there's a route that can be taken that is not close to homes and not through the middle of a growing subdivision. That would be along the railroad that goes out through the deserts not bothering people.

At a meeting for this line that we attended, we were led to believe that it could affect the deer in that area. We might add that we have several deer feeding on our young fruit trees, so they will be affected any way. We personally feel that it is only money that keeps them from using that route and surely peoples' health is of more importance.

We declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on this 25 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

Glenn Warner  
GLENN WARNER  
Benke Jo Warner  
BENKE JO WARNER

(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVEYTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
232 E. LASSEN STREET  
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TELEPHONE: (916) 237-8828

FILED  
MAY 31 1990  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )

CASE NO. 20866

vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

DECLARATION OF M.B.  
COY IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, M.B. Coy, say and declare as follows:

I feel that the 69 KV transmission line the co-op  
purposes to run through the subdivision in Doyle is  
detrimental to the health of the people who live close to it  
and will down grade the value of the property.

After reading the environmental report filed on this  
transmission line, I have found there is an alternate route  
around this subdivision that has not been pursued thoroughly,  
because it would involve dealing with the Fish and Game  
Department.

1 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
2 true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on  
3 this 15 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.  
4

5 Ly. J. S. [Signature]  
6 N. S. COY

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(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

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TELEPHONE: (916) 287-5222

RECORDED  
MAY 31 1990  
THESSA HAZEL  
CLERK, COUNTY CLERK  
BRUCE J. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )

CASE NO.: 20866

Plaintiff, )

DECLARATION OF MARCY  
CUEVAS IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

vs. )

ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )

Defendants. )

I, Marcy Cuevas, say and declare as follows:

I am very much in protest of these power lines and poles directly through our residential area. Besides the fact that they will be an eye sore and depreciate the value of our properties, there is the question of Cancer. There are many articles and news shows about the effects of this high voltage in humans (particularly children), and it links to Cancer. PSRSC spokes person have denied this. Why take a chance with our lives and the lives of the children who one day may be ruling the country. When there is a "make sense"



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route for these lines with less of a danger to human lives.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on this 28 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

Marcy Cuevas  
MARCY CUEVAS



(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
223 S. LASSEN STREET  
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TELEPHONE: (916) 287-3323

FILED  
MAY 31 1990  
CLERK OF COURT  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )

Plaintiff, )

vs. )

ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )

Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF RAE LYNNE  
DUART IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF WRIT  
OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Rae Lynne Duart, say and declare as follows:

I object to the proposed route of the transmission line. There is no reason to place it over the house and residential area when an alternate route is available. I personally know that the alternate routes suggested and outlined by Jim Uptegrove in his Declaration, are better, cheaper and make more social sense. The railroad tracks, in particular, is a good location.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on

CALENDAR PAGE  
MINUTE PAGE. 2372

1 this 23 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

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3 RAE LYNNE DUART  
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GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
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ENDORSED  
FILED  
MAY 31 1990  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

FLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF J. R.  
SUMMERS IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, J.R. Summers, say and declare as follows:

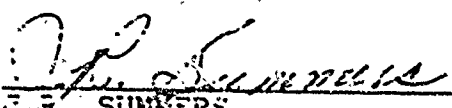
If and when this new 69 KV or 115 KV line is allowed, it will place power lines on all four sides of my property, in Doyle, California.

The placement of this power line will reduce the total size of my property and thereby reduce the value of my property. If they place the 69 KV line, they want a 20 foot easement, if they place a 115 KV line, they will want a 75 foot easement. So to place an amount of damage on this line at this time can't be done.

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In addition to the reduction in the total size and value of my property, I also have some real concerns about the possibility of health hazards caused by these high voltage lines and for the above reasons, I am very strongly against the placement of these lines on my property.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on this 11 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J.R. SUMMERS



(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

CARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (916) 237-8828

RECEIVED  
MAY 31 1990  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF BARBARA  
COY IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Barbara Coy, say and declare as follows:

I feel the 69 KV transmission line coming through our  
subdivision is a hazard to our health and especially for the  
young children living in it's vicinity.

Doyle has always been an eye sore, but now we are  
promised it is going to be cleaned up and brought up to code.  
It may eventually become a community we can be proud of, but  
not if this transmission line comes right through the nicest  
part of it.

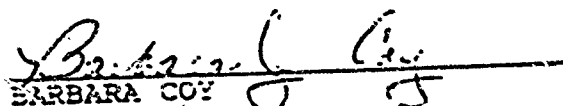
We were told at the meeting the KV's would not be



1 increased, but have since learned that PSREC has already  
2 filed to increase it to 115 KV's.

3 I would not buy a home in a high KV transmission area and  
4 I feel I am being forced to or to lose money if I have to  
5 sell my home below market value.

6 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
7 true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on  
8 this 25 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

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11 BARBARA COY

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(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96150  
TELEPHONE: (916) 237-8528

EMBOSED  
FEB 21 1990  
MAY 31 1990  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASF NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF MAXINE  
BOONE IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Maxine Boone, say and declare as follows:

See attached Exhibit "A1 through "A4", inclusive, herein  
incorporated by reference as though set forth in full.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is  
true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on  
this 29 day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

Maxine Boone  
MAXINE BOONE

SUBJECT: Proposed Long Valley Powerline Improvement Project - 69,000kv

The Plumas Sierra Rural Electric is attempting to take from me an additional 10 foot easement which would then give them 20 feet easement. This would mean 20 feet wide and approximately 337 feet long. This amounts to .34 of an acre and my total property is 2.34 acres. They first came asking for this easement with no offer of money. Later they returned with an offer of \$1,000.00 telling me this was really more than the land was worth. I have stood firm in my refusal to sign their easement for several reasons. I will list some of my reasons:

1. The real estate value would drop, plus it would slice off .34 of an acre which is a substantial portion of this lot. This land in Chilcoot is my retirement money. I could not afford to jeopardize a future sale of this property. I am a widow and retirement for me is in five years.
2. A 69,000 volt transmission line is a concern as a health hazard. (See Electromagnetic fields "An Emotional Issue" in THIS WEEK distributed to all employees at Sierra Pacific Power Company) Mr. Jim Roulias states that more than 100 lawsuits involving EMF have been filed against utilities since 1985. He mentions the California Department of Education already have set standards for how close schools can be to power lines of various voltages.
3. My precious husband died of cancer 5/16/79 and this line would be in my front door. The town of Chilcoot has little children living very close to the highway and this would also be a serious concern for their future health. I do not wish to be exposed to EMF. We all live very close to the present distribution line which means we would be living close to this 69,000 kv line. IT CANNOT HAPPEN.
4. In the September, 1989 issue of Rural the Bernard Pfile states we have applied to the Rural Electric Administration for a loan of 6.1 million for improvement on our distribution and transmission lines. This would allow them to build the 32 mile line from Chilcoot to Doyle. He goes on to say it will also allow us to wheel power to and from other utilities to our financial advantage, IS THIS THE REAL REASON FOR THE NEW LINE. If he is given the loan from the REA at an advantageous interest rate is he supposed to be out to make money. It has always been my understanding the REA is to be solely interested in providing electricity for rural people.

CALENDAR PAGE

MINUTE PAGE

2879

Exhibit A1

(SPACE BELOW FOR FILING STAMP ONLY)

GARY F. WOOLVERTON  
ATTORNEY AT LAW  
238 S. LASSEN STREET  
SUSANVILLE, CALIFORNIA 96130  
TELEPHONE: (516) 287-8828

FILED  
MAY 31 1990  
BRUCE D. DYER

Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

FLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC )  
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit )  
Corporation, )  
Plaintiff, )  
vs. )  
ROBERT A. BECKETT, et al., )  
Defendants. )

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF MAXINE  
BOONE IN SUPPORT OF  
VACATION OF ORDER OF  
WRIT OF POSSESSION, ETC.

I, Maxine Boone, say and declare as follows:

See attached Exhibit "A1 through "A4", inclusive, herein incorporated by reference as though set forth in full.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Declaration was executed on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California.

*Maxine Boone*  
MAXINE BOONE

CALENDAR PAGE  
MINUTE PAGE 2380

5. If the loan applied for of 6.1 million is subject to even reasonable interest what is the total payback to the REA in Washington, D.C. I understand the total customers is somewhere about 5,000 and what does this mean in rate increases to the customers. It could be years and years before it is paid off and a rate increase is the last thing people in this area need to repay over many, many years. In the March, 1990 issue of Ruralite Bernard Pfile speaks of the line costing 4.2 million with an interest payback of \$275,000.00 but I understand the line cost now is 5.8 million. The way I calculate this is 1.6 million more so that would mean more interest to repay plus the original loan. The March, 1990 Ruralite shows the local R.E.A. seems to be suffering from several financial set backs. He also states a complication-there is currently a surplus of power in California. Now is this the time to spend 4.2 million, 5.3 million or 6.1 million which ever the cost turns out to be.

If the local R.E.A. is really concerned about more reliable power there are several things to consider:

1. Sierra Pacific Industries in Loyalton, California recently built a Co-Gen Plant. This is about 25 miles from their sub-station in Beckwourth, California. An interesting thing also is their line and Sierra Pacific Power Company line cross each other in Sierra Valley. I was told this by Rex Riehm 20 years ago so this has been an option for them for 20 years. Utilities use joint pole agreements to share lines and costs. This would be less costly and a reasonable way to buy reliable power. Rex Riehm was Manager of Sierra Pacific Power and my boss when we talked about the two lines crossing in Sierra Valley.
2. Using diesel locomotive units during winter outages. A neighbor utility (Sierra Pacific Power in Portola, California) uses 3 diesel units during outages. These units are reliable and keep the towns of Portola and Loyalton in service when the main source of power is down. Buying electricity from the Sierra Pacific Industries in Loyalton and installing diesel units in an unpopulated area together would provide safe and reliable service for many years to come.
3. If they spent some money each year on the K line connecting Beckwourth and Milford and worked with the Forest Service (used good housekeeping around their poles to prevent fires) they could use the present line at a far more reasonable cost to their rate payers. The REA in recent years purchased a new snowcat so they have the capability to reach the K line and of recent they installed equipment to alert them to line problems which means they are updating the present lines for reliability.

Lastly no Public Hearings were held with the people in Chilcoot. The people in Chilcoot have no idea what EMF is and what it can mean for their future health. All the people who signed the easements really thought they had nothing to worry about by signing. In fact they were eager to sign thinking they were good citizens.



We should all read Jackie Engel's letter carefully. It tells the Cooperative Members something very strong. I see the Manager and the Board of Directors as big spenders. I also see this proposed new transmission line as a huge expense totally unnecessary. I have underlined the July, 1969 issue where Greg Nervino states they could even build this new proposed line in the existing easements. I already knew this because I talked with linemen at the utility where I work and found this to be consistent with the men I spoke with. So we have real estate values to consider, health hazards to be very outspoken about and a huge bill to repay a line not needed.

CALENDAR PAGE \_\_\_\_\_  
MINUTE PAGE 2382

Exhibit A3

August 21, 1989

Dear Cooperative Member:

You were advised that after the Advisory Committee presented the proposed bylaw amendments to the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative Board of Directors a letter would be written telling you the results of this meeting.

The bylaw amendments, along with petitions containing 57 signatures, were presented to the Board on July 31. The proposed bylaw amendments were declared legal by the Board of Directors and corporate attorneys; the signatures were determined to be valid; the proposed bylaw amendments met all qualifications to be presented for consideration of the membership at the August 26, 1989 Annual Meeting.

The proposed bylaw amendments have been sent to you from the Co-op along with covering letters from corporate attorneys and an Argument For the Proposed Bylaw Amendments from the Advisory Committee.

In the Manager's Report of the Plumas-Sierra's 1988 Annual Report the manager states: "-----Effective October 1, 1989, our wholesale power cost will increase by 9%. Plumas-Sierra may soon be doing a cost of service study. After this is completed, the Board will have to make a decision to implement new rate adjustments."

In 1987 a rate increase of 5-6% was made on all members although wholesale power costs had not increased. At the Annual Meeting in 1988 it was announced that the Cooperative had experienced a decrease in wholesale power costs, but no decrease in rates was made to consumers. Now a 9% increase in wholesale power costs means another rate increase?

It might be suggested to the Board of Directors and Manager that they look at cutting the Operating Costs of the Cooperative such as:  
(1) the manager has had two new cars in less than three years;  
(2) Board of Directors expenses were almost \$60,000.00 in 1988 with two board members spending around \$10,000.00 each; (3) the rent on just the tent for the 1988 Annual Meeting was over \$10,000.00; (4) the 1989 Annual Meeting will be held in a new building at the Cooperative with \$5,000.00 per month being pro-rated for Annual Meeting expenses---this means \$60,000.00 a year for the Annual Meeting!

If you believe that some of the expenses of the Cooperative should be cut before the rates are again raised please call, write or talk to the Board of Director from your area and let him/her know your thoughts of raising rates to consumers as the only panacea for making our Cooperative a viable organization.

Please attend the Annual Meeting on Saturday, August 26, 1989 and vote for the proposed bylaw amendments. All of our members deserve to have a say in how our Cooperative is operated.

Sincerely,

*Jacqueline R. Engel*  
Jacqueline R. Engel  
Member, Advisory Committee

CALENDAR PAGE

MINUTE PAGE

2883

Exhibit A4

MINUTE ITEM  
This Calendar Item No. 30  
was approved as Minute Item  
No. 2 by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 2  
to 0 at its 9/27/90  
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

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09/27/90  
W. 24517 PRC 7458  
Dugal

GENERAL LEASE - RIGHT-OF-WAY USE

APPLICANT: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
73233 Highway 70  
P. O. Box 2000  
Portola, California 96122-2000

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION: Three parcels of school land totalling  
3.53± acres, 11 miles south of the town of  
Boyle in Section 36, T24N R17E, MDM, Lassen  
County.

LAND USE: Construction and maintenance of an overhead  
69kv transmission line, and maintenance of an  
existing 7.2kv distribution line.

TERMS OF PROPOSED LEASE:  
Initial period: 25 years beginning  
September 27, 1990.  
Public liability insurance: Combined single  
limit coverage of \$1,000,000.

CONSIDERATION: \$600 yearly rental, payable in five-year  
increments and shall be payable every five  
years for the remainder of the lease term; with  
the State reserving the right to fix a  
different rental on each fifth anniversary of  
the lease.

(ADDED pgs. 406-406.6)

CALENDAR PAGE A. 06  
MINUTE PAGE 2384

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 3 (CONT'D)

**BASIS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

Pursuant to 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2003.

**PREREQUISITE CONDITIONS, FEES, AND EXPENSES:**

Filing fee and the first five year's rent and back rent in the amount of \$1,500 has been received.

**STATUTORY AND OTHER REFERENCES:**

- A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Parts 1 and 2; Div. 13.
- B. Cal. Code Regs.: Title 2, Div. 3; Title 14, Div. 6.

**BACKGROUND:**

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (Cooperative) currently serves 4,800 customers within a service area of approximately 1,400 square miles which encompasses the rural areas of Plumas, Sierra, and Lassen counties. The Cooperative intends (through the proposed project) to improve service to its customers. The current 69kv line was built in 1960 and runs through rugged, mountainous terrain. The Cooperative represents that this line is subject to numerous outages from severe winter storms which are accompanied by high winds and heavy snow loads, as well as summer thunder storms. During these outages, approximately 1,700 customers are without power, including the California Correctional Facility at Susanville. Access to the current 69kv line is restricted to the use of either snowcat or all-terrain vehicles. The current 69kv line does not cross any State land and could be maintained as an alternative feed and operate as a "loop feed", ensuring service during scheduled maintenance of the proposed line and during outage periods, should they occur.

The routing and construction of the proposed 69kv line is based on ease of maintenance, which will lessen outage periods. The proposed transmission line route partially follows existing distribution right-of-ways.

Additionally, during negotiations for the proposed project, staff was informed by Plumas-Sierra that an existing 7.2kv distribution line, also maintained by the Cooperative, crosses the State's land. This distribution line was built in the early 1930s. Previous information obtained by Plumas-Sierra in 1938 indicated the property had not vested to the State, therefore, Plumas-Sierra concluded that a lease or permit was not required from the State. Through research completed for the proposed 69kv project, Plumas-Sierra determined the land

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 30 (CONT'D)

was vested to the State and under the jurisdiction of the Commission and a lease would be required. Plumas-Sierra desires to bring the existing transmission line under lease.

AB 884: 12/08/90.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. 15061), the staff has determined that the existing 7.2kv distribution line is exempt from the requirements of the CEQA as a categorically exempt project. The project is exempt under Class 1, Existing Facilities, 2 Cal. Code Regs 2905(a)(2).

Authority: P.R.C. 21084, 14 Cal. Code Regs. 15300, and 2 Cal. Code Regs. 2905.

2. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. 15025), the staff has prepared a Proposed Negative Declaration identified as ND 517, State Clearinghouse No. 90020692, for the proposed 69kv transmission line. Such Proposed Negative Declaration was prepared and circulated for public review pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

Based upon the Initial Study, the Proposed Negative Declaration, and the comments received in response thereto, there is no substantial evidence that the proposed 69kv transmission line project will have a significant effect on the environment. (14 Cal. Code Regs. 15074(b))

3. The Cooperative's proposed transmission line route will cross both Plumas and Lassen counties. The total project is approximately 30.3 miles in length. Of this total, 3.52+-acres of school land are affected. The proposed project will only cross State land in Lassen County. No substations will be located on the State's property.



CALENDAR ITEM NO. 30 (CONT'D)

4. Staff has received back rent in the amount of \$1,500 for the existing 7.2kv distribution line. Staff believes that no penalty or interest should be assessed for the back rent since the Lessee acted in good faith and believed the land had not vested to the State.

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

Bureau of Land Management, Department of Fish and Game, Plumas County, and Lassen County.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description
- B. Location Map.
- C. Negative Declaration #517, SCH# 90020692.
- D. Letter dated November 18, 1989 to Bureau of Land Management from the Office of Historic Preservation.
- E. December 1987 Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact by the Rural Electrification Administration.
- F. Bureau of Land Management Right-of-Way Grant and Decision Record/Finding of No Significant Impact Dated April 5, 1989.
- G. Proposed Project Monitoring Program.
- H. Biological Report on the Bank Swallow.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT THE EXISTING 7.2KV DISTRIBUTION LINE IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL CODE REGS. 15061 AS A CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT PROJECT, CLASS 1, EXISTING FACILITIES, 2 CAL. CODE REGS. 2905(a)(2).
2. CERTIFY THAT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION, ND 517, STATE CLEARINGHOUSE NO. 90020692, WAS PREPARED FOR THE PROPOSED 69KV TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE CEQA AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN.
3. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT, AS APPROVED, WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
4. AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF \$1,500 FOR THE EXISTING 7.2KV DISTRIBUTION LINE AS SETTLEMENT OF BACK RENT.

(AMENDED 09/26/90)

-4-

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| CALENDAR PAGE | 406.3 |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2387  |

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 30 (CONT'D)

5. AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE TO PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC OF A 25-YEAR GENERAL LEASE - RIGHT-OF-WAY USE, BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 27, 1990; IN CONSIDERATION OF \$600 YEARLY RENTAL, PAYABLE IN FIVE-YEAR INCREMENTS, AND SHALL BE PAYABLE EVERY FIVE YEARS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE LEASE TERM, WITH THE STATE RESERVING THE RIGHT TO FIX A DIFFERENT RENTAL ON EACH FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEASE; PROVISION OF PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT COVERAGE OF \$1,000,000; FOR THE INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AN OVERHEAD 69KV TRANSMISSION LINE AND MAINTENANCE OF AN EXISTING 7.2KV DISTRIBUTION LINE ON THE LAND DESCRIBED ON EXHIBIT "A" ATTACHED AND BY REFERENCE MADE A PART HEREOF.

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| CALENDAR PAGE | 106.4 |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2338  |

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**W 24517**

**LAND DESCRIPTION**

Three parcels of land in Section 36, T24N, R17E, MDM in Lassen County, California, said parcels being strips of land 40 feet wide lying 20 feet on each side of the following described centerlines:

**PARCEL 1 (Existing) 7.2KV Distribution Line**

**BEGINNING** at the intersection of the centerline of the existing 7.2 KV Distribution Line with the north line of the NW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 of Section 36, T24N, R17E, MDM; thence following the centerline of said distribution line to its intersection with the south line of the NW 1/4 OF NE 1/4 of Section 36, T24N, R17E, MDM and the end of the herein described line.

**PARCEL 2 (Proposed) 69KV Transmission Line**

**BEGINNING AT A POINT** on the south line of the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of said section, which bears S 89° 30' 17" W 261.87 feet from the southeast corner thereof; thence N 34° 53' 05" E 446.54 feet along an electric power line to a point on the east line of said NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4, said point bears N 01° 01' 07" W, 364.09 feet from the southeast corner thereof and the end of the herein described line.

**PARCEL 3 (Proposed) 69KV Transmission Line**

**BEGINNING AT A POINT** on the south line of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of said section, which bears S 89° 13' 08" W 900.68 feet from the southeast corner thereof; thence N 42° 55' 38" E 1194.44 feet along an electric power line to an angle point in said power line; thence continuing along said power line N 06° 26' 07" E 479.38 feet to a point on the north line of said Section 36, said point bears S 88° 04' 28" W 1201.85 feet from the northeast corner thereof and the end of the herein described line.

**TOGETHER WITH** that segment of a circle with a radius of 80 feet, whose radius point is the above mentioned angle point, said segment lies easterly and southerly of said 40.00 foot strip of land.

This description is based on the California Coordinate System of 1927, Zone 1.

**END OF DESCRIPTION**

**REVISED SEPTEMBER 20, 1993 BY SAS.**

**CALENDAR PAGE 406.5**  
**MINUTE PAGE 2339**

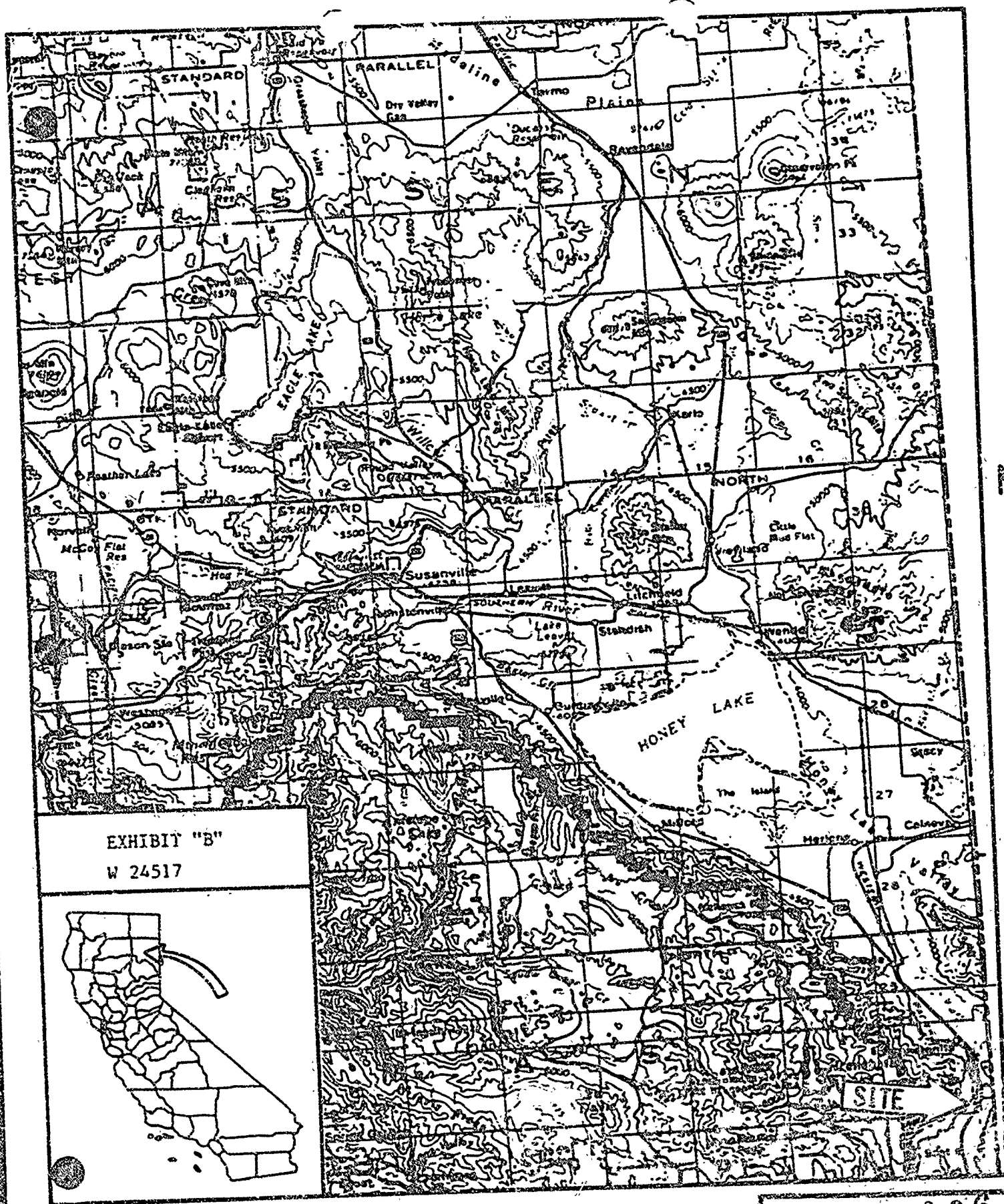


EXHIBIT "B"  
W 24517



CALENDAR PAGE 406.6  
MINUTE PAGE 2350

NO CALENDAR PAGE 407

(ADDED 09/26/90)

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| CALENDAR PAGE | _____       |
| MINUTE PAGE   | <u>2391</u> |



**STATE LANDS COMMISSION**

T. McCARTHY, Lieutenant Governor  
GRAY DAVIS, Controller  
JESSE R. WISF, Director of Finance

EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
1807 - 13th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
CHARLES WARREN  
Executive Officer

September 17, 1990  
File Ref.: W 24517  
ND 517 SCH: 90020692

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT NEGATIVE DECLARATION**  
(Section 21092 Public Resources Code)

An application for the following described project is currently being processed by the staff of the State Lands Commission:

**Project Title:** Plumas Sierra 69kV Transmission Line  
**Project Proponent:** Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
**Project Location:** Chilcoot Substation, Plumas County to Herlong Substation, Lassen County

**Project Description:**

The proposed transmission line will be routed south of Highway 70, east of Chilcoot, and cross to the north side of Highway 70 before reaching Highway 395. The line will span Long Valley Creek and continue north to Herlong and west of Highway 395.

The Rural Electrification Administration issued a Finding of No Significant Impact for this project through their Environmental Assessment dated December, 1987. In addition, the Bureau of Land Management, Carson City District Office, issued a Finding of No Significant Impact on April 5, 1989.

**Contact Person:** Judy Brown Telephone: (916) 324-4715

A Negative Declaration identified as EIR ND #517, State Clearinghouse No. 90020692 has been prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.

The above mentioned document will be considered for adoption at a meeting of the State Lands Commission scheduled for Thursday, September 27, 1990, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 1145 of the Department of Finance, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Persons wishing to appear at the meeting should call (916) 322-4107 in order to assure time allocation for such appearance. Responses to comments received on the Negative Declaration will be available prior to the September 27, 1990 meeting.

CHARLES WARREN  
Executive Officer

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| CALENDAR PAGE | 406  |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2392 |

Notice of Completion

Appendix F

See NOTE below

Mail to: State Clearinghouse, 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 916/445-0613

SCH NO 0024482

Project Title: Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Proposed Transmission Line
Lead Agency: State Lands Commission
Street Address: 1807 - 13th Street, Sacramento
City: Sacramento Zip: 95814
Contact Person: Judy Brown
Phone: 324-4717
County: Sacramento

Project Location
County: Plumas/Lassen City/Nearest Community: Chilcoot, Doyle and Herlong
Cross Street:
Assessor's Parcel No. Multiple Section: 36 Twp: 24N Range: 17E Base:
Within 2 Miles: State Hwy #: 70/395 Waterways: Long Valley Creek
Railways: Western Pacific Airports: Schools:

Document Type
CEQA: [ ] EIR [ ] Supplemental/Amendment [ ] EA [ ] Draft EIR [ ] Final EIR
NEPA: [ ] NOI [ ] EA [ ] Draft EIS [ ] Final EIS [ ] Other

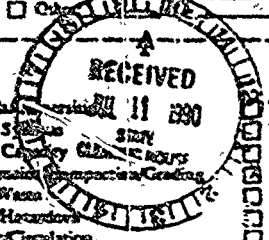
Local Action Type
[ ] General Plan Update [ ] Specific Plan [ ] Rezone [ ] Amendment
[ ] General Plan Amendment [ ] Master Plan [ ] Precise [ ] Redevelopment
[ ] General Plan Element [ ] Planned Unit Development [ ] Use Permit [ ] Coastal Permit
[ ] Community Plan [ ] Site Plan [ ] Land Division (Subdivision, Parcel Map, Tract Map, etc.) [ ] Other

Development Type
[ ] Residential: Units Acres
[ ] Office: Sq ft Acres Employees
[ ] Commercial: Sq ft Acres Employees
[ ] Industrial: Sq ft Acres Employees
[ ] Educational
[ ] Recreational
[ ] Water Facility: Type MGD
[ ] Transportation: Type
[ ] Mining: Mineral
[ ] Power: Type 69 KV Watt
[ ] Waste Treatment: Type
[ ] Hazardous Waste: Type
[ ] Other

Project Issues Discussed in Document
[ ] Aesthetic/Visual [ ] Flood Plain/Flooding [ ] Schools [ ] Water Quality
[ ] Agricultural Land [ ] Forest Land/Fire Hazard [ ] Sewer Systems [ ] Water Supply/Groundwater
[ ] Air Quality [ ] Geologic/Seismic [ ] Solid Waste [ ] Wetlands/Riparian
[ ] Archeological/Historical [ ] Minerals [ ] Soil Erosion/Impaction/Grading [ ] Wildlife
[ ] Coastal Zone [ ] Noise [ ] Toxic/Hazardous [ ] Growth Inducing
[ ] Drainage/Abandonment [ ] Population/Housing Balance [ ] Traffic/Circulation [ ] Land Use
[ ] Economic/Job [ ] Public Services/Facilities [ ] Vegetation [ ] Cumulative Effects
[ ] Fiscal [ ] Recreation/Parks [ ] Other

Project Description
Construct approximately 30 miles of 69 kV transmission line from Chilcoot Substation, Plumas County to Herlong Substation, Lassen County.

LEAD AGENCY CONTACT: 916/445-0613
DATE REVIEW BEGAN: 7-1-90
SPT REV TO AGENCY: 8-3
AGENCY REV TO SCE: 8-3
IN COMPLIANCE: 8-16
FURTHER RETURN NOC WITH ALL COMMENTS
RD/APCD: 1/1 (Resources: 7/1/90)
Resource Agency:
ARB
ARB
Reg. WQCB
Energy Comm
FOC
HEALTH
CALETRANS
DUR
CALTRANS
HEALTH



STATE LANDS COMMISSION

ED T. McCARTHY, Lieutenant Governor  
GRAY DAVIS, Controller  
JESSE R. HUFF, Director of Finance

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, Governor  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
1807 - 13th Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
CHARLES WARREN  
Executive Officer

PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

EIR ND: 517

File Ref.: W 24517

SCH. NO.: 90020692

Project Title: Plumas Sierra Transmission Line  
Project Proponent: Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
Project Location: Chilcoot Substation, Plumas County to Herlong Substation, Lassen County.  
Project Description: Construct approximately 30 miles of 69kV transmission line.  
Contact Person: Judy Brown Telephone: (916) 324-4715

This document is prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Section 21000 et seq., Public Resources Code), the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, California Code Regulations), and the State Lands Commission regulations (Section 2901 et seq., Title 2, California Code Regulations).

Based upon the attached Initial Study, it has been found that:

- that project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- mitigation measures included in the project will avoid potentially significant effects.

FORM 13-17 (4/90)

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| CALENDAR PAGE | 410  |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2394 |

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST - PART II

Form 13.20 (7/82)

File Ref.: W 24517

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- A. Applicant: Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
P. O. Box 2000  
Portola, CA 96122
- B. Checklist Date: 07 / 02 / 90
- C. Contact Person: Judy Brown  
Telephone: (916) 324-4715
- D. Purpose: Proposed Electric Transmission Line to establish a more reliable electrical system to serve the needs of the existing community and the State Correctional Facility in Susanville, California.
- E. Location: Chilcoot Substation in Plumas County to Herlong Substation in Lassen County.
- F. Description: Construct approximately 30 miles of 69kV transmission line.
- G. Persons Contacted:
  - Elaine Russell (415) 557-8803  
Public Utilities Commission
  - Tom Stone (916) 225-2371  
Department of Fish and Game  
Region I

II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. (Explain all "yes" and "maybe" answers).

- A. Earth. Will the proposal result in:
- |                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Yes                                 | Maybe                    | No                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic structures? .....                                                                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Disruptions, displacements, compaction, or overcovering of the soil? .....                                                                                                                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 3. Change in topography or ground surface relief features? .....                                                                                                                                         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 4. The destruction, covering, or modification of any unique geologic or physical features? .....                                                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site? .....                                                                                                                      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet, or ..... | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Exposure of all people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, .....                                                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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|                                                                                                                                                                                | Yes                      | Maybe                               | No                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>B. Air.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                                    |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality? .....                                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The creation of objectionable odors? .....                                                                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally? .....                                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>C. Water.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                                  |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. Changes in the currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters? ..                                                                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff? .....                                                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters? .....                                                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body? .....                                                                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Discharge into surface waters, or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity? .....                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters? .....                                                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations? .....                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies? .....                                                                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Exposure of people or property to water-related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves? .....                                                                              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Significant changes in the temperature, flow or chemical content of surface thermal springs? .....                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>D. Plant Life.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                             |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)? .....                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants? .....                                                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species? .....                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop? .....                                                                                                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>E. Animal Life.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                            |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, or insects)? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals? .....                                                                                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals? .....                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat? .....                                                                                                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>F. Noise.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                                  |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. Increase in existing noise levels? .....                                                                                                                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 2. Exposure of people to severe noise levels? .....                                                                                                                            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>G. Light and Glare.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                        |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. The production of new light or glare? .....                                                                                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>H. Land Use.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                               |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area? .....                                                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>I. Natural Resources.</b> Will the proposal result in:                                                                                                                      |                          |                                     |                                     |
| 1. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources? .....                                                                                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resources? .....                                                                                                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

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Yes Maybe No

T. Cultural Resources

- 1. Will the proposal result in the alteration of or the destruction of a prehistoric or historic archeological site?
- 2. Will the proposal result in adverse physical or aesthetic effects to a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object?
- 3. Does the proposal have the potential to cause a physical change which would effect unique ethnic cultural values?
- 4. Will the proposal restrict existing religious or sacred uses within the potential impact area?

U. Mandatory Findings of Significance

- 1. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?
- 2. Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals?
- 3. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable?
- 4. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

III. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION (See Comments Attached)

See Attached Sheet

IV. PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

Date: 07 / 10 / 90

*Judy Brown*  
 For the State Lands Commission  
 JUDY BROWN 1.5  
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 FORM 13-26 (PARTIAL)

## II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative

W24517

### A. Earth

2. Minor impacts to soil will occur during operation of the auger which will drill the holes for the transmission poles at structure locations within the 25-75 foot wide transmission line right of ways for a distance of approximately 30 miles. The size of holes will be approximately 2' wide by 8' deep, and will be spaced every 300-600 feet. After excavation and placement of the pole structure, the soil is backfilled with the excavated material.
3. The existing topography of this transmission corridor consists of volcanic-rock exposures, arid to semi-arid upland and valley lands covered with grasses, sagebrush, and scattered juniper. The topography will change with the placement of a 65' foot pole structure approximately every 300 to 600 feet along this 30-mile route.

### D. Plant Life

1. Natural vegetation will be disturbed within the transmission line right of way during excavation of the soil and placement of the structures. Any areas disturbed during construction will be reseeded with natural vegetation at a time of year favorable for establishment of a successful seeding as advised by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Bureau of Land Management and other agencies as advised.

### E. Animal Life

1. Impacts to wildlife will be very minimal. The line will not significantly interfere with any migratory, rearing, or wintering activity of area wildlife. The anticipated construction will occur in the summer months. Some animals resident to the immediate construction sites will be temporarily displaced during the construction process but will most likely return to inhabit the proximity of the facility soon after site vacation. It is probable that a small number of rodents, reptiles, and amphibians might be destroyed by construction vehicles and equipment.

The applicant requested a computer search of the California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Data Base, and the following species are located in the service area, although none are located in the specific construction area:

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
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## II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (CONT'D)

W 74517

Swainson's Hawk, Federal candidate 2, California  
 threatened  
 Short eared Owl, California Special Concern  
 Sierra Nevada Red Fox, Federal candidate 2, California  
 threatened  
 Modoc Bedstraw, Federal candidate 2  
 Greater Sandhill Crane, California threatened

## F. Noise

1. The area which surrounds the transmission line corridor is extremely rural. The portion of the project which would produce the greatest noise level would be during the drilling of the holes for the transmission structures. Some residents of the town of Doyle, located approximately 50-300 feet from the proposed construction line would be affected for a short period during this phase of construction. Applicant has agreed to limit the hour of construction activities to weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at this location.

## G. Light and Glare

2. The insulators to be placed on the transmission structures will be opaque which will reduce possible glare to an insignificant level.

## P. Utilities

1. This new 69kv line tying the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations will replace the existing 69kv electrical line from Beckworth to Milford and provide a highly reliable power source to the County's north service area. The existing 69kv line from Beckworth to Milford will be operated as a loop feed ensuring continuity of service during scheduled maintenance of the Chilcoot/Herlong line.

## R. Aesthetics

1. In addition to the discussion mentioned in A. 3 above, the transmission line and pole structures will be visible to the south from Highway 70 east of Chilcoot and then be intermittently visible from Highway 395 to the west from Hallelujah Junction to just south of Herlong. Approximately 30% of the entire line will be replacing existing pole structures to upgrade the existing Plumas Sierra distribution line from 24.9kv to 69kv. The location of the upgraded area will be just north of Red Rock, Plumas County to the Herlong Substation, Lassen County.

## T. Cultural Resources

1./3.

The California Archaeological Inventory Information Center, California State University at Chico completed a search of the archaeological maps, files, and records in the area of the project. A small historic refuse area located east of Chilcoat in Section 27, T23N, R18E was located in the immediate vicinity of the proposed line.

Consultation was also obtained from the Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation. They recommended an archaeological monitor be on the construction site during pole siting and excavation. The applicant has included this recommendation as part of the project description.

In addition, the State Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation, has determined in a letter dated November 28, 1989 that the proposed transmission line project will not have an effect on historic properties.

PROJECT NO.: 1147-01  
COPY NO.: \_\_\_\_\_  
ISSUED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

# PLUMAS SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

CALIFORNIA-16-PLUMAS  
P.O. BOX 2000  
PORTOLA, CALIFORNIA 96122

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

APRIL 1988

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# ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT for PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

## 1.0 Introduction

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (P-SREC), California-16-Plumas, with main offices located three miles west of Portola on Highway 70, proposes to construct approximately 30.3 miles of 69kV transmission line. The proposed line would extend from the Chilcoot Substation in Plumas County to the Herlong Substation in Lassen County. Ancillary facilities to the proposed transmission line would include removal of existing 12.5/7.2kV distribution line structures and underbuilding the transmission with that circuit from the Chilcoot Substation along Highway 70 to Beckwourth Pass, and from Red Rock along Highway 395 north to Herlong Substation. The change-over of the distribution line would include installation of new conductor, insulators, crossarms, and hardware. This work would represent a significant improvement to this circuit as many of the existing facilities were originally constructed nearly 50 years ago.

The area served by P-SREC is approximately 1,400 square miles encompassing rural areas in Plumas, Sierra, and Lassen Counties in northeastern California and one township in Washoe County located about 30 miles north of Reno, Nevada. There are approximately 4,800 consumers served by the Cooperative. The area generally follows the Middle Fork Feather River in Plumas County, mostly east of Quincy and along the Long Valley/Honey Lake area of Lassen County. In Sierra County, the area served is in the Sierra Valley. In Washoe County, the entire area served is in the Red Rock Valley. The California Public Utilities Commission and the Nevada Public Service Commission have certificated to P-SREC the above-described service area. No loads are served that are nonbeneficiaries of the Rural Electrification Act.

Pacific Gas & Electric Company serves the City of Quincy and borders P-SREC's service area on the west and also part of its southwestern border. CP National serves the

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2903

City of Susanville and borders P-SREC's service area to the north and sections of its northeastern border. Sierra Pacific Power Company serves the City of Loyalton and borders P-SREC's service territory to the east and southeast. Any expansion of service into new areas is limited by the service territories of these utilities and the general topography surrounding the area.

P-SREC's transmission lines are operated at 69kV and are located at some distance up into the mountains and fields away from Highway 70 in Plumas County from East Quincy to Beckwourth. In Sierra County, the transmission line generally follows County Road A-23 to the substation near Sierraville. The line follows the Union Pacific Railroad from Beckwourth to Chilcoot and a circuit is built from Beckwourth over the mountains for 26 miles to Milford in Lassen County.

Transmission facilities in Lassen County generally follow US Highway 395 for about eight miles north from Milford and then another eight miles along the edge of agricultural lands to the substation at Leavitt.

The distribution facilities are located mainly along the roadways in the canyons and in the valleys between the mountain ranges where the residential customers are located.

The area served from Quincy to a location three miles east of Portola is heavily forested and is mostly the property of the United States Forest Service. Generally speaking, the balance of the area served is treeless and is semi-arid to arid. The major highways through the area are state routes 70 and 89, which is designated a State Scenic Highway, and US 395 in Lassen County. State Highway 49 bisects the Sierra Valley.

Area elevations range from 3,423 feet at Quincy to 5,212 feet at Beckwourth Pass. The transmission line between Beckwourth and Milford passes over terrain at about 6,000 feet through forest land.

The electric facilities of P-SREC are constructed in a large area of the Plumas National Forest and in a small portion of the Tahoe National Forest. The lines are set back from the roads so as not to be highly visible, and have been constructed in a manner that mitigates significant environmental and visual impact.

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
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The annual rainfall in the western portion of the service area is approximately 40 inches per year; most of the precipitation in the western portion falls as snow accumulating to more than 10 feet on the mountain tops. In the eastern portion of the service area, the annual rainfall is only about six inches.

Severe winter storms with accompanying high winds, as well as summer thunderstorms, often inflict considerable damage to electrical facilities causing a high number of consumer outages. A newly constructed 69kV transmission line through the area where the greatest damage previously had occurred has eliminated most of the problem. Outages now occur mainly on distribution facilities and are more isolated, thereby enabling repair crews to find and repair damages more quickly.

The principal area agricultural economy is based upon alfalfa and beef cattle. The alfalfa requires irrigation as a result of the low precipitation. The growing season is short due to the high elevation and cool temperatures; frost free days average about 72 per year.

Wildlife abounds in the area and hunting and fishing are major sources of recreation. Deer, bear, coyotes, cougars and many small game animals may be found. Rivers, streams and lakes are numerous in the area, and the trout fishing is considered to be some of the best in the western United States.

Some of the unincorporated towns included in the service area are Beckwourth, Chilcoot, Doyle, Graeagle, Janesville, Litchfield, Milford, Sattley, Sierraville, Standish, and Vinton.

## 2.0 Proposed Action and Alternatives

### 2.1 Project Description

The Chilcoot Substation, on 1.05 acres, is located in the Sierra Valley on Highway 70, approximately 0.9 miles west of Chilcoot in SW $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 35, T 23N, R 15E, MDB&M. The substation has been in existence for twenty years and was modernized just



recently. The preferred transmission/distribution line route partially follows the existing distribution right of way. The line would exit the Chilcoot Substation and follow the existing distribution line easement on the south side of Highway 70 until Beckwourth Pass, at which point, the line crosses to the north of the highway until it reaches a point in Section 3, T 22N, R17E, which is approximately 4,500 feet west of Hallelujah Junction, the intersection with U.S. Highway 395. At this point, the line would turn north and remain west of Highway 395 until reaching the Herlong Substation, a distance of approximately 25.2 miles. Built in 1982, the Herlong Substation occupies 1.75 acres in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 21, T26N, R17E, MDB&M.

The line would be designed and constructed using single wood pole structures with horizontal post insulators (See drawing in Appendices). A typical structure would be approximately 65 feet in height, with an average span of 300 to 500 feet between the structures for the transmission line, and a maximum span of 300 feet where the distribution underbuild occurs. The structures would support 4/0 ACSR conductor for distribution and 477 ACSR conductor for transmission, and overhead shieldwire. It is anticipated that the line will utilize the existing 20' distribution right of way easement; however, it will be necessary to acquire an additional 55' easement to facilitate the 69kV transmission line. The line will be constructed using conventional methods. The proposed line will be designed under the guidelines of the joint communiqués issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and Department of the Interior, *Environmental Criteria for Electric Transmission Systems*. The structures will be modified according to the guidelines recommended in the Olendorff report entitled, *Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines, The State of the Art in 1981*.

## 2.2 Need for the Project

Reference 1987 & 1988 Construction Work Plan, dated January 1987, Section III, Planning Criteria.



### 2.3 Alternatives to the Project

P-SREC's north system is connected to the south system by a 69kV transmission line, known as the "K" line, which was built in 1960 through environmentally sensitive mountain terrain. Access to the "K" line is by snow cat or all terrain vehicles in all but the summer months. Numerous outages occur on this section of transmission line due to high winds and snow loads.

In recent outages, conductor fatigue has been apparent, indicating an on-going problem can be expected due to severe weather conditions. When the north-south 69kV interconnect is out of service, approximately 1,700 consumers are without power, including the State of California Correctional Facility at Susanville. The proposed new 69kV line would be routed for ease of maintenance and provide transmission voltage in an area that presently is not served with 69kV. The following alternatives exist for replacement or back-up of the "K" line:

- No action
- Reconductor the existing line, replacing and inserting structures where necessary.
- Build a new line adjacent to the existing right of way and remove the old line.
- Build a new 69kV line between Chilcoot Substation and Herlong Substation. This line would have the capability to connect with the old "K" line to create a looped system.

#### No Action

The No Action alternative would mean that no new transmission line facilities would be constructed. This alternative would preclude P-SREC from accommodating load growth within its eastern service territory. Additionally, the objective of providing increased reliability to P-SREC's consumers would not be met. Therefore, No Action is not considered a viable alternative for meeting the stated need.

### "K" Line Reconductor

Reconductoring the existing 69kV line between Beckwourth Substation and Milford Substation would take this back bone transmission line out of service and require generation in the north system during construction. Approximately 10 MW of generation plus single contingency reserve would be required to maintain the north system consumers. An intertie with PG&E through California Pacific would have to be negotiated. Construction time would be approximately 60 days. The present conductor is #2 ACSR; it would be reconducted with 477 ACSR. This will require numerous structure changes for support of the larger conductor. The rebuilt line would improve service to the north system and reduce system losses. The disadvantage of this alternative is reflected by its location in mountainous terrain. The line will be difficult to service nine months of the year as well as continue to expose this circuit to extreme environmental hazards and outage potential. Outages to the north system will continue to occur during scheduled maintenance and non-scheduled interruptions.

### "K" Line Replacement

The advantages and disadvantages of building a new line adjacent to the existing line are similar to reconductoring. As the existing circuit would not be disconnected until construction were complete, the new line would require "hot" construction techniques, a dangerous and expensive process. Generation would not be required during construction but the old line would require removal after completion of the new line. After completion the new line would provide better service to the north system with lower losses. Additional disadvantages would be difficulty in servicing the line and no alternate feed for the north system, resulting in outages during scheduled and non-scheduled interruptions. In addition, due to the placement of the line in an environmentally sensitive area, permitting may not be obtained within the required time frame, if at all. There are five or six poles on State Game Refuge land, and a good portion of the line traverses BLM land in Clover Valley. Currently, there are structures located in wetlands, which are closely monitored by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. On the frequent occasions when Dixie Creek has changed channels, some structures have washed out.

### New Line

A new 69kV line tying together Chilcoot and Herlong Substations would provide a highly reliable power source for the north system. The transformer at Quincy, as well as the entire system, is at 69,000V. The July 1987 Supplement to the 1980 System Planning Report confirms there will be no need for a larger voltage line before the year 2015. The line could be constructed adjacent to existing roadways and right of ways, allowing easy access for service twelve months of the year. The existing 69kV line between Beckwourth and Milford could be maintained as an alternate feed to the north system resulting in greater system reliability. The system could be operated as a loop feed ensuring continuity of service during scheduled maintenance. Generation would not be required during construction, and the old "K" line would not require removal. The relatively flat terrain and ease of access would result in less expensive design and construction costs for the Chilcoot to Herlong line versus the Beckwourth to Milford mountainous route.

#### 2.3.1 Alternatives to the Preferred Route

##### Union Pacific Railroad

Utilization of the Union Pacific Railroad right of way to accommodate the proposed line was examined. However, the UPRR policy is to deny all requests for easements except for cases in which no other alternative exists. In those cases, UP charges an annual rental fee which would render the proposed action economically unfeasible. Therefore, this alternative has not been pursued further.

##### Highway 395

From a point just south of Doyle, this alternative route would parallel the east side of Highway 395. This route crosses approximately two and one half miles of the Doyle Wildlife Area, and therefore generated considerable concern on the part of the California Department of Fish and Game (F&G).

An on-site meeting with P-SREC representatives and Tom Stone of the F&G was held May 21, 1987.

The primary issue centered on the F&G's objection to the establishment of new access across the Area. Because this Area is managed to enhance deer migration and winter habitat, the F&G attempts to limit access to the deer. Mitigation of the F&G's concern is limited to confining construction activities to the highway right of way. This constraint would require placing structures immediately adjacent to the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) right of way fence. However, CALTRANS is planning, within five years, to widen this portion of Highway 395 from the present two lanes to four lanes. In that event, should the proposed line be constructed adjacent to the highway right of way, it would, in the near future have to be moved.

Additionally, the Red Rock Scenic Area, which is located on the east side of Highway 395 approximately 11 miles south of Doyle, has been designated a Class II Visual Resource, and as such, the BLM does not allow visual modifications to occur within the highway corridor.

Because of the access constraints imposed by the F&G, the visual intrusion in a Class II Visual Resource Area, and the probable highway construction forcing line reconstruction in the near future, this alternative is not considered feasible.

## 2.4 Affected Environment

Reference Project Area map located in Appendices.

## 2.5 Environmental Impacts

The proposed construction will not impact the climate of the area. Any impact that the climate might have on the proposed projects will be minimal and virtually limited to damage from wind, lightning, ice, and minor flooding. The probability of these damages occurring are rather minimal since these factors have been considered during design of the facilities. Facilities will not be located within 100 feet of stream banks, on fault lines, below areas designated as being probable landslide, mudflow, or snowslide locations, or within 200 feet of springs or seeps. Area flood plain maps have been investigated, and no structures will be placed within the infrequent areas designated to be prone to such a hazard. These areas will either be spanned or avoided. No facilities will be placed so as to disturb areas



with historical significance. The line is designed with adequate protection from the lightning storms experienced by the area. Construction will be halted during periods of excessive precipitation so as not to impact the soils or vegetation.

Minor impacts to soil, topography, vegetation, and visual quality will be experienced at the structure locations within the transmission line right of way, which will be 75 feet wide.

After the structure is placed in the excavation, it is backfilled with the excavated material. Any remaining material is spread about the immediate area. Any areas disturbed during construction will be reseeded with natural vegetation at a time of year favorable for establishment of a successful seeding as advised by the Soil Conservation Service in the interest of preventing soil erosion. All litter, waste, and debris will be removed from each construction site upon vacation and disposed of in a proper dumping area.

The line will be routed so as to limit the amount of vegetation clearing to only that necessary for safe line construction and operation. The line will also be routed so as to utilize existing contour features for concealment where feasible. Any impact to airspace will be insignificant, and air quality will not be affected at all.

Impacts to wildlife will be very minimal. The line will not significantly interfere with any migratory, rearing, or wintering activity of area wildlife. Since the Doyle Wildlife Area is predominantly a wintering area for mule deer, the anticipated construction will occur in the summer months, thereby eliminating any possible construction impacts on wintering deer. Some animals resident to the immediate construction sites will be temporarily displaced during the construction process but will most likely return to inhabit the proximity of the facility soon after site vacation. Some animals may even benefit from the increased grazing or browsing opportunities presented by the minimal clearing, pruning, and revegetation that will be performed. It is probable that a small number of rodents, reptiles, and amphibians might be destroyed by construction vehicles and equipment.

A cultural resource survey will be conducted at the area of the proposed new construction on BLM land, a distance of approximately 9.25 miles. Should the survey



discover significant cultural resources, the proper authorities will be notified and mitigative policies initiated.

## 2.6 Mitigation and Monitoring

All proposed facilities will be designed under the guidelines of the joint communique issued by the United States Department of Agriculture and Department of the Interior, *Environmental Criteria for Electric Transmission Systems*.

It is possible that some birds may become stunned by colliding with a facility during flight but these occurrences are not expected to be high in number. The following reports have been researched for mitigation guidelines:

Beaulaurier, Diane L., 1981. *Mitigation of Bird Collisions with Transmission Lines*, prepared for the Bonneville Power Administration, Portland, Oregon.

Avery, Michael L., editor, 1978. *Impacts of Transmission Lines on Birds in Flight*, U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service.

## 2.7 Legal Notice

Legal Notice requirements were met through publication of the notice of availability of the Borrower's Environmental Report. See the Appendices for a copy of the legal notices in the following newspapers:

- *Portola Reporter*
- *Lassen Advocate*
- *Feather River Bulletin*
- *Sierra Booster*

## 3.0 Resource Analysis

### 3.1 Land Use

### 3.1.1 Natural Features and Topography

The service area is composed mainly of mountain ranges, valleys, forests, lakes, and streams. Portions of the Cascade and Sierra Nevada Mountain Ranges are located within this study area, while the extreme northeastern edge is in the Modoc Plateau, a flat to undulating highland capped by recent lava flows and shield volcanoes. Vast areas of forests are found within the boundaries of the Plumas National Forest.

The Sierra Nevada is a high, continuous mountain range that extends for more than 400 miles. The south end of the Sierra Nevada ends in the Tehachapi Mountains in the San Joaquin Valley. The northern section of the Sierra Nevada ends in the Lake Almanor/Honey Lake areas, and its rock types and structures are thought to continue northward under the cover of the volcanic terrain of the Southern Cascade Mountains.

Until the 1960's, geologists assumed for many years that the Sierra Nevada and Klamath Mountains were as distinct geologically as they are geographically. However, studies proved that the two mountain ranges are in fact separate parts of a single dismembered mountain range. Rocks along the southern edge of the Klamaths match those along the northern end of the Sierra Nevada. Each major belt of rock, except one, and each major fault in the southern Klamaths has its counterpart in the northern Sierra Nevada. Research indicates that about 140 million years ago when the rocks in the ranges were still young and the processes that made them were still active, a single mountain range somehow broke into two pieces that moved apart about 60 miles.

Soon afterwards, from the present Sierra Nevada eastward, a large region of the earth's crust began to stretch and break into large blocks. The largest and westernmost of these blocks is the Sierra Nevada. It rose along faults that define the east face of the present range, tilting the old land surface gently westward. Other blocks rose and fell east of Sierra Nevada to form the desert ranges and basins of eastern California and Nevada. The fault that defines the eastern face of the range is still actively moving and occasional earthquakes jolt the crest a few feet higher.

Evidently, during the next 80 million years, northeastern California was flooded by seawater. The seaway filled with sediment and remained as a level plain similar to the Great Valley for millions of years.

About 15 to 20 million years ago, the long period of relative geologic quiet in California ended. Action in the upper reaches of the northeast section began anew when a series of incandescent floods of molten basalt welled up from long fissures and spread like fluid across the level sediments to form enormous lava flows covering hundreds of square miles to depths of as much as several thousand feet, thereby creating a high tableland - the Modoc Plateau. A plateau formed instead of mountains because the lava spread thinly across the countryside from long fissures, instead of piling up around the vent as do more viscous lavas. Simultaneous eruptions in the Sierra Nevada sent rivers of basalt lava down several major stream valleys sealing the gold-bearing gravels beneath thick lava flows and diverting the streams to other courses through the soft lateritic soils of the countryside.

Northeastern California's most recent volcanic episode has been the development of the Cascade volcanoes, a continuing process that began several million years ago.

A wide variety of lavas, including basalt and rhyolite, are erupted from the Cascade volcanoes but the most common are andesites, which are rocks intermediate in composition between rhyolite and basalt. Andesites vary considerably in appearance but most are some shade of gray or brown. Like all volcanic rocks, they are so very fine-grained that it is difficult to see anything very distinctive in them.

The most famous dome cone (a roughly dome-shaped volcano with steep sides, formed by eruption of very viscous lava) in the Cascades is Lassen Peak at the south end of the range. Lassen Peak rises to 10,453 feet, and last erupted in 1914-21.

Major valleys located in P-SREC's service area are the Sierra Valley, Long Valley, and Honey Lake Valley.

### 3.1.2 Sierra Valley Area - Sierra Valley and Long Valley

The Sierra Valley Area is composed of Sierra Valley, the larger of the two in the western portion of the Area, and Long Valley in the eastern portion of the Area. Both valleys are encircled by steep uplands and are separated by mountains.

The Area is bordered by the fairly rugged Sierra Nevada on the east, and by the most southerly extension of the Cascades on the north.

The Sierra Valley is an example of a down-faulted basin, which, in ancient times, was a lake comparable in size to Lake Tahoe. Sediment that presently fills the basin ranges up to 2,000 feet in thickness.

Sierra Valley is a hatchet-shaped basin about 19 miles long and 10 miles wide at an elevation of 4,850 feet. It is almost entirely surrounded by a mountainous rim. The Middle Fork of the Feather River and its tributaries originate in the surrounding mountains and flow westward to the Pacific Ocean. The Feather River has been declared a "Wild River", therefore, it is illegal to irrigate with its waters. These streams have steep gradients until they reach the valley. They become meandering waterways on the valley floor, as stream gradients are reduced to less than five feet per mile (the basin floor is almost flat). They form an interlacing network across the valley flood plain, then coalesce into one stream and flow from the valley through a narrow gorge in the northwestern corner of the Area, about three miles east of the town of Portola. The soils are mostly wet, and they are commonly dark colored and high in organic matter content. The soils vary from fine textured to coarse textured. The light colored soils are those affected by salts, alkali, and high lime content.

It is interesting that the Feather River drains this area westward through the high Sierra Nevada. Obviously the river is older than the outlines of the present landscape and managed to maintain its course through all the activity of faulting and volcanism of the last several million years. This could not have occurred unless the river was able to erode its channel downward more rapidly than the uplift of the Sierra Nevada block.

A margin of alluvial fans and lake terraces is around the perimeter of Sierra Valley, and remnants of ashy deposits partly flank the lower slopes of the mountains on the



west side. Soils in the valley bottoms vary from poorly drained to moderately well drained. The variety of soils include level to gently sloping clays, mucky silty clays, loams, level to moderately sloping coarse sandy loams, sandy loams, and clay loams. The mountainous uplands are composed of volcanic, granitic, and metamorphic rocks.

There are large exposures of volcanic rocks beside the road where it passes through canyons north and south of Sloat and between Blairsden and Beckwourth. They consist mostly of ashfall and mudflow deposits in various pale shades of gray, pink, and lavender. Many are agglomerates of volcanic ash mixed with angular chunks of volcanic rocks.

The slight depressions in basin areas on the valley floor are poorly drained and consist of fine-textured alluvium.

Long Valley is a narrow, trough-shaped valley three to four miles in width and about 18 miles long. The 40th parallel bisects this valley. The valley is drained by Long Valley Creek, a small stream that has its source west of Peavine Mountain near Reno, Nevada. The creek drains northwest through Long Valley and empties into the Honey Lake Basin, which is alkaline and salty because it has no outlet. Evaporation from the lake balances inflow of water from Long Valley Creek and other tributary streams. Long Valley Creek sometimes becomes dry during the summer months. However, during the springtime, the creek has changed channels a dozen times over the past 30 years. The stream approximately bisects the valley in an entrenched and somewhat meandering channel. Along its course are narrow flood plains and low terraces. Eastern Long Valley consists of a series of dissected rolling terraces interspersed with small alluvial fans. West of the creek is a series of high terraces or benches that break along abrupt escarpments into Long Valley Creek and a series of small alluvial fans. These terraces are cobbly alluvium. In general, the soils on terraces bordering Long Valley are of two types: (1) Well-drained, gently sloping to steep sandy loams to extremely stony sandy loams; (2) Well-drained, gently sloping to moderately steep loamy coarse sands, cobbly loamy coarse sands, and sandy loams. The mountainous uplands surrounding Long Valley are made up of volcanic, granitic, and metamorphic rocks.



Bedrock in the mountains on either side of U.S. Highway 395, which passes through Long Valley, is almost all granite, probably related to that in the Sierra Nevada a few miles to the west. Bedrock in the young volcanic mountains consists largely of light-colored ash deposits and black basalt lava flows, along with a few other kinds of rock.

Climatic conditions are influenced to a great extent by landward movement of warm moisture-laden air from the central and northern Pacific Ocean, which is cooled in its ascent of the western slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Abrupt changes in topography (in elevation as well as configuration) cause sudden changes in seasonal precipitation as well as temperature. One of the greatest contrasts in precipitation within a short distance in the United States occurs between the western or California slopes of the Sierras and the contiguous valleys of this area and the adjoining western part of the State of Nevada. Seasonal precipitation is more than 70 inches, less than 15 miles southwest of this area near the Sierran crest. For the Sierra Valley as a whole, mean annual precipitation is about 25.6 inches. Most precipitation falls as snow. Monthly rainfall in July, August, and September is usually less than one inch. The length of the frost-free season ranges from 30 to 90 days. The summers are generally mild, and midday temperatures are around 80 degrees F. Winter temperatures are often around 0 degrees F.

Winds are generally light and variable, though windspeeds can become strong at times, especially during winter storms or in connection with local thunderstorms in summer. Sunshine is abundant in summer and is fairly abundant during spring, fall, and winter.

### 3.2 Vegetation

Pine forest provides light to heavy cover in the encircling mountainous uplands. Grass meadows and sagebrush cover the valley floors, and the vegetation on the highlands in the east is predominantly sagebrush and grass.

The principal tree species are ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, sugar pine, white fir, Douglas fir, and incense cedar. Other common tree species are California black oak, cottonwood, and several species of willow. Juniper serves as an excellent source of

fencepost material. Plumas County is California's number one Christmas tree producing area.

Cheatgrass is the most common grass since it was introduced into the area in the early 1900's while perennial grasses and forbs have steadily declined. Other understory include greenleaf manzanita, snow brush, mountain white thorn, bitterbrush, and basin sagebrush. Sagebrush is used mostly for livestock grazing and wildlife habitat.

Improved plant species and management practices are continually being developed by ranchers' cooperatives with the Soil Conservation Service and the County Agricultural Agent.

### 3.3 Fish and Wildlife

Most wildlife species can be generally grouped into two categories:

- Those most dependent on young vegetation, or early successional species.
- Those most dependent on mature or overmature vegetation, or late successional species.

Other species depend on special habitats such as riparian areas, wetlands, or boulder fields; or on special habitat elements such as snags, or dead and fallen wood. Many species depend on combinations of several habitat types, seral stages, and special habitat elements.

Snags provide needed habitat for numerous bird species, mammals, and many reptiles and amphibians in the forest. Dead and fallen wood attracts the hairy woodpecker, pine marten, bufflehead, black bear, bald eagle, spotted owl, and osprey.

Mule deer and trout are the most prominent wildlife species, but mourning doves, quail, chukar, and waterfowl are also important. Resident nongame birds are broadwinged hawks, eagles, prairie falcons, goshawks, shore birds, and others.

Other game are Columbian blacktail deer, coyotes, bobcats, mountain quail, tree squirrels, black bear, snowshoe rabbits, and a few blue grouse.

Irrigation reservoirs, stock water ponds, and live streams are cool enough for trout (surface water temperatures less than 75 degrees F). Rainbow trout is the principal species, but both rainbow and brown trout are found in the streams. Bass and bluegill have been stocked in various ponds along with various trout species.

Water flowing from the forest in creeks and streams is vital for its fisheries and downstream uses. Water quality in forest streams and lakes is good; it now meets State standards in all major streams. Water quality is currently maintained and improved through the application of State-certified and EPA-approved Best Management Practices (BMP's) for controlling non-point sources of pollution to surface water.

### 3.4 Threatened and Endangered Species

The Natural Diversity Data Base division of the California Department of Fish and Game conducted a computer search of the database in the service area where construction is to be performed. The search revealed the presence of the following species in the service area although no species are located in the specific construction area:

- Many flowered Navarretia, Federal candidate 2, California endangered
- Swainson's Hawk, Federal candidate 2, California threatened
- Short eared Owl, California Special Concern
- Sierra Nevada Red Fox, Federal candidate 2, California threatened
- Modoc Bedstraw, Federal candidate 2
- Greater Sandhill Crane, California threatened

(See map overlays for specific location in relation to proposed construction.)

### 3.5 Wetlands

Riparian areas occur in stream corridors, along lakeshores, and around springs, wetlands, and wet meadows. Vegetation in riparian zones includes characteristic

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hardwood types, such as aspen, cottonwood, or willow; it also includes larger and hardier trees of the same species as found on adjacent uplands.

Riparian vegetation is critical for maintaining water quality and fisheries. It is also important for many wildlife populations because it provides food, nesting sites, shade, overhead cover, and hiding cover. In addition, it provides nutrients necessary for stream life.

Riparian areas are protected by establishing streamside management zones in timber sale areas and by regulating livestock grazing on Forest Service and BLM land. Riparian areas have been locally damaged by livestock grazing, roadbuilding, skidding logs, timber harvest, and fire. The actual acreage of damaged riparian areas is unknown. Restoration includes such measures as seeding with grass; planting riparian hardwoods (willows, aspen, and cottonwoods); building streambank protective measures; and excluding livestock. Currently, some watershed and fisheries improvement projects aim at curing persistent riparian problems.

### 3.6 Floodplain

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Flood Hazard Boundary Maps numbered 060092 0047 A, 060092 0048 A, 060092 0049 A, 060092 0050 A, and 060092 0051 A have been investigated. It has been determined that in all instances of close proximity to the floodplain adjacent to Long Creek, the area will be spanned.

### 3.7 Cultural Resources

Cultural resources provide information on the Area's unique prehistoric and historic ethnic heritage, including evidence of a number of Native American groups and their predecessors. In addition to providing archaeological evidence of past lifestyles and adaptation to the environment, cultural resources also lend a historic perspective on modern day technological and sociological change.

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The most common historic sites are homesteaders' cabins, ranchers' line shacks, logging railroads, mining camps and flumes, and emigrant trails and wagon roads. Basque, Chinese, Swiss, Blacks, and Native Americans are some of the ethnic groups that made significant contributions to the local ranching, mining, logging, and dairy industries. Ethnic sites include Native American religious and hunting sites, Chinese mining camps and gold diggings, and Basque aspen-wood carvings. More recently, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) has left its legacy in the form of roads and trails, fire lookouts, recreation facilities, and wildlife and fishery conservation projects.

The cultural resources of the Area provide information about patterns of human adaptation to the diverse physiographic provinces of the Sierra Nevada, the Great Basin, the Modoc Plateau, and the Southern Cascades. The Area is situated in the center of a contact zone between several very distinct prehistoric populations: the nomadic foragers of the arid Great Basin, the dense village settlements in the Central California Valley, and the diverse cultures from the Columbia Plateau.

At our request, the California Archaeological Inventory Information Center, California State University at Chico completed a search of the archaeological maps, files, and records in the area of the projects. Their comments are included in a letter in the Agency Consultation section.

### 3.8 Air Quality

The Clean Air Act is administered through the State Air Resources Control Board under a State Implementation Plan (SIP). The State in turn has delegated implementation and monitoring to the counties. P-SREC must comply with the SIP and with the regulations of the air pollution control districts (APCD) in Lassen and Plumas counties.

Smoke, dust, engine emissions, and other materials can affect the quality of air, visibility, scenic quality, and human health. Activities such as lumber mills, firewood burning, agricultural burning, and automobiles are main sources of air pollution in the service area.



The Forests, through the use of prescribed fires to improve wildlife habitat or reduce fuels, generate large amounts of smoke, and wildfires produce even more. Timber management results in dust and smoke from road building, maintenance, log skidding and hauling, and slash burning. Mining creates open pits and clouds of fine dust. Cattle movements can create clouds of fugitive dust as can motorized recreation.

New sources of air pollution are expected to develop in the future. Increasing use of wood stoves and fireplaces is increasing smoke levels while geothermal energy production is releasing noxious gasses, including sulphur dioxide, into the air.

### 3.9 Water Resources

Surface water, used almost entirely for agriculture, supplies about 80% of water requirements for agriculture, stock, and domestic needs. The largest uses of ground water in Sierra Valley are irrigation, stockwater, and domestic needs.

The surface water comes from natural runoff, minor flow from springs, stored water, and imported water.

Ground water in the area is extracted by pumping or by artesian flow. The major ground water supply is from a series of confined aquifers. These are in sedimentary deposits that underlie the valley floor to a depth of 2,000 feet. These aquifers are recharged mainly by infiltration and percolation of streamflow, and rainfall and snowmelt runoff occurring around peripheries of the basins. Ground water occupies voids below the land surface in the zone of saturation. Historically, its chief source has been precipitation, but only a fraction of the precipitation that falls on a given area percolates into the subsurface to become ground water. Some of the precipitation is returned to the atmosphere in a process called evapotranspiration. The rest becomes surface runoff.

The ground waters of Sierra Valley vary greatly in temperature, with some wells producing water of less than 55 degrees F, while others exceed 150 degrees F. The highest water temperatures are generally associated with deep artesian wells in the west central portion of the valley near Grizzly Valley. Ground waters exceeding 68

degrees F are also found elsewhere, but usually they are also associated with deep wells.

Average annual water yield varies considerable from year to year. Over 63 percent of the average annual runoff occurs during the months of April, May, and June. This is a result of the melting of the winter snowpack. Monitoring of streams within the basin exhibited downstream impairment of water. This is a result of both natural and man-induced pollution.

Honey Lake has properties of excessive fluorine, boron, iron, and arsenic content. Therefore, the water quality of Honey Lake is poor. Surface water originating in the Sierra Nevada are of the calcium bicarbonate type, soft to slightly hard, and generally good for all uses. Long Valley Creek is an exception and due to the boron content contains poor quality water.

The ground water resources are closely related to the surface water resources in that recharge of the ground water supply comes mostly from surface water. Some ground water recharge occurs directly from infiltrated precipitation. Honey Lake is a major valley ground water reservoir. It is composed of the alluvial deposits that also partly fill other valleys of the Central Lahontan Basin. These deposits generally contain sand and gravel aquifers that in most cases provide the only supply of ground water available for large-scale development.

In general, the bedrock found in this area is relatively impermeable and yields limited quantities of ground water. The valley fill areas are almost totally isolated from the saturated valley fills of adjoining areas by relatively impervious bedrock. Relatively little ground water movement occurs between the sub-basins. However, the recent basalt flows are highly permeable in the Eagle Lake area. Ground water moves freely to discharge in springs, streams, and lakes in the surrounding area.

Because there is an inadequate supply of water in the basin to meet all of the demands, the users of water must compete for the available supply. Water is the controlling factor in land use. Future resource planning will require integration between the four major water consumers - agriculture, mining, urban and industrial uses, and terminal lakes for recreation.

### 3.10 Aesthetics

The proposed 69kV line from Chilcoot to Herlong will be located in the existing utility corridor that is already occupied by Pacific Bell and Sierra Pacific Power Co. As a result of locating the line in or near the existing right of way, the Lassen County Planning Commission has issued a Negative Declaration. No new scenic areas will be involved.

### 3.11 Transportation

There will be no construction near airports, microwave towers, or any other potential obstacles. When any lines are to cross highways, additional permits are required to assure there is no impairment of highway traffic.

### 3.12 Noise & Electromagnetic Interference

The areas where lines will be constructed are extremely rural, there are about three people per square mile; however, should any neighbors be affected, work will be scheduled during normal weekday hours.

Construction is performed so that little or no terrestrial interference will occur to any communication source.

### 3.13 Socio-economic and Community Resources

The economy of the Area is based mainly on lumber and agriculture. Although the initial settlement of the area was based on agriculture, after 1900 the lumber industry rapidly came to dominate the local economy. Timber is harvested principally from federally administered national forests. Annual Timber Production is approximately 250 million board feet. In 1982, nearly 97% of the gross receipts of the forests came from selling timber; while the Forest Service accounts for about 27% of the total employment of the area.

Most ranchers are descendents of the earliest emigrant homesteaders and are very proud of their pioneer ancestry. Initial settlement of the area was related to agriculture, especially dairy, beef and sheep ranching.

The average-sized ranching unit is about 1,400 acres. The trend in land ownership is toward consolidation. Smaller ranches are being bought and combined into existing large cooperative-type units. The principal crops are alfalfa and hay, but the choice of crops is severely restricted by the climate. The supply of irrigation water after the runoff early in spring is quite reliable but dependent upon the amount of snowpack. Wells have been drilled to provide dependable irrigation water supplies. As dependable sources of irrigation water develop, improved management practices are being applied. Old sod bound meadows are broken up, the land is leveled for better use of irrigation water, and improved mixtures of grass and legumes are seeded.

The population density in this particular area is estimated to be about three people per square mile.

Mining is at a low ebb at present but evidence of the gold rush days still abounds throughout the Feather River. Abandoned stone work, tunnels, tailings, mining equipment, ghost towns, and once-thriving bars along the rivers and canyons are nostalgic reminders of the booming days when men toiled and died for the precious yellow metal. Gold panning is still a popular hobby, and skin divers have unearthed gold from previously unreachable river bottoms.

Hunting and fishing are important to the economy of this area. They furnish recreational opportunities for local residents and the general public. Over 100 lakes and 1,000 miles of rivers and streams provide some of the finest fishing to be found anywhere. Retired individuals in the area have become knowledgeable, and notable, fishing and hunting guides.

Almost 70 percent of outdoor recreation activities is spent fishing while most of the remainder occurs as hiking or camping. This recreation is valued at approximately \$1,370,000 annually.



Campgrounds and picnic areas are in several areas. Development of several large reservoirs has produced excellent fishing and camping sites for the local and general public. There are 42 campgrounds in the area with approximately 1,000 campsites. This type of recreation is becoming more popular and is expected to increase consistently in the future.

In spite of the demand for more campgrounds, recent reduction in capital financing for recreation has reduced the emphasis on construction of new facilities for developed recreation. Reductions in operations and maintenance funds have provided the impetus to explore concession operation of public campgrounds by the private sector. The operation of the Eagle Lake campgrounds by a concession is the first attempt at this. If the trend toward reduced recreation financing continues, the Forest will shift emphasis toward providing opportunities for dispersed recreation and relying on private enterprise to meet demand for additional developed recreation facilities.

Social and economic impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed action will be positive. The contractor performing construction on the facilities will be encouraged to hire local labor, while the goods and services pertinent to construction personnel and operations (e.g., motels, restaurants, service station, and recreation facilities) as well as sundry construction materials will be purchased from the local commercial sectors, thereby further bolstering the area's economy. All contractors and subcontractors must be equal opportunity employers. Probably the most significant impact of the proposed construction will be the positive impact that a more adequate and reliable energy supply will have on the lifestyle and livelihood of P-SREC's consumers. Existing income producing operations may be expanded or utilize more modern technological methods; opportunity for new industry may be enhanced. System consumers will be assured of the quality of service to which they are entitled.

## 4.0 Agency Consultation



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
CARSON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE  
1535 Hot Springs Rd., Ste. 300  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

IN REPLY REFER TO:

2800  
NV-03580

MAR 22 1988

Power Engineers, Inc.  
c/o Mary Ann Mix  
1020 Airport Way  
P.O. Box 1066  
Hailey, ID 83333

Gentlemen:

On March 14, 1988, we received a letter from Mary Ann Mix, Senior Environmental Specialist, regarding up-grade of the proposed Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative power line near Hallelujah Junction from a 69kV to 115kV. We understand that the differences between the two lines would be: Increase in insulator length from 35 inches to 47 inches, increase the right-of-way width from 50 feet to 75 feet and increasing the span between the poles thus reducing the number of wood pole structures that would be utilized. The pole heights of 65 feet would remain the same as originally proposed.

The differences between the pole and insulator structures and right-of-way widths needed to accommodate the larger capacity line are not significant changes from the original proposal.

Since it is expected that number of pole structures would be reduced due to the increase in span lengths, we would not object to submission of a application requesting a 116KV voltage powerline with a 75 foot wide right-of-way as described.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Phillips  
Area Manager  
Lahonton Resource Area

ENCLOSURE PAGE 444  
MINUTE PAGE 2928

MAR 6 1988

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

801 LOCUST STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95801  
(916) 225-2300

March 4, 1988

Ms. Mary Ann Mix  
Senior Environmental Specialist  
P. O. Engineers, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1066  
Hailey, ID 83333

Dear Ms. Mix:

As you requested, we have discussed the Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative 69 KV Transmission Line with the Carson District of the Bureau of Land Management.

We were not able to come to any agreement as to whether the power line should be located east of Highway 395 outside the critical deer holding area but inside the deer winter range or west of Highway 395 inside the critical deer holding area and in deer winter range.

Since BLM has the authority to issue the power line easement across their administered lands, it appears that their concern for protecting scenic values may outweigh the state's wildlife concerns.

There is no need to delay the construction of the power line because two agencies can't agree. Therefore, we will support the Carson District's preferred alternative route through the critical deer holding area along existing roads. Where there are no roads in the southern area of Section 27, we recommend no new roads. Secondly, we recommend that the power line does not impact wetlands along Long Valley Creek.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Tom Stone of our Redding office at (916) 225-2368.

Sincerely,

*A. E. Naylor*  
for  
A. E. Naylor  
Regional Manager  
Region 1

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California  
Archaeological  
Inventory

# Information Center



ROUTE    SIERRA  
GLEN    SISKIYOU  
LASSER    SUTTER  
WOODS    YUBA  
PLUMAS    YUBA  
SHASTA

Department of Anthropology  
California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA 95929  
(916) 895-6256

February 11, 1988

Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialist  
Power Engineers Inc.  
P.O. Box 1056  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

re: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric  
Cooperative (P-SREC) 69kV  
Transmission Line

Dear Ms. Mix,

As requested, we have completed a search through our records regarding the above mentioned project. No portion of the new route for the transmission line has been previously surveyed for cultural resources. One archaeological site, CA-LAS-895, is located in very close proximity to the proposed transmission line. This site consists of an extensive prehistoric lithic scatter and habitation area, and the site boundaries may actually extended into the path of the proposed transmission line. There are also several sites in the vicinity which we have penciled in on our maps with the notation that they are maintained by the BLM in Carson City, Nevada. One of these sites is in very close proximity to the proposed transmission line, and this site has also been mapped in for your convenience.

As we indicated in the previous records searches of 3/4/87 and 11/3/87, the entire area is considered to be extremely sensitive for cultural resources. Beckwourth Pass is in close proximity, and was a very heavily traveled emigrant pass in historic times. The existence of several intermittent streams, south and east-facing slopes, ridgetops and saddles and known historic resources all combine to make this area a prime area for both historic and prehistoric cultural resources. We highly recommend that a survey be conducted of the entire proposed transmission line by a qualified archaeologist. This person will be able to locate cultural resources, assess site significance and suggest appropriate mitigation measures.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Makoto Kowta  
Northeast Information Center Coordinator

ROUTE PAGE 446  
ROUTE PAGE 2730

REC'D SEP 28 1987

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

901 LOCUST STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95831  
(916) 225-2305



September 21, 1987

Ms. Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialist  
Power Engineers Incorporated  
P. O. Box 1066  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Dear Ms. Mix:

This is in response to your September 2, 1987 letter requesting our input concerning a powerline project that may adversely impact the Sierra Valley Evening Primrose Camissonia tanacetifolia ssp quadriperforata.

Based on our records and discussions with the US Forest Service regarding this plant, we understand this plant has been determined to be much more common than originally believed and was recently delisted as a species of concern for this reason. Consequently, we believe your project will not have any adverse impact on this previously considered sensitive plant and we would concur with a Negative Declaration for the project.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input.

Very truly yours,

*Ray B. Naylor*  
for A. E. Naylor  
Regional Manager

447  
2731

REC'D SEP 28 1987

August 19, 1987

POWER Engineers, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1056  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Attention: Mary Ann Mix, Environmental Specialist

Subject: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative System Improvements

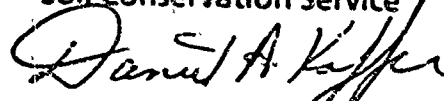
Dear Ms. Mix:

My staff and I have reviewed the proposed system improvements and transmission line installation requested by Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative as explained in your letter and Borrower's Environmental Report.

While it appears the transmission line routing, which follows Highway 395 and is already in a utility corridor right of way, may be in prime farmland, the pole planting would have minimal effect on water quality and wind erosion potential.

Sincerely,

Soil Conservation Service



Daniel Kaffer 9-24-87  
District Conservationist

CALENDAR PAGE 448  
MINUTE PAGE 2932



TELEPHONE RECORD

To Robert Sorvaag/Rick Simon  
Lassen County Planning Dept.  
From MAH

Project \_\_\_\_\_  
Job No. 1167-01.24  
Phone No. 9160257-8311, x.269  
Date 9/16/87  
Time 2:40 P.M.

Subject Comments on P-SREC 69kV transmission line preferred route

Rick Simon assigned project, received my letter, concurs with Negative Declaration. Simon will present project description to Planning Commission at October meeting. Pursuant to their comments, a Negative Declaration can be issued.

cc:

CALENDAR PAGE 449  
MINUTE PAGE 233





August 11, 1987

FILE

Lassen County Planning Department  
Room 103, Courthouse Annex  
Susanville, CA 96130

Attention: Robert K. Sorvaag, Planning Director

Subject: #1147-01 24; Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (P-SREC)  
Proposed 69kV Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Sorvaag:

Reference is made to your letter dated March 6, which was a response to our prior notification of the above referenced project to traverse Long Valley from the Herlic substation, north of Doyle, to the Chilcoot substation in Plumas County.

Due to the length of the line, approximately 32 miles, the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) decided a low-level environmental assessment was required.

The preferred route for the line has now been identified, and copies of the maps delineating it are enclosed. Please note we have attempted to follow the right of way of the existing distribution line, which will be an underbuild to the transmission line. However, there are wetland and floodplain areas that should be spanned or completely avoided; consequently, it has not always been possible to remain outside of the highway scenic corridor.

In addition, we reached a compromise with the California Department of Fish & Game and agreed to remain south of the Doyle Deer Wintering Area with the provision that the line would be allowed to stay within the existing distribution right of way.

We have modified the project and addressed the concerns of the California Dept. of Fish & Game, thereby mitigating adverse impacts. Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), section 15063, it would appear that the project qualifies for a Negative Declaration.

CALENDAR PAGE 4:00  
MINUTE PAGE 2:34



Lassen County Planning Dept.  
Mr. Robert Sörvaag  
August 11, 1987  
page 2

On March 20, the Borrower's Environmental Report (BER), which serves as an Initial Study, was forwarded to your office. Upon review of the enclosed maps and the BER, should you concur with the negative declaration determination, kindly forward written notice. However, should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

POWER Engineers, Incorporated

**FILE**

Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialist

:mf  
enc. as noted  
cc: Bernie Pfile (P-SREC)  
Frank Rowland (POWER)  
file



United States Department of the Interior 6 1987

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
EAGLE LAKE RESOURCE AREA  
2545 Riverside Drive  
Susanville, California 96130

2000 C-026

Power Regulators Incorporated  
P.O. Box 1066  
Halley, Idaho 83333

FEB 03 1987

Dear Ms. Mix:

Our office was forwarded your letter of January 26, 1987 informing the BLM that Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC) will be conducting preliminary studies to make application to REA for construction loan funds for various purposes.

In reviewing your general location map, it appears that two of your areas (#1, #2) are partially within the Carson City District BLM boundary. I have forwarded your letter and map to their office for their information. Areas #3 and #4 are within our Resource Area, however from your map it is difficult to ascertain if the public land is involved. I have attached a map depicting the public land (shown in yellow). If BLM lands are proposed for uses of transmission, distribution, and substations facilities, a Right-of-Way application would need to be filed and appropriately assessed.

If you find that public lands will be involved, please contact Jacqueline Gratton, Realty Specialist, at (916) 257-5381, or write to 2545 Riverside Drive, Susanville, CA 96130.

Thank you for your interest in our public land.

Sincerely yours,

*Mark T. Hoese*  
Mark T. Hoese  
Area Manager

Enclosure:  
Map

LENDOR PAGE 452  
MINUTE PAGE 2936



US Department  
of Transportation  
Federal Aviation  
Administration

Western-Pacific Region

P.O. Box 92107  
Worldway Postal Center  
Los Angeles, CA 90009

February 20, 1987

Ms. Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialist  
Power Engineers Incorporated  
P.O. Box 1066  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Dear Ms. Mix:

We have reviewed the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative Construction Work Plan and have no objections regarding new transmission lines, distribution, and substation facilities.

It is appropriate that we remind you of the requirement for compliance with Part 77 of the Federal Aviation Regulations.

We thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

*Duane R. Bullard*

Duane R. Bullard  
Manager, Planning and  
Int'l. Aviation Staff

Power Engineers  
FEB 23 1987  
Land Services  
453  
2037

CALENDAR PAGE

MINUTE PAGE



United States Department of the Interior  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

SACRAMENTO ENDANGERED SPECIES OFFICE  
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1823  
Sacramento, California 95825-1846

February 19, 1987

Power Engineers

FEB 23 1987

Land Services

Ms. Mary Ann Mix  
Power Engineers Inc.  
P.O. Box 1066  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Subject: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative,  
Lassen County, California (Case No.  
1-1-87-SP-192)

Dear Ms. Mix:

This is in reply to your letter of January 26, 1987, on behalf of the Rural Electrification Administration requesting a list of listed and proposed endangered and threatened species that may occur within the area of the subject project. Your request and this response are made pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

We have reviewed the most recent information and to the best of our knowledge there are no listed or proposed species within the area of the project. We appreciate your concern for endangered species and look forward to continued coordination. If you have further questions, please contact Dr. Jack Williams at (916) 978-4866 or FTS 460-4866.

Sincerely,

*Gail C. Kobetich*

Gail C. Kobetich  
Field Supervisor

cc: Chief, Endangered Species, Portland, OR (FWE-SE;  
Attn: Ralph Swanson)  
Field Supervisor, Ecological Services, Sacramento, CA  
(ES-S)

454

2238



## OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

POST OFFICE BOX 2570  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95811  
(916) 445-8006

Date: February 17, 1987

In Reply Refer To: REA870203A

Ms. Mary Ann Mix  
Power Engineer Inc.  
P.O. Box 1066  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Re: 1037-24

Thank you for requesting our comments on the referenced undertaking.

Further review is necessary and can proceed upon receipt of the following item(s):

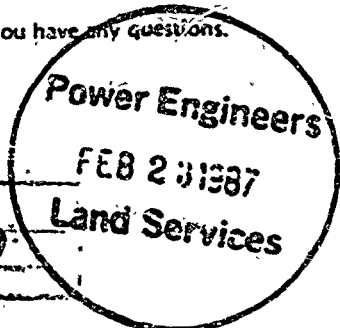
- a  Detailed description of the undertaking. (Specify details) \_\_\_\_\_
- b  Detailed description of the location of the undertaking and adjacent areas. (Specify details) \_\_\_\_\_
- c  Maps. (Specify types) \_\_\_\_\_
- d  Delineate APEI\* on map(s).
- e  Photograph(s). (Specify subjects) \_\_\_\_\_
- f  Date(s) of construction of buildings, structures, etc.
- Results of a review of:  NRHP\* & updates     CHL\* & updates     PHI\* & updates
- j  Copy of an archeological site records and literature search for the APEI\*. Contact the appropriate Information Center listed on verso.
- k  Copy of a cultural resources survey and assessment report on the APEI\*.
- Copy of a draft:    l  overview    m  management plan  
                          n  survey proposal    o  test excavation proposal
- Copy of a:    p  test excavation report    q  data recovery proposal    r  data recovery report
- s  Trinomial designations for archeological properties located within the undertaking's APEI\*.
- t  Name(s) of any federal agency(s) associated with the undertaking.
- u  Other. (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_
- v  Evidence that comments on the undertaking have been requested and obtained from local Native American or other interested ethnic groups.

Please contact Dwight Dutachke (916) 322-9624 of our staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
 Kathryn Gualtieri  
 State Historic Preservation Officer

\*APEI=Area of Potential Environmental Impact  
 \*NRHP=National Register of Historic Places  
 \*CHL=California Historical Landmarks  
 \*PHI=Points of Historical Interest

CALENDAR PAGE 45  
MINUTE PAGE 2939

 Power Engineers  
 FEB 20 1987  
 Land Services

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

601 LOCUST STREET  
REDDING, CA 96001  
(916) 225-2300

REC'D FEB 20 1987



February 20, 1987

Ms. Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialists  
Fower Engineers, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1066  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Dear Ms. Mix:

We have reviewed your letter of January 26, 1987, requesting information on threatened and endangered species within the project area.

According to our files there are no threatened, endangered or rare species of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians, reptiles, insects or plants in the project area.

However, we wish to point out that the Department's Doyle Wildlife Area north of Doyle was acquired to protect mule deer on their winter range. We do not believe that your proposed 69KV powerline is compatible with maintaining the deer resource values on our lands. Therefore, we are not interested in providing Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative a powerline easement across Department property. We recommend that you modify your powerline alignment to avoid the wildlife area.

Enclosed is a copy of a map showing a portion of our lands that the proposed line crosses.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Tom Stone of our Redding office at (916) 225-2368.

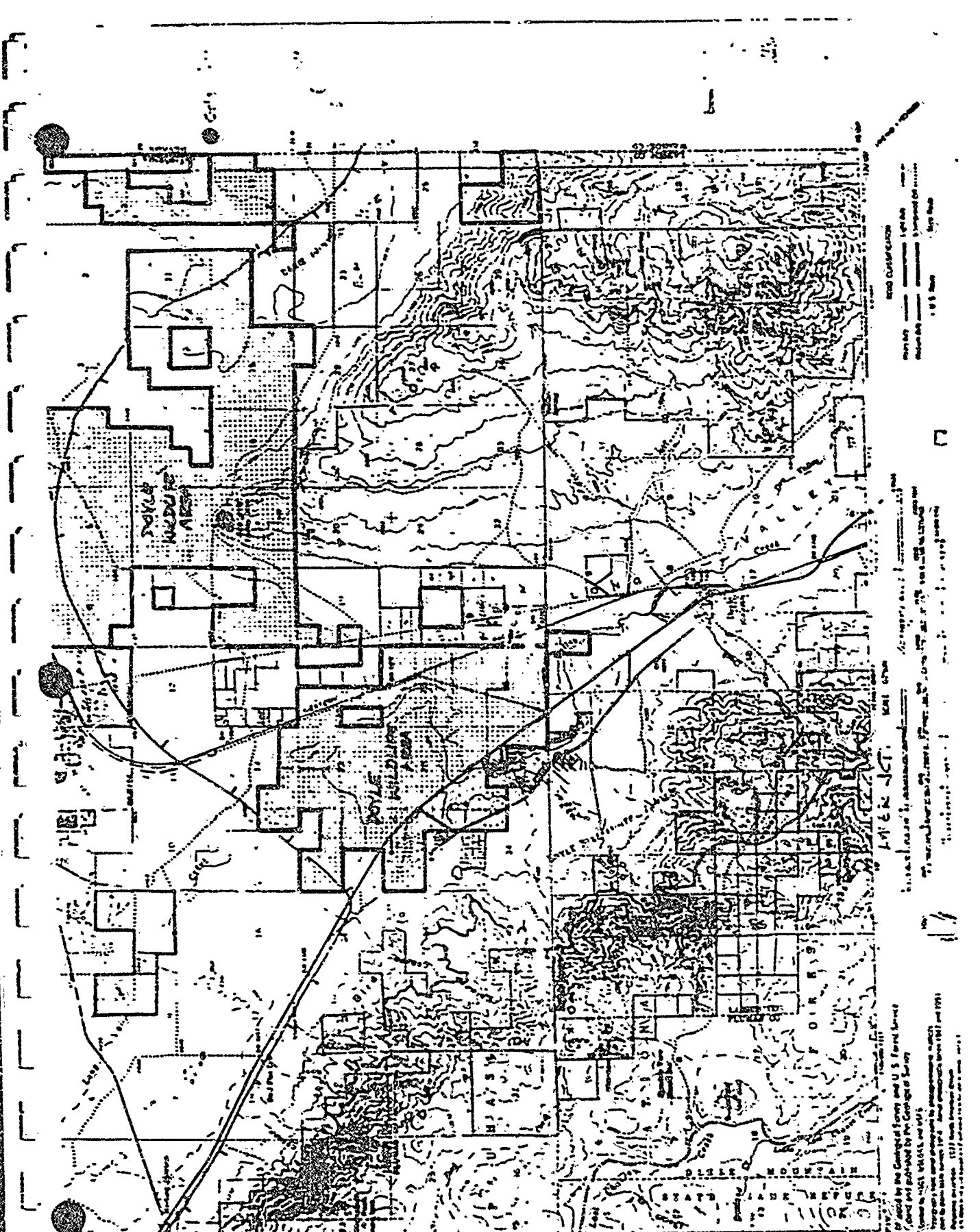
Very truly yours,

*A. E. Naylor*

A. E. Naylor  
Regional Manager  
Region 1

Enclosure

CALENDAR PAGE  
MINUTE PAGE 2340



ROAD CROSSING  
RAILROAD  
RAILROAD CROSSING  
RAILROAD TUNNEL  
RAILROAD VIADUCT  
RAILROAD BRIDGE  
RAILROAD CUTTING  
RAILROAD TRESTLE  
RAILROAD UNDERPASS  
RAILROAD OVERPASS

Scale 1:62,500  
Vertical Datum: Mean Sea Level  
Horizontal Datum: NAD 83  
Projection: UTM  
Zone: 18N  
Datum: NAD 83  
Units: Meters

Produced by the Geological Survey and U.S. Forest Service  
Covered by GCS, NAD 83, and UTM  
Projection: UTM  
Zone: 18N  
Datum: NAD 83  
Units: Meters

6000 ft  
1:50000  
3 Meters  
on 1:50000 map  
on 1:25000 map  
1:50000 map  
1:50000 map

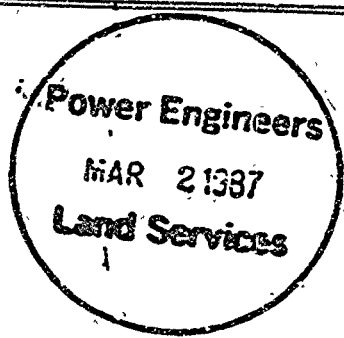
CALENDAR PAGE  
MINUTE PAGE 2241

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

1416 NINTH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

(916) 324-0562



Power Engineers  
MAR 2 1987  
Land Services



February 27, 1987

Ms. Mary Ann Mix, Environmental Specialist  
POWER Engineers, Inc.  
1020 Airport Way  
Hailey, Idaho 83333.

Dear Ms. Mix:

In response to your request of February 18, 1987 we have searched our files for records of occurrences of special animals, plants and natural communities that have been reported to the Natural Diversity Data Base in the following areas: Constantia, Seckwourth Pass, Chilcoat, McKesick Peak, Portola, and Blairsden 7 1/2' quadrangles (Plumas and Lassen counties).

In an effort to improve our data on rare plant species, including those listed as Rare and Endangered, we are enclosing a copy of "Guidelines for Assessing Effects of Proposed Developments on Rare and Endangered Plants and Plant Communities" for your use. Data from field surveys will help provide the Endangered Plant Project, as well as well as the Data Base, with current information. We hope you find these guidelines useful.

In addition to the elements identified in the computer printout, sensitive elements are present. Please contact Jerry Mensch, Department of Fish and Game Environmental Services Supervisor, Region 2, at (916)355-0978 for further information.

The results of our search are indicated in the enclosed material, which is presented in two formats:

1. A textual computer printout containing information on the occurrences in your study area.
2. A computer-generated plot at 1:24,000 scale depicting the approximate locations of occurrences in your study area. This plot is indexed by a Plot Report.

Please refer to the enclosed documents "How to Read Data Base Reports" and "Using Computer Graphic Plots" for an explanation of the terms and information contained in these computerized reports and plots.

WHITE PAGE

2942

The Natural Diversity Data Base is the most complete single source of information on California's sensitive species and natural communities. Data on these and other elements of natural diversity are provided to the Data Base from a number of sources and entered into the inventory as expeditiously as possible. You can help in this process by providing us with whatever new or more accurate data you may obtain from the studies you conduct.

Thank you for calling on the Data Base. We would be pleased to answer any further questions concerning this request.

Sincerely,

*Elaine Hamby*

for Laurie L. White  
User Services Coordinator  
Natural Diversity Data Base  
Nongame-Heritage Program

Enclosures

cc: Jerry Mensch, ESS  
Region 2

459  
TOTAL PAGE 2943  
NET PAGE





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Division of Ecological Services  
2800 Cottage Way, Room E-1803  
Sacramento, California 95825

REC'D MAR 2 1987

February 27, 1987

Ms. Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialist  
Power Engineers Incorporated  
P.O. Box 1068  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Subject: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative Construction Work  
Plan/Borrower's Environmental Report, Plumas County, California

Dear Ms. Mix:

This responds to your January 26, 1987 letter requesting our review and comment on the preliminary studies being conducted by the Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (PSREC) for proposed transmission, distribution, and substation facilities in Plumas County, California. We have forwarded a copy of your letter to our Sacramento Endangered Species Office (SESO) for their review, also.

At this time, we are unable to provide you with a listing of specific wetland habitats in the project area as our National Wetlands Inventory Maps have not been completed for this area of Plumas County. In addition to conducting a survey of the project area for wetland habitats, we recommend that you also contact the California Department of Fish and Game for consultation regarding the locations and boundaries of any wetland areas.

The Department of the Interior has published the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Mitigation Policy (Federal Register Vol. 46, No. 15, January 23, 1981, p. 7655 - 7663) which establishes policy guidance for the Service in making recommendations to protect or conserve fish and wildlife resources. Under the Mitigation Policy, these resources are divided into four categories to ensure that recommended mitigation is consistent with the fish and wildlife values involved. These Resource Categories encompass a range of habitat values, from those considered to be unique and irreplaceable, to those believed to be of low value to fish and wildlife resources. The Mitigation Policy does not apply to threatened or endangered species. Appropriate measures to reduce or mitigate project impacts on federally-listed species or to offset unmitigable on-site impacts on such species are addressed during formal consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended.

CALENDAR PAGE 400  
MINUTE PAGE 2944

In general, wetland and riparian habitats are classified under Resource Category 2 of the Mitigation Policy. Category 2 habitat is of high value for the evaluation species and is becoming scarce. The Service's mitigation goal for that category is to ensure that there is no net loss of in-kind habitat value. The Service has generally classified other wildlife and aquatic habitat as Resource Category 3 of the Mitigation Policy. This habitat is of high to medium value and is relatively abundant. Our mitigation goal for Resource Category 3 habitat is to ensure no net loss of habitat value while minimizing loss of in-kind habitat value.

#### Threatened or Endangered Species

In their February 18, 1987 letter to you, SESO stated that, "to the best of their knowledge, there are no Federally-listed, proposed, or candidate threatened or endangered species occurring in the project area." A copy is enclosed for your review.

#### Fishery Resources

Our preliminary assessment of the project area indicates that anadromous fish do not normally occur in the area and therefore would be unaffected by project construction and operation. If you have not already done so, we recommend that you contact the California Department of Fish and Game for further consultation regarding potential project impacts on resident fisheries in the area. If potential impacts are identified you should make adequate provision for the protection of aquatic resources at present levels of population and productivity.

#### Migratory Waterfowl Habitat

The PSREC should evaluate the impacts, if any, of project construction and operation on migratory waterfowl and their habitats. Mitigation plans for adverse project impacts on waterfowl resting, feeding and nesting habitat should be developed. With regard to proposed transmission line construction, you should investigate the potential for avian collision problems particularly waterfowl. In locations where potential for significant waterfowl collisions exist, you should develop and implement site-specific mitigation measures to reduce this hazard.

#### Wildlife Habitat

PSREC should quantify the wildlife habitat lost as a result of proposed ground-disturbing activities. Appropriate mitigation measures should be proposed for this anticipated loss of wildlife habitat. Transmission lines should be designed to prevent electrocution of perching birds, particularly hawks and eagles. Guidance for proper design of the transmission lines may be found in the following publication:

Oiendorff, R.R., Miller, A.D., and Lehman, R.X. 1981. Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines, State of the Art in 1981. Raptor Research Foundation, University of Minnesota. 111 pp.

in general, you should ensure that the damage to fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, particularly wetlands and riparian vegetation, is avoided or minimized. You should avoid decisions which would result in adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources while conducting environmental studies. A mitigation plan should be included to offset adverse impacts to fish and wildlife resources resulting from project construction and operation. We will use our Mitigation Policy as the basis for reviewing mitigation proposals and making recommendations to you.

The Mitigation Policy adopts the following definition of mitigation in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act:

- a. avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action;
- b. minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation;
- c. rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment;
- d. reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; and
- e. compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

The Service supports this definition and considers the specific elements listed above to represent the desirable sequence of steps in the mitigation planning process. The PSREC should utilize this sequence when developing measures to mitigate for project impacts to fish and wildlife resources.

Please be advised that this letter constitutes our preliminary evaluation. As yet, we have insufficient information to allow us to fully evaluate proposed project impacts on fish and wildlife resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond regarding the proposed transmission, distribution, and substation facilities. I hope these comments will be of assistance to you when conducting preliminary studies

prior to making application for construction loan funds. Should you have any questions concerning these comments please contact Roger Guinee of my staff at (916) 978-4613.

Sincerely,

*Fred T. Nakaji*

Fred T. Nakaji  
Acting Field Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: Reg. Dir., AFWE, FWS, Portland, OR  
SES0, FWS, Sacramento, CA (Case No. 1-1-87-SP-192)  
Dir., CDFG, Sacramento  
Dick Daniels, CDFG, Environmental Services Branch, Sacramento  
Reg. Mgr., CDFG, Reg. II, Rancho Cordova  
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Portola

CALENDAR PAGE 403  
SERIAL PAGE 2917





United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

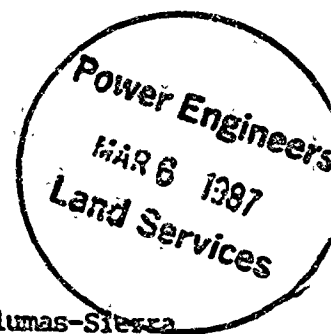
Plumas  
National  
Forest

159 Lawrence Street  
P.O. Box 1500  
Quincy, CA 95971

Reply to: 2600

Date: February 27, 1987

Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialist  
Power Engineers Incorporated  
Airport Way, P.O. Box 1066  
Bailey, ID 83333



Dear Ms. Mix:

Reference your letter of January 26, 1987, subject 1037-24, Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative Construction Work Plan/Borrower's Environmental Report. Following is a list of potential concerns:

1. Potential sensitive plant species which could be in vicinity:
  - a. Astragalus lentiformis Known locations in the Little Last Chance Creek Canyon area and near the town of Portola.
  - b. Ivesia aperta Known locations south of Chilcoot and east of the town of Beckwourth.
  - c. Ivesia baileyi Known from the Little Last Chance Creek Canyon area.
  - c. Ivesia sericocarpa Known locations in Sierra Valley south of the town of Beckwourth.
  - d. Ivesia webberi Known from Sierra Valley in the 1880s.
2. Potential wildlife concerns:
  - a. Portola Deer winter range.
  - b. Beckwourth Possible bald eagle winter roost, goshawk.
  - c. Chilcoot Deer winter range, antelope range, golden eagle.
  - d. Long Valley Deer winter range, waterfowl nesting, occasional winter sightings of bald eagle.
3. Wild and Scenic River:

The proposed switch station for the Sierraville tap may be within the Recreation Zone of the Wild and Scenic Middle Fork Feather River. We are concerned that any changes on or adjacent to National Forest lands reflect management objectives of the Wild and Scenic River, including visual objectives and maintaining public access to the river. Forest Service policy calls for undergrounding of new or reconstructed lines. We would also

CALENDAR PAGE

404  
2718







Mary Ann Mix

2.

encourage looking for appropriate private lands for this switch station rather than proposing placement on National Forest lands.

Attached is a Forest Recreation Map, showing the locations of National Forest lands and the boundaries of the Wild and Scenic Middle Fork Feather River.

If you have additional questions regarding this project's effects on resources of the Plumas National Forest, please contact us. We would also be interested in reviewing any draft environmental document covering this proposal.

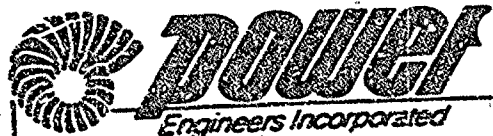
Sincerely,

*Rodney K. Sallee*  
RODNEY K. SALLEE  
Forest Supervisor

Enclosure

CALENDAR PAGE 405  
MINUTE PAGE 2949





October 1, 1987

FILE

California Archaeological Inventory  
Department of Anthropology  
California State University at Chico  
Chico, CA 95929

Attention: Makoto Kowta, Northeast Information Center Coordinator

Subject: #1147-01.24; Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (P-SREC)  
69kV Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Kowta:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation today, please find enclosed maps delineating the preferred route of the above referenced project.

A large portion of this line will follow the existing right of way for the distribution line with an underbuild. New construction will occur parallel to Highway 395, outside of the Caltrans R/W.

We believe this alignment will avoid any areas containing significant cultural resources. However, the Construction Contract Documents will include a statement to the effect that in the event an archaeological site and/or historical remains are discovered during construction activities, P-SREC shall immediately notify the California Archaeological Inventory, and cease work.

Should these mitigative measures be acceptable to you, please respond accordingly. Thank you for your prompt attention.

Sincerely,

POWER Engineers, Incorporated

Mary Ann Mix  
Senior Environmental Specialist

:mf  
enc. as noted  
cc: Bernie Pfile (P-SREC)  
file

CALENDAR PAGE 456  
MINUTE PAGE 2950

California  
Archaeological  
Inventory

# Information Center

BUTTE SIERRA  
GLENN SISKIYOU  
LASSEN SUTTER  
MODOC TIBBAMA  
PLUMAS TIRRELY  
SHASTA

Department of Anthropology  
California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA 95929  
(916) 895-6256

Mar. 4, 1987

REC'D MAR 9 1987

Mary Ann Mix  
Environmental Specialist  
Power Engineers Inc.  
P.O. Box 1066  
Haily, Idaho 83333

re: Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
Portola, Ca. record search

Dear Mary Ann Mix,

As requested we have completed a search of the archaeological maps, files and records maintained by this office regarding the above mentioned project. The results for each of the four related projects is summarized below:

1. 32 miles of transmission line: A small area just east of Chilcoot has been previously surveyed for cultural resources. This area is indicated on the enclosed map. No other surveys have been conducted along the proposed transmission line. Numerous sites have been located in the immediate vicinity of the proposed line and one site, CA-LAS-539, a historic refuse area, may be directly in line with the proposed transmission line. Because of the sensitivity of the project area we recommend that the proposed transmission line be surveyed for cultural resources prior to project operations.

2. New substation and two miles of line to serve the Pozzolan Plant: No previous surveys for cultural resources have been conducted in this area and there are no recorded archaeological sites located within the project boundaries. However, several prehistoric sites are located in the immediate vicinity. The project area is considered highly sensitive for cultural resources. Therefore, we recommend that the project area be surveyed for cultural resources prior to project operations.

3. Four miles of transmission line along Road A-15. A very small portion of this project area has been surveyed for cultural resources. This area is located just south of Portola and is indicated on the enclosed map. All other portions of this project area have not been surveyed. No archaeological sites are known to exist within the project area but several have been recorded in the nearby vicinity. This area is considered to be sensitive for cultural resources. We recommend that the project area be surveyed for cultural resources prior to project operations.

RENDER PAGE

407  
2951

California  
Archaeological  
Inventory

Information  
Center

BUTTE    SIERRA  
GLENN    SISKIYOU  
LASSEN    SUTTER  
MODOC    YUBA  
PLUMAS    YUBA  
SHASTA

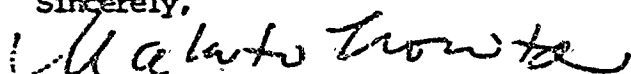
Department of Anthropology  
California State University, Chico  
Chico, CA 95929  
(916) 895-6256

4. Switchstation for Sierraville tap: This area has not been surveyed for cultural resources and there are no recorded sites within the project boundaries. One prehistoric site is located in the immediate vicinity. The area is considered very sensitive for cultural resources because of the close proximity of the Feather River. We recommend that this project area be surveyed for cultural resources prior to project operations.

Because of the general sensitivity of all the related project areas we are recommending that an archaeological reconnaissance be performed in all areas not previously surveyed. This reconnaissance should be performed by a professional archaeologist who will be able to locate and record any cultural resources, assess site significance and suggest appropriate mitigation measures.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

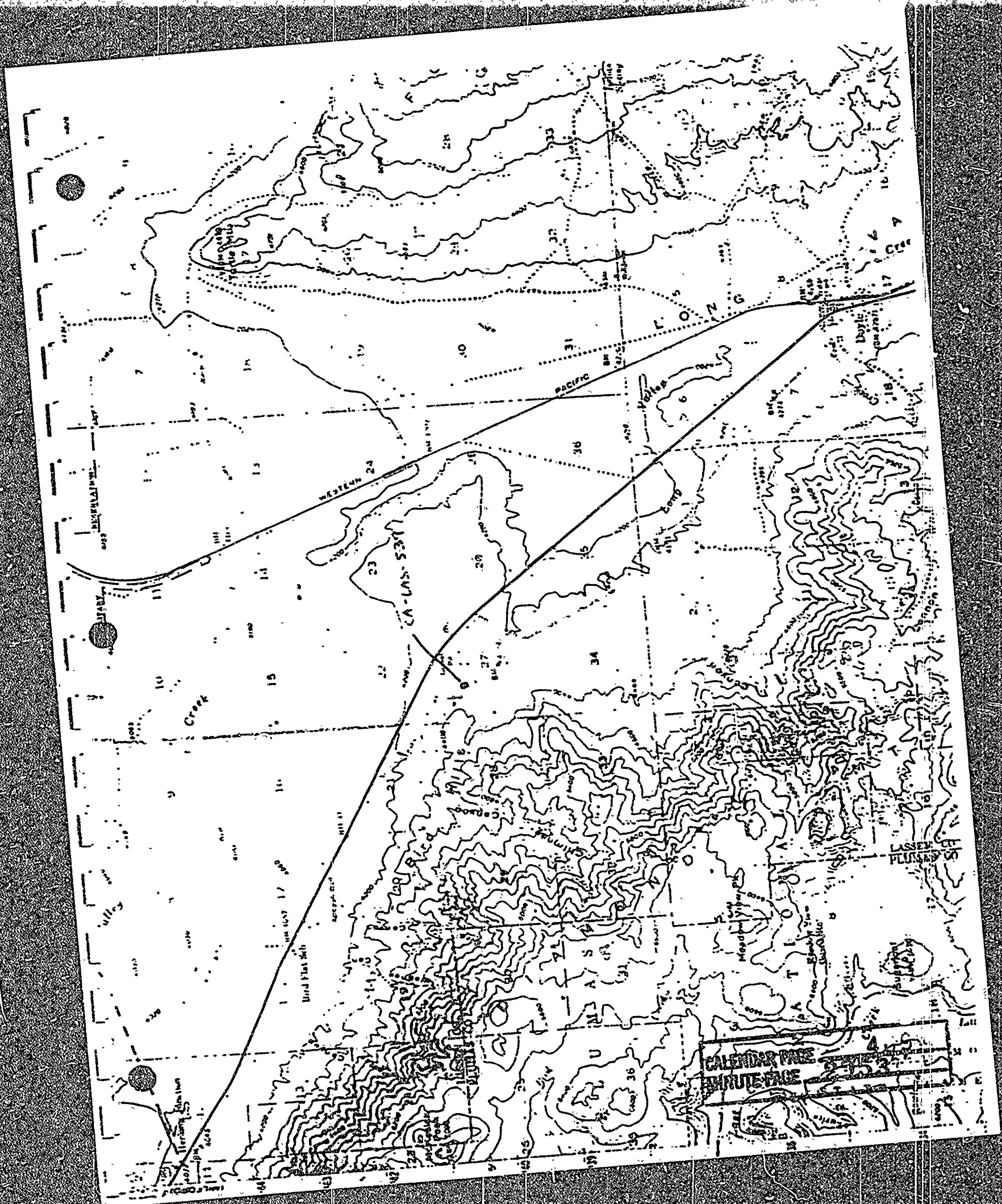
Sincerely,



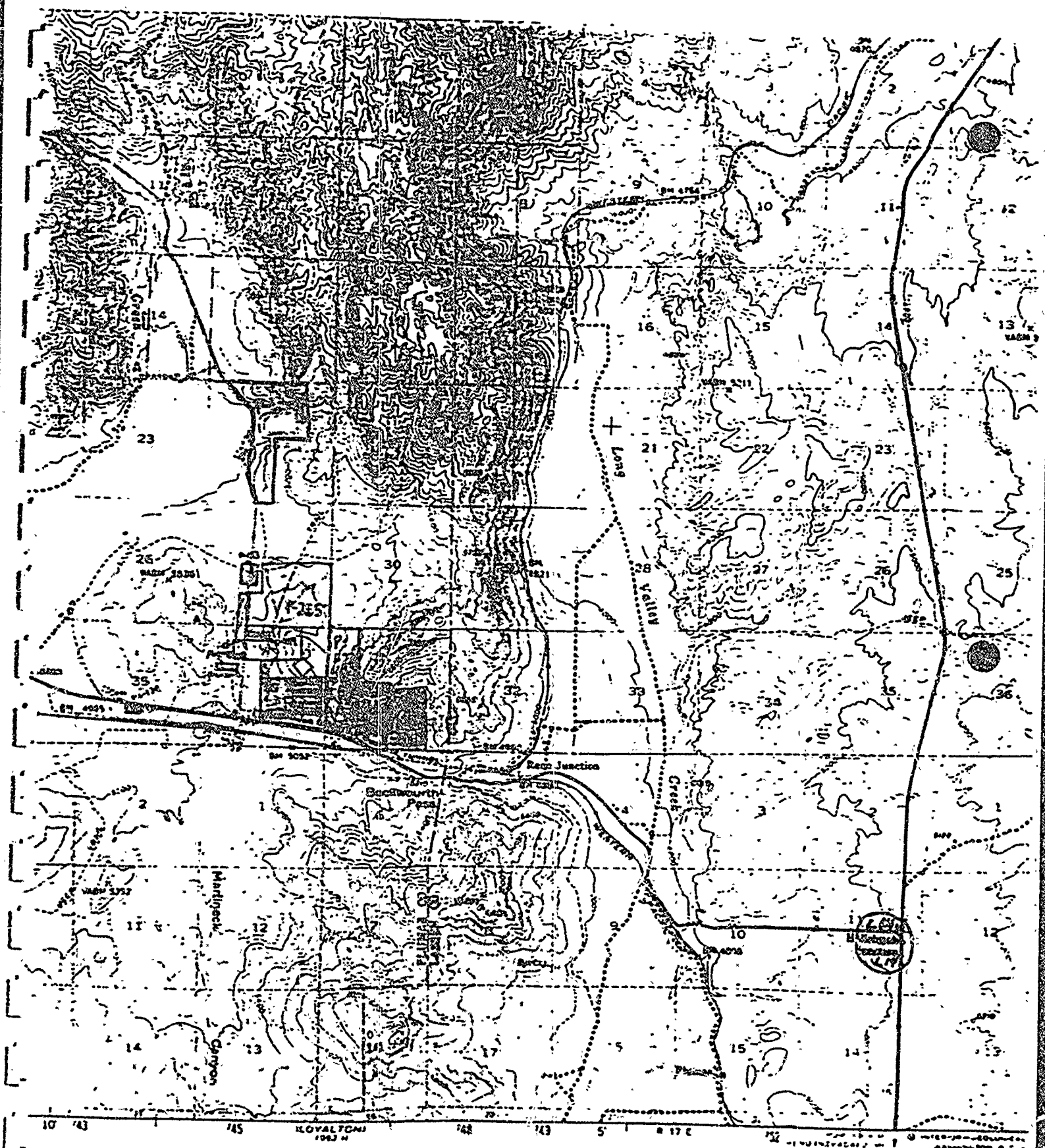
Makoto Kowta  
Northeast Information Center Coordinator

CALENDAR PAGE 408  
MAY 1978 2952

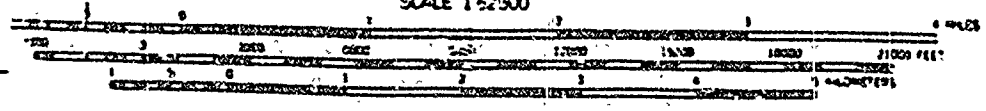








SCALE 1:52,500



CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

CALENDAR PAGE August July 4-10  
MINUTE PAGE 2752

ROAD 1514

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N



COUNTY OF LASSEN

REC'D MAR 19 1987

Planning Department  
Local Agency Formation  
Commission

Room 103, Courthouse Annex  
Susanville, California 96130  
(916) 257-8314, Ext. 289

March 6, 1987

ROBERT K. SORVAAG  
Planning Director  
LAFCo. Executive Officer

MERLE A. ANDERSON  
Senior Planner

Power Engineers Incorporated  
Attention: Mary Ann Mix  
P.O. Box 1066  
Haily, Idaho 83333

RE: 1037-24 Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
Construction Work Plan/Environmental Report

Dear Ms. Mix:

This letter is in response to your letter dated January 26, 1987.

Thank you for notifying me of this project. As explained to Merle Anderson of my staff in a telephone conversation with you on March 5, we appreciate the fact that you have contacted the California Department of Fish and Game and are working with them directly regarding the wildlife issues mentioned in your letter.

Attached please find a copy of Lassen County Code Section 18.102.020 regarding transmission and distribution lines.

Also attached is a copy of the General Plan map for that area indicated a "Scenic Corridor." In scanning the general plan at this time, we find no specific policies for transmission lines within scenic corridors. The intent of the corridor, however, encourages that visual impacts be minimized and that routing and design be in character with viewsheds and natural surroundings.

Please keep us informed regarding this project. When available, we request more detailed copies of maps showing proposed routes of transmission lines and related material pursuant to County Code Section 18.102.020(2)(A).

If you have any questions or comments regarding this project, please don't hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Robert K. Sorvaag,  
Planning Director

RKS:nes  
Enclosures

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| CALENDAR PAGE | 4/1  |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2755 |

in which case the more specific regulation shall apply. (Ord. 467 §39(part), 1984).

18.102.020 General district uses. (1) The following uses may be permitted in all districts, except O-S, O-D, and C-H districts, or as otherwise specifically prohibited, subject to securing a use permit in each case:

(A) Surface mining and the removal of minerals, earth or construction materials;

(B) Exploratory wells for geothermal, gas and oil resources;

(C) Production wells and projects involving geothermal, gas, and oil resources. Production wells and projects may be considered with the exploratory phase as one permit if sufficient information is submitted to describe the proposed production phase of the project;

(D) Circus, open-air fair, carnival, or similar temporary assemblage of large amounts of people, provided no permanent structure is constructed.

(2) The following uses may be permitted in all districts, subject to the below-listed stipulations:

(A) Public utility, electric, gas, water, oil, and telephone transmission and distribution lines shall be permitted in all districts without the necessity of first obtaining a use permit; provided, that maps showing proposed routes of such transmission lines, together with a written statement of approximate structure heights and right-of-way widths, shall be submitted to the planning commission, and routes mutually acceptable to the planning commission and utility agencies concerned shall be determined in writing. The planning commission shall make findings concerning the consistency of such proposed routes with the general plan;

(B) Nonpublic utility lines for transmission or distribution of electricity, gas, water, oil, gasoline, telephone, television, or other utility, may be permitted in all districts; provided that, in any case necessitating right-of-way acquisition, a use permit shall be secured in each case prior to such acquisition. Each use permit application shall be accompanied by plans, showing on current U.S.G.S. Quadrangle or equivalent maps, the right-of-way route proposed, and written statements or scaled drawings, or both, the proposed right-of-way width, structure types and heights, burial depths and such other information as may be deemed necessary by the planning commission. (Ord. 467 §39(part), 1984).

18.102.030 Selected district uses. (1) The following uses may be allowed in all districts, except as otherwise provided in this title, subject to securing a use permit in each case.

(A) Public parking lot;

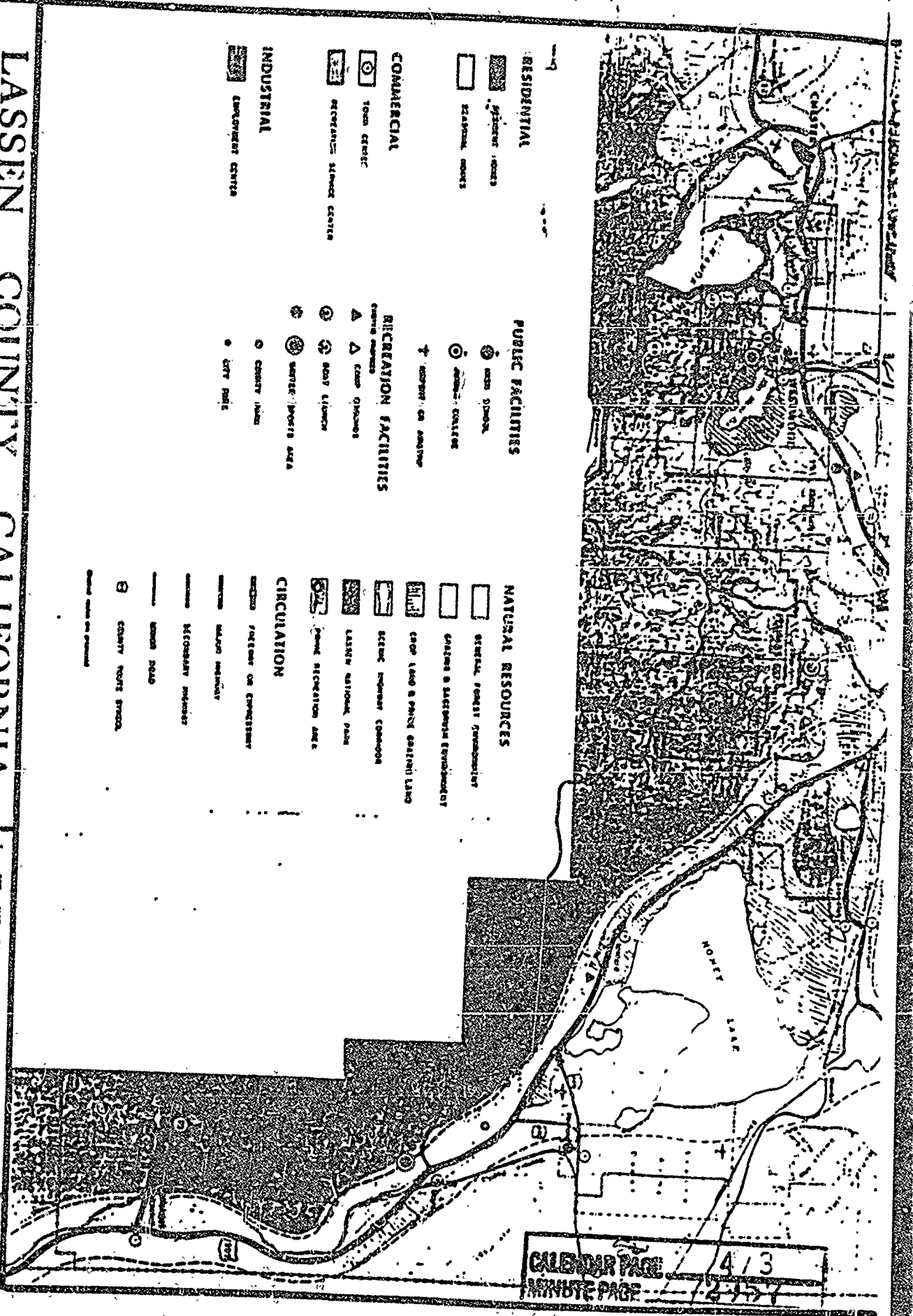
(B) Buildings or uses designed for public use, including ownership by city, county, district, state or national government.



# LASSEN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA GENERAL PLAN

MAY 1968

WILLIAMS, COOK & MCGEE  
CITY & REGIONAL PLANNING  
SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA



- RESIDENTIAL**
- Single-Family Homes
  - Medium-Density Residential

- COMMERCIAL**
- Town Center
  - Recreation & Amusement Centers

- INDUSTRIAL**
- Employment Centers

- PUBLIC FACILITIES**
- Open Space
  - School
  - Community Center
  - Cemetery
  - City Hall

- RECREATION FACILITIES**
- △ Camp Grounds
  - Boat Slips
  - Amusement Areas

- NATURAL RESOURCES**
- Wetlands
  - State & National Forests
  - State & National Parks
  - State & National Monuments
  - State & National Game Refuges
  - State & National Game Preserves
  - State & National Game Lands
  - State & National Game Trails
  - State & National Game Reserves
  - State & National Game Sanctuaries
  - State & National Game Sanctuaries
  - State & National Game Sanctuaries

- CIRCULATION**
- Major Freeway
  - Major Arterial
  - Secondary Arterial
  - Urban Road
  - County Route

CALENDAR PAGE 413  
MINUTE PAGE 257



APPENDICES

## REFERENCES

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California Dept. of Water Resources, 1984. *Water Conditions in California*, Sacramento, California

Plumas County Chamber of Commerce, 1985c. *Plumas County, the Feather River Country*, Quincy, California

Shelford, Victor E., 1963. *The Ecology of North America*, University of Illinois Press, Urbana

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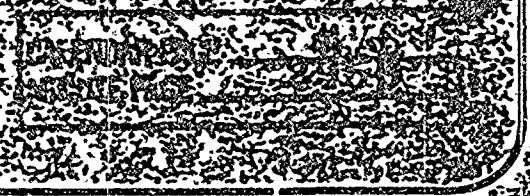
USDA Forest Service, 1986. *Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Lassen National Forest, Susanville, California*

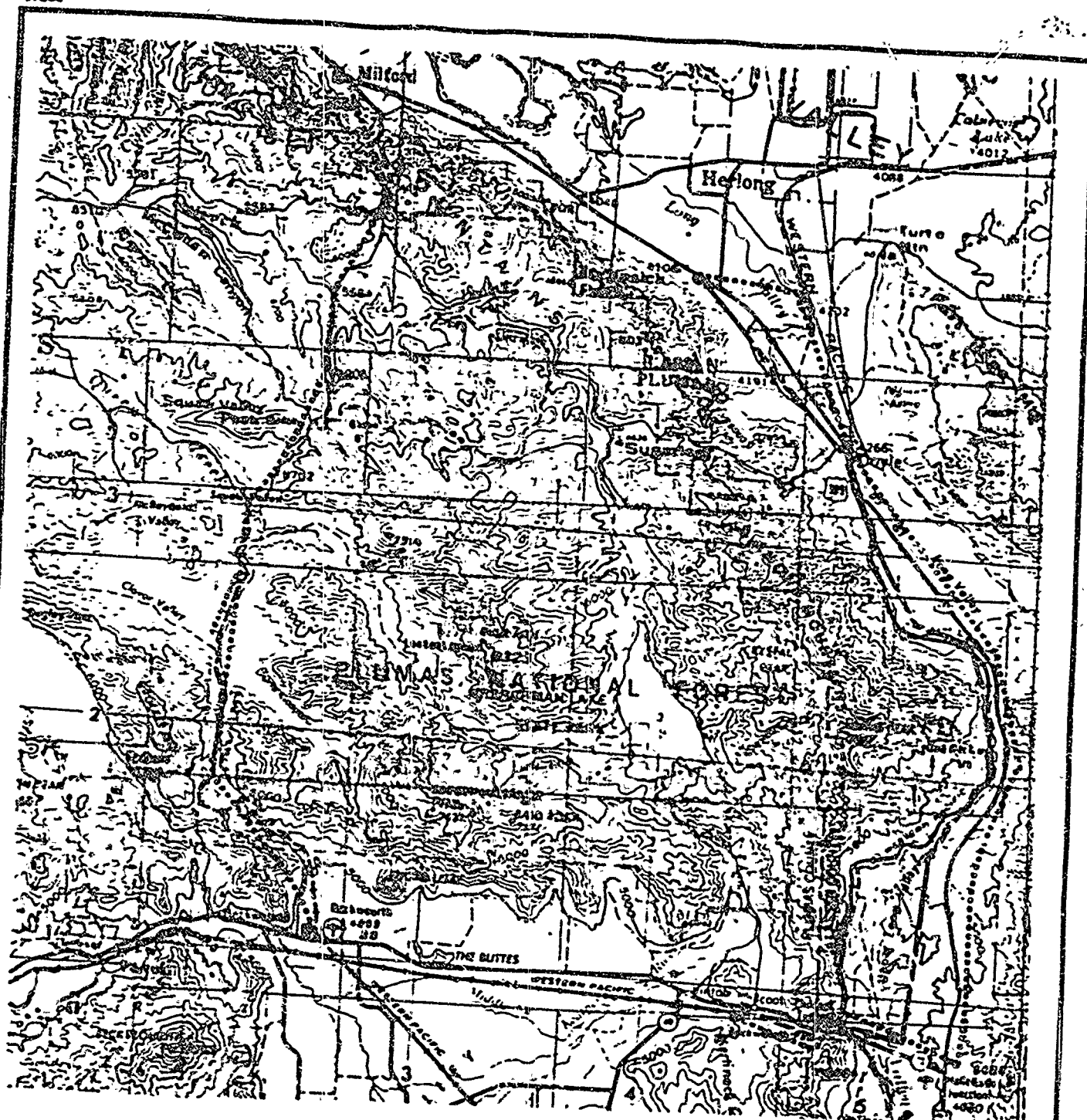
USDA, Soil Conservation Service, 1975. *Soil Survey of Sierra Vailey Area, California*

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
| CALENDAR PAGE | 4/5  |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2759 |



# PROJECT AREA MAP





CALENDAR PAGE 4/7  
 MINUTE PAGE 2361

————— PREFERRED ROUTE  
 ..... ALTERNATE ROUTES

PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL  
 ELECTRIC CO-OP  
 69KV TRANSMISSION LINE

SCALE  
 1" = 250,000'

DRN.

CKD.

APP. 1/10/29/82

JOB NO.  
 1147-01-24

**CAN**  
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS



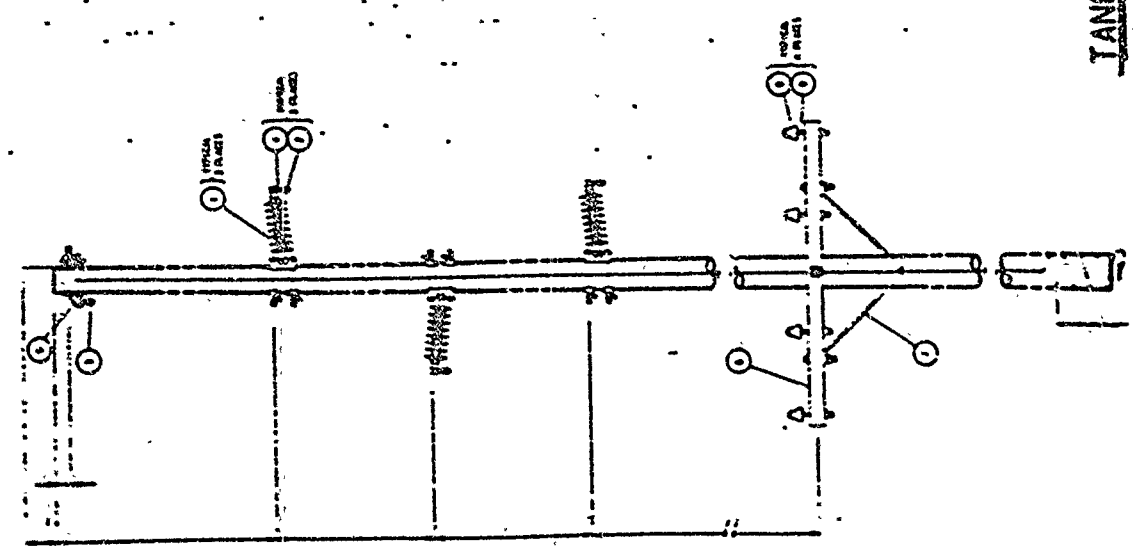
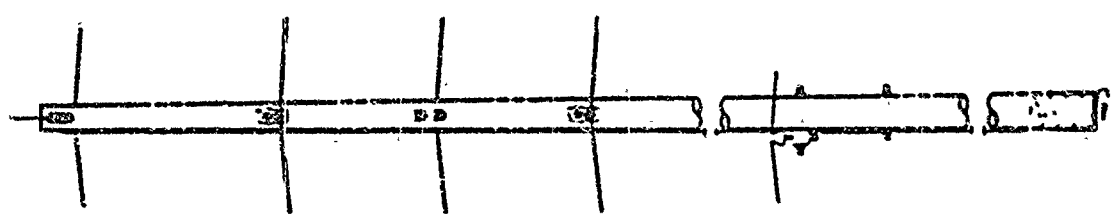
# TYPICAL STRUCTURE DRAWING

ENGINEERING DRAWING  
BY  
[Illegible Name]

LIST OF MATERIALS

| NO. | DESCRIPTION                         | QTY. | REMARKS   |
|-----|-------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| 1   | STEEL PIPE 12" DIA. X 1/2" THICK    | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 2   | STEEL PIPE 6" DIA. X 1/2" THICK     | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 3   | STEEL PIPE 4" DIA. X 1/2" THICK     | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 4   | STEEL PIPE 2" DIA. X 1/2" THICK     | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 5   | STEEL PIPE 1 1/2" DIA. X 1/2" THICK | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 6   | STEEL PIPE 1" DIA. X 1/2" THICK     | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 7   | STEEL PIPE 3/4" DIA. X 1/2" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 8   | STEEL PIPE 1/2" DIA. X 1/2" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 9   | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/2" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 10  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/2" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 11  | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/4" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 12  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/4" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 13  | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/8" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 14  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/8" THICK   | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 15  | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/16" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 16  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/16" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 17  | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/32" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 18  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/32" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 19  | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/64" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 20  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/64" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |

| NO. | DESCRIPTION                         | QTY. | REMARKS   |
|-----|-------------------------------------|------|-----------|
| 1   | STEEL PIPE 12" DIA. X 1/2" THICK    | 1    | FOR TOWER |
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| 17  | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/32" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 18  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/32" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 19  | STEEL PIPE 1/4" DIA. X 1/64" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |
| 20  | STEEL PIPE 1/8" DIA. X 1/64" THICK  | 1    | FOR TOWER |



TANGENT STRUCTURE  
CITY OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

CALENDAR PAGE 479  
MINUTE PAGE 2963



LEGAL NOTICE

FRIDAY THE 3RD  
OF APRIL, 1987

VOLUME 39  
NUMBER 7

PUBLICATION NO. USPS 495 & 500  
THE HOME OWNED FORTNIGHTLY  
NEWSPAPER IN SIERRA COUNTY.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative announces that it is making an application for financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) that will provide for construction of the following:

Transmission facilities upgrades including:

- Replacement of the existing 69kV "K" line between Beckwourth and Milford with a new 69kV transmission line from Chilcoat Substation to Herlong Substation for the purpose of improving service to the northern system and reduction of system losses; approximately 32 miles of overhead construction within the existing utility right-of-way along U.S. Highway 395 in Lassen County.
- A sectionalizer at the Sierraville Tap, located in the SW1/4 of the NW1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 26, T 23N, R 14E.
- An OCB at Beckwourth Substation, located in the SW1/4 of the SE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 26, T 23N, R 14E, for the new Chilcoat to Herlong transmission line.

Substation improvements:

- A new 69-12.5/7.2kV 2 feeder substation with a 2.5 MVA capacity to serve the Pozzolan Plant; located on the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 2, T 23N, R 17E.
- New grounding systems for all older substations.
- Capacitors added at Edgemont and Leavitt for voltage stability.
- A new feeder bay in the Leavitt Substation.

Distribution system improvements including:

- Rearrangement of the new Beckwourth Substation distribution feeders, approximately 0.5 miles of underground construction.
- Extension of the A-15 feeder to the Portola city limit, approximately four miles of overhead construction traversing route A-15 in Plumas County.
- A new feeder from the Pozzolan Substation to the Pozzolan Plant, approximately two miles of overhead construction located in Section 2, T 23N, R 17E.
- An underbuild of 12.4kV line of overhead construction on existing poles paralleling U.S. Highway 395 in Lassen County, from Milford Substation to a point approximately seven miles in a southeasterly direction.

FRIDAY THE 17TH  
OF APRIL, 1987

VOLUME 39  
NUMBER 8

PUBLICATION NO. USPS 495 & 500  
THE HOME OWNED FORTNIGHTLY  
NEWSPAPER IN SIERRA COUNTY.

A Borrower's Environmental Report, which indicates anticipated environmental effects and suggests mitigative measures, has been prepared for the proposed additions. A copy of this report may be reviewed at Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative's main office located three miles west of Portola, California on Highway 70. The Cooperative does not believe the proposed project will have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. REA will prepare its own independent environmental assessment prior to granting financial assistance for the proposed improvements.

If there are any comments on the environmental aspects of the proposed construction including, but not limited to: (1) potentially significant archeological, historical sites and cultural resources; (2) important farmland; (3) floodplains; (4) wetlands; and (5) endangered species, they should be submitted within thirty (30) days to the Cooperative office. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the General Manager of P-SREC at P.O. Box 2000, Portola, California 96122, or by calling (916) 832-4261. A copy of all comments received will be sent to REA for its independent environmental evaluation.

ADVERTISEMENT

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative is hereby soliciting public comments on the environmental aspects of the proposed construction of the following facilities:

- A new 69kV transmission line from Chilcoat Substation to Herlong Substation, 32 miles of overhead construction along U.S. Highway 395 in Lassen County.
- Approximately four miles of overhead construction traversing route A-15 in Plumas County.
- A new substation to serve the Lassenite Pozzolan Plant in Lassen County.
- A sectionalizer at the Sierraville Tap located near Beckwourth in Plumas County.

Please see Page 15 for additional information contained in the Public Notice.

CALENDAR PAGE

MINUTE PAGE

401  
2965



**LEGAL NOTICE**

The Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative announces that it is making an application for financial assistance from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) that will provide for construction of the following:

Transmission facilities upgrades including:

- Replacement of the existing 69kV "K" line between Beckwourth and Millard with a new 69kV transmission line from Chilcoat Substation to Herlong Substation for the purpose of improving service to the northern system and reduction of system losses; approximately 32 miles of overhead construction within the existing utility right-of-way along U.S. Highway 395 in Lassen County.

- A sectionalizer at the Sierra Hill Tap, located in the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 26, T23N, R14E.

- An OCB at Beckwourth Substation, located in the SW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of Section 26, T23N, R14E for the new Chilcoat to Herlong transmission line.

Substation improvements:

- A new 69-12.5/7.2kV 2 feeder substation with a 2.5 MVA capacity to serve the Pazzolan Plant, located on the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of Section 7, T23N, R17E.

- New grounding systems for all older substations.

- Capacitors added at Edgemont and Leavitt for voltage stability.

- A new feeder bay in the Leavitt Substation. Distribution system improvements including:

- Rearrangement of the new Beckwourth Substation distribution feeders, approximately 0.3 miles of underground construction.

- Extension of the A-15 feeder to the Portola city limit, approximately four miles of overhead construction traversing route A-15 in Plumas County.

- A new feeder from the Pazzolan Substation to the Pazzolan Plant, approximately two miles of overhead construction located in Section 2, T23N, R17E.

- An underbuild of 12.4kV line of overhead construction on existing poles paralleling U.S. Highway 395 in Lassen County, from Millard Substation to a point approximately seven miles in a southeasterly direction.

A Borrower's Environmental Report, which indicates anticipated environmental effects and suggests mitigative measures, has been prepared for the proposed additions. A copy of this report may be reviewed at Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative's main office located three miles west of Portola, California on Highway 70. The Cooperative does not believe the proposed project will have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. REA will prepare its own independent environmental assessment prior to granting financial assistance for the proposed improvements.

If there are any comments on the environmental aspects of the proposed construction including, but not limited to: (1) potentially significant archeological, historical sites and cultural resources; (2) important farmland; (3) floodplains; (4) wetlands; and (5) endangered species, they should be submitted within thirty (30) days to the Cooperative office. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the General Manager of P.SREC at P.O. Box 2000, Portola, California 96122-4261. A copy of all comments received will be sent to REA for its independent environmental evaluation.

4:8, 15



CALENDAR PAGE 402  
 MINUTE PAGE 2966

OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

POST OFFICE BOX 842026  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95826-0001  
TELEPHONE 445-8200



EXHIBIT "D"  
W 24517

REC'D FEB - 5 1969  
18 November 1968  
Reply to: BLM 890814A

Janet M. Phillips  
Montana Resource Area Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
Carson City District Office  
1535 Hot Springs Road, Suite 300  
Carson City, Nevada 89701

NOV 11 4 33 PM '68  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Subject: Long Valley 69kv Transmission Line

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Thank you for your letter of 11 October 1968 and for the attached site map.

It appears from the map you sent that by careful siting of the three pole transmission structure you can avoid damaging CA-1366. As you note, this will obviate any need for significance testing of the site, or for archaeological data recovery.

Because the three pole structure is so close to the defined edges of CA-1366, we recommend that an archaeological monitor be on hand during pole siting and excavation. If archaeological material is encountered during construction, please refer to 36 CFR 600.11(b)(2) for instruction.

The Office of Historic Preservation does not object to your finding that the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties. The supporting documentation you submitted and our response to your finding of no effect fulfills your federal agency responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and 36 CFR 600.8(b).

Thank you again for your concern for cultural resources. If you have any questions, please contact Nicholas Del Cicco, State Archaeologist II, at (916) 322-4429.

Sincerely,  
*Nicholas Del Cicco*  
Nicholas Del Cicco  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CALENDAR PAGE 403  
MINUTE PAGE 2967

EXHIBIT "E"  
W 24517

147-01-21-02  
DATE FILED

REC MAY 14 1980

Environmental Assessment

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
Chilcoot-Herlong 69 kV Transmission Line  
and Associated Facilities

PROJECT NO.:

GC: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Prepared by  
Rural Electrification Administration  
Southwest Area - Electric

December 1987

CALENDAR PAGE 454  
MINUTE PAGE 2768

## 1.0 Scope and Need

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (Plumas-Sierra) of Portola, California, has requested approval from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) to construct approximately 51.2 km (32 miles) of 69 kV transmission line. The proposed line would be constructed between the Chilcoot Substation in Plumas County and the Herlong Substation in Lassen County. Ancillary facilities would include removal of the existing 12.5/7.2 kV distribution line structures along Plumas-Sierra's recommended route and underbuilding this circuit on the proposed transmission line. The underbuild would be done between the Chilcoot Substation and Beckwourth Pass, and between the Red Rock area and the Herlong Substation. Substation modifications would also be made at the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations.

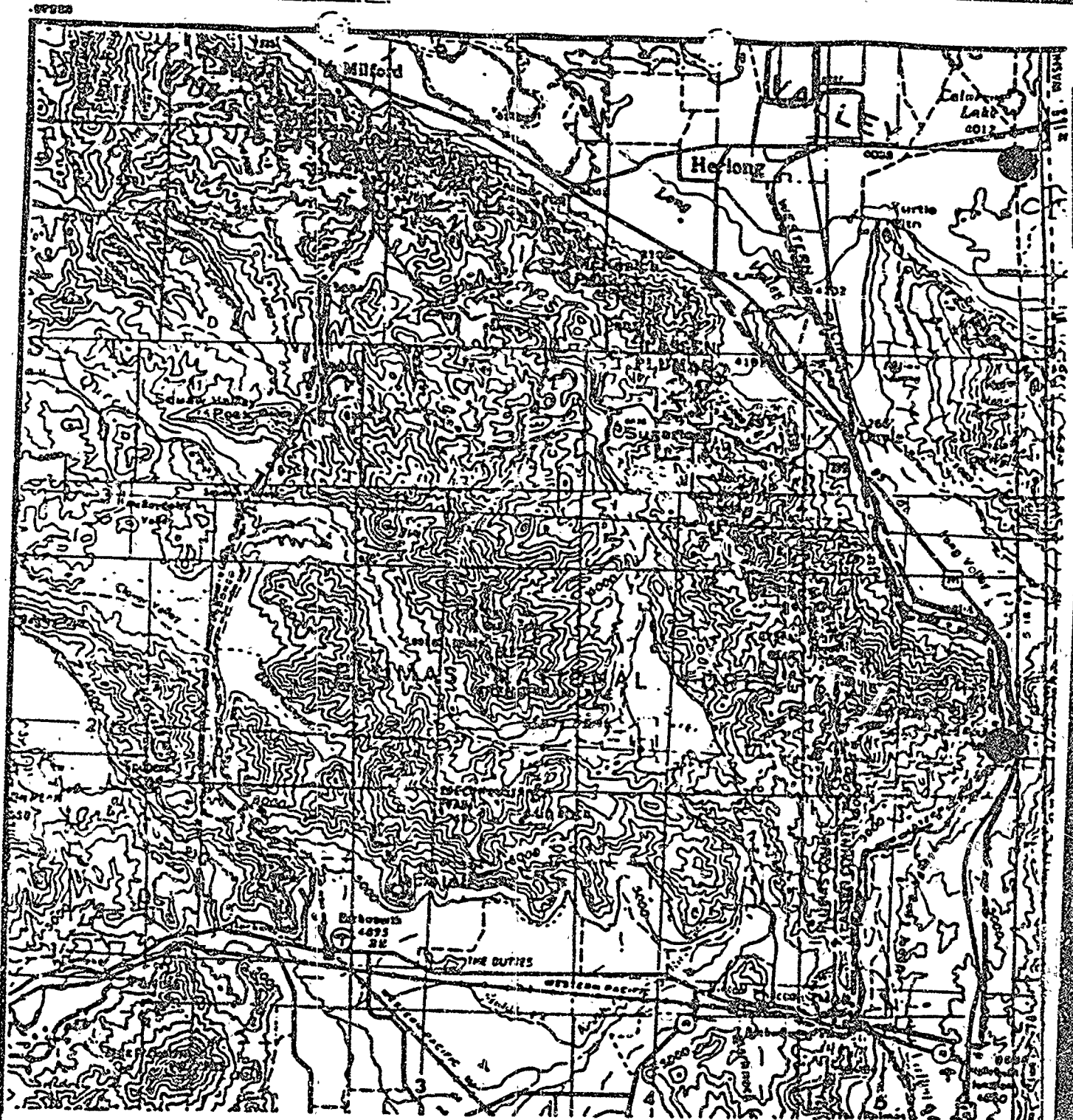
The proposed line would begin at the Chilcoot Substation located approximately 1.4 km (0.9 miles) west of the town of Chilcoot (see Figure 1). The line would be constructed approximately 3.7 km (2.3 miles) east along the south side of State Highway 70 to Beckwourth Pass, cross State Highway 70, and then be constructed north approximately 0.6 km (0.4 miles). The existing 12.5/7.2 kV distribution line would be removed and underbuilt on the new transmission line. The line would then be constructed east 6.1 km (3.8 miles) to a point north of Hallelujah Junction. The line would then be constructed north 10.1 km (6.3 miles) and then in a north-northeasterly direction for approximately 9.1 km (5.7 miles). From Red Rock, the line would basically be constructed paralleling U.S. Highway 395 on an existing distribution line right-of-way approximately 21.6 km (13.5 miles) to the Herlong Substation located south of the town of Herlong. The existing 12.5/7.2 kV distribution line would be removed and underbuilt on the transmission line structures.

The proposed 69 kV line would be constructed using single wood pole structures with horizontal post insulators. The average structure would be 20 m (65 feet) in height with an average span of 90 to 180 m (300 to 600 feet). The right-of-way width would be 15 m (50 feet). However, in most cases only an additional 9 m (30 feet) of new right-of-way would need to be acquired.

Plumas-Sierra's north system is presently served by a 69 kV transmission line between the Beckwourth and Milford Substations. The present facility is 27 years old and was constructed through environmentally sensitive mountainous terrain. Access to the line for inspection and maintenance is limited. Snow cats must be used in the winter and all terrain vehicles need to be used during the summer months. Numerous outages occur due to winter snow and high wind conditions. When the line is out of service, approximately 1700 consumers are without power. Therefore, the proposed project is needed to increase system reliability and service maintainability for the north system of Plumas-Sierra's service territory.

Plumas-Sierra submitted a Borrower's Environmental Report (BER) and other appropriate information to REA. The BER details the project scope and





CALENDAR PAGE 406  
 MINUTE PAGE 2970

— — — — — Preferred Route  
 - - - - - Alternate Routes

**PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL  
 ELECTRIC CO-OP**

**69KV TRANSMISSION LINE**

|                        |                          |                      |
|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| SCALE<br>1" = 250,000' | DRM.                     | JOB NO.<br>1147-01-2 |
| <b>C.M.W.</b>          | CKD.                     |                      |
|                        | APP. <i>M.C. 9/29/57</i> |                      |

description, need for the project, alternatives, the existing environment and the environmental impacts of project construction. REA has reviewed the BER and associated information and determined that the potential environmental implications of the proposed projects are adequately described. The BER and associated information are incorporated by reference as part of this Environmental Assessment (EA).

## 2.0 Alternatives

Alternatives considered include no action, rebuilding the existing 69 kV line, constructing a new line adjacent to the existing 69 kV transmission line and removing the existing line, constructing a new line between the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations (proposed project) and alternative routes (refer to Table 1 for a brief comparison).

The no action alternative would be not to construct a new transmission line facility. Maintenance of the existing 69 kV line would still be extremely difficult and system reliability would not be increased. Outages would still be a problem in the area. The no action alternative is unacceptable because Plumas-Sierra's need to provide reliable power to its north system would not be met.

The second alternative would be to reconductor the existing 69 kV line between the Beckworth and Milford Substations. The transmission line would have to be taken out of service for approximately 90 days; therefore, approximately 15 MW of generation would be needed to maintain the north system. The cost of the temporary generating facilities would be \$1,500,000. The rebuilt line would improve service and reduce system losses; however, the line would still be difficult to service for nine months of year, and the outage potential would remain high due to the extreme weather conditions in the mountainous areas.

Building a new line adjacent to the existing line would be a third alternative. Temporary generation would not be required for this alternative. The old line would be removed once construction is completed. Although the new line would provide better service, maintenance of the new line would still be difficult. Because the line would cross wetland areas and state game refuge land, obtaining a permit would be both difficult and require considerable time.

Plumas-Sierra's recommended project of constructing a new 69 kV line between the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations would meet its needs for the north system. The new line would be constructed along existing rights-of-way in the valley allowing for year-round easy access. The existing Beckworth-Milford 69 kV transmission line could be maintained as a second source to the north system, thereby increasing system reliability to the area. Environmental impacts would be minor along the proposed route.

Alternative routes included the recommended route (refer to section 1.0 for description), the Union Pacific Railroad route and paralleling U.S. Highway 395 on the east side from Doyle to the Herlong Substation (refer to Figure 1).

| Alternative | Ability to Meet<br>Plumas-Sierra's Need | Environmental Impact | Cost |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|------|
|-------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|------|

|                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| No Action                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Would not meet any of the critical requirements of Plumas-Sierra.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Economic losses due to increased number of outages.</li> <li>o Environmental impacts would be minimal and only associated with maintaining the line.</li> </ul>                                         |             |
| Reconductor the existing 69 kV line (Backworth-Milford)                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Service to north system would be improved.</li> <li>o System losses would be reduced.</li> <li>o Line would still be difficult to maintain.</li> <li>o System reliability would not be increased.</li> <li>o Temporary generation would be needed during construction.</li> </ul>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Existing line passes through environmental sensitive areas and wetland areas.</li> <li>o Difficult to reconductor.</li> </ul>                                                                           | \$2,500,000 |
| Construct a new line adjacent to existing line and remove old line.                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Same as above.</li> <li>o Temporary generation for the north system would not be needed.</li> <li>o New line would provide better service to north system.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Same as above</li> <li>o Old line would have to be removed or impacts would be greater due to wider right-of-way.</li> <li>o Permitting would be lengthy.</li> <li>o Difficult to construct.</li> </ul> | \$3,180,000 |
| Construct a new 69 kV line between Chilcoot-Herlong Substations (proposed project.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Easy access for maintenance.</li> <li>o System losses reduced.</li> <li>o Existing 69 kV line could serve as an alternate feed to north system.</li> <li>o Temporary generation would not be required during construction.</li> <li>o System reliability would be increased.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Impacts would be minimal because existing right-of-way would be used.</li> <li>o Permitting time would be short.</li> <li>o No new access would be required.</li> <li>o Easy to construct.</li> </ul>   | \$3,406,000 |

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Advantages and disadvantages of the alternative routes are shown in Table 2.

### 3.0 Environmental Impacts

The BER adequately describes the affected environment and the impacts of the proposed project. Plumas-Sierra will follow the recommendations in the U.S. Department of Agriculture/ U.S. Department of the Interior publication "Environmental Criteria For Electric Transmission Systems." The following subsections document REA's findings pertaining to relevant environmental considerations as they relate to the proposed project. No other matters of environmental concern were identified by REA.

#### 3.1 Air Quality

Potential sources of air quality degradation include temporary dust and vehicular emission production during construction and maintenance. Any particulates from construction dust, nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons from burning, and carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, ozone or particulates from vehicles and equipment would be below primary and secondary limits prescribed by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Plumas-Sierra will comply with the State Implementation Plan and with the regulations of the air pollution control districts in Lassen and Plumas Counties. Since construction and maintenance activity would be short-term, these sources are not expected to have an adverse impact on air quality.

#### 3.2 Water Quality

The proposed transmission line would cross numerous small permanent and intermittent streams. In addition, Long Valley Creek would be crossed twice. These streams are relatively narrow and can all be spanned. A major source of water quality degradation is soil erosion from construction activities through soil and vegetation disturbance. Areas that are disturbed will be reseeded soon after construction is completed. Vegetation clearing will also be kept to a minimum. Plumas-Sierra will insure that both Federal and State water quality standards will be met.

#### 3.3 Floodplains and Wetlands

The provisions of Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management) and 11990 (Protection of Wetlands) require Federal agencies to avoid actions which would result in project development (construction) in floodplain or wetland areas whenever a practicable alternative exists. The proposed project crosses floodplains associated with Long Valley Creek. Flood Hazard Boundary Maps for Long Valley Creek have been examined and it has been determined that these areas can be spanned. No flood related problems should exist with the construction of the proposed project because the support structures would be located as far from the flood hazard areas as possible to minimize flood flow obstruction. Riparian areas can all be spanned by the proposed projects and vegetative clearing in riparian areas will be kept to a minimum. REA has determined that the proposed project will not affect a 100-year floodplain or



Table 2. Advantages and Disadvantages of Alternative Routes.

| Route                      | Advantages                                                                                                                                               | Disadvantages                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Recommended Route          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follows existing ROWs.</li> <li>- Environmental impacts minor.</li> <li>- Permits easily obtainable.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crosses small part of Doyle Wildlife Refuge.</li> <li>- High (existing ROW) aesthetic impact.</li> </ul>                                                                                          |
| Union Pacific Route        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follows existing ROW.</li> <li>- Environmental impacts minor.</li> </ul>                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High annual rental fee from railroad.</li> <li>- Difficult to obtain permit.</li> </ul>                                                                                                           |
| Highway 395<br>(east side) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follows existing ROW</li> <li>- Environmental impacts minor.</li> </ul>                                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Crosses greater part of Doyle Wildlife Refuge (new ROW).</li> <li>- Difficult to obtain permit.</li> <li>- Line may have to be moved within 5 years.</li> <li>- High aesthetic impact.</li> </ul> |

wetland areas. Also, no practicable alternative exists to crossing streams in the project area.

### 3.4 Land Use

The Department of Agriculture's Regulation 9500-3, Land Use Policy, provides for the protection of important farmland, prime forest land and prime rangeland. The Farmland Policy Protection Act requires that Federal agencies take into account impacts on farmland in carrying out their Federal programs. Although the Soil Conservation Service has identified prime farmland in the project area, the proposed line would be routed in an existing utility corridor right-of-way. Therefore, REA anticipates no impact on important farmland, prime rangeland and prime forest land.

Sections of the line in Lassen County would be constructed on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). BLM owns land in the Red Rock area and in sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 in T22N, R17E, which is west and north of Hallelujah Intersection. BLM is presently working with Plumas-Sierra to route the line on its land. Plumas-Sierra will obtain a BLM Grant of Right-of-Way for these sections before construction is begun.

### 3.5 Threatened and Endangered Species

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, mandated that Federal agencies seek to conserve threatened and endangered species. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed the proposed project and stated that no listed threatened or endangered species or species proposed for listing occur within the project area. Therefore, REA has determined that the proposed project will not affect any federally listed or proposed for listing threatened or endangered species or critical habitat.

### 3.6 Visual Impact

The proposed line will parallel State Highway 70 for approximately 10.4 km (6.5 miles) and U.S. Highway 395 for approximately 40.8 km (25.5 miles). However, the line will be located in an existing utility corridor already occupied by Pacific Bell's and Sierra Pacific Power Company's lines. The Lassen County Planning Commission has issued a Negative Declaration for the project. Therefore, the visual impact of the project should be minimal.

### 3.7 Fish and Wildlife Resources

The proposed project would have a minimal affect on fish and wildlife resources. All bodies of water along the corridor can be spanned, therefore, there should be no impacts to fishery resources. The structures will have sufficient phase-to-phase and phase-to-ground spacing to prevent electrocution of perching birds. Impacts to wildlife would occur during construction and be temporary in nature. As soon as construction has been completed, animal behavior in the area should return to normal. The loss of wildlife habitat

would be minimal because an existing right-of-way would be used. The proposed alignment will cross the extreme southwestern section of the Doyle Wildlife Area on an existing right-of-way. The existing distribution line would be underbuilt on the 69 kV transmission line and no new right-of-way would be need. The California Department of Fish and Game concurred with a Negative Declaration determination for Fish and Game concurred with a Negative Declaration determination for this project.

### 3.8 Cultural Resources

The National Historic Preservation Act and Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" and other related acts are implemented by 36 CFR Part 800, "Procedures for the Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties."

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has identified numerous sites located in the project area; however, the project will be constructed on an existing right-of-way. The proposed line has also been routed to avoid these locations identified by the SHPO. Therefore, there should be no impact to known cultural resources. The SHPO has concurred with this evaluation. If any cultural resources are discovered during project construction those activities will cease, and REA and the SHPO will be contacted. Work will not resume until approval from the SHPO and REA have been received. Based on the above information, REA has determined that the proposed project will have no effect on properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

### 3.9 Human Health and Safety

A number of investigations and research projects relative to biological effects of electric and magnetic fields on humans, plants and animals have been conducted over the past decade, and a number of others are underway. To date, however, no conclusive evidence of harmful biological effects due to exposure to transmission line generated electric or magnetic fields have been identified. REA is not aware of any conclusive findings which indicated that exposure to electromagnetic and electrostatic fields near transmission lines result in any harmful effects to humans, animals or plants. Based on more than 20 years of research, the majority of scientific evidence indicates that electromagnetic fields due to transmission lines are not health hazards. Therefore, REA anticipates no discernible biological effects due to this project.

### 4.0 Consultation and Coordination

Pumas-Sierra advertised the availability of its BER for comments on the environmental aspects of the project in several local newspapers. No comments were received within 30 days of notice.

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Plumas-Sierra also requested comments on the proposed project from the following agencies and authorities:

1. Soil Conservation Service
2. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
3. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4. Federal Emergency Management Agency
5. Federal Aviation Administration
6. Forest Service
7. Bureau of Land Management
8. California State Historic Preservation Officer
9. California Department of Fish and Game
10. California Archaeological Inventory
11. California Department of Transportation
12. Lassen County Planning Department
13. Plumas County Planning Department

No adverse comments were received. All comments were incorporated in the project planning and discussed and resolved in the preparation of its Environmental Assessment.

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
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U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Rural Electrification Administration  
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
Finding of No Significant Impact

Agency: Rural Electrification Administration

Action: Finding of No Significant Impact

Summary: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Part 1500-1508), and REA Environmental Policy and Procedures (7 CFR Part 1794), has made a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) with respect to the construction of a 69 kV transmission line and associated facilities by Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (Plumas-Sierra). The proposed facilities would be constructed in Plumas and Lassen Counties, California.

For information contact: REA's FONSI and Environmental Assessment (EA) and Plumas-Sierra's Borrower's Environmental Report (BER) may be reviewed at the office of the Director, Southwest Area - Electric, Room 0207, South Agriculture Building, Rural Electrification Administration, Washington, D.C. 20250.

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telephone (202) 382-8848; or at the office of Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, (Bernard W. Pfile, Manager), P. O. Box 2000, Portola, California, 96122-2000, telephone (916) 832-4261, during regular business hours.

Copies of the EA and FONSI can be obtained from either of the contacts listed above. Any comments or questions should be directed to the REA contact.

Supplementary Information:

REA has reviewed the BER submitted by Plumas-Sierra and determined that it represents an accurate assessment of the environmental impact of the proposed project. The proposed project consists of constructing approximately 51.2 km (32 miles) of 69 kV transmission line between the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations in Plumas and Lassen Counties, California. Possible REA actions might include providing financing assistance to Plumas-Sierra for the proposed project and approving construction contracts, power supply contracts, etc., related to implementation and utilization of the proposed facilities. The BER and EA adequately consider potential impacts of the proposed project to resources including, but not limited to, threatened and endangered species, prime farmland, prime forest land, prime rangeland, cultural resources, floodplains, and wetlands.

Alternatives examined included no action, rebuilding the existing 69 kV transmission line, building a new line adjacent to the existing 69 kV transmission line and removing the existing line, constructing a new line:

|               |      |
|---------------|------|
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between the Chilcove and Herlong Substations (proposed project) and alternate routes. After reviewing the engineering, economic and environmental aspects of these alternatives, REA determined that the proposed project is an acceptable alternative that meets Plumas-Sierra's needs with a minimum of environmental impact.

In accordance with REA's Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR Part 1794, Plumas-Sierra advertised the availability of its BER in the local newspapers. No comments were received.

Based upon the BER and other data, REA prepared an EA and FONSI concerning the proposed construction. REA independently evaluated the proposed project and concluded that approval of financing assistance for the project would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

This program is listed in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance under No. 10.850 - Rural Electrification Loans and Loan Guarantees. For the reasons set forth in the final rule related notice to 7 CFR 3015 Subpart V., this program is excluded from the scope of Executive Order 12372 which requires intergovernmental consultation with state and local officials.

Dated: DEC 23 1987

HAROLD V. HENNER

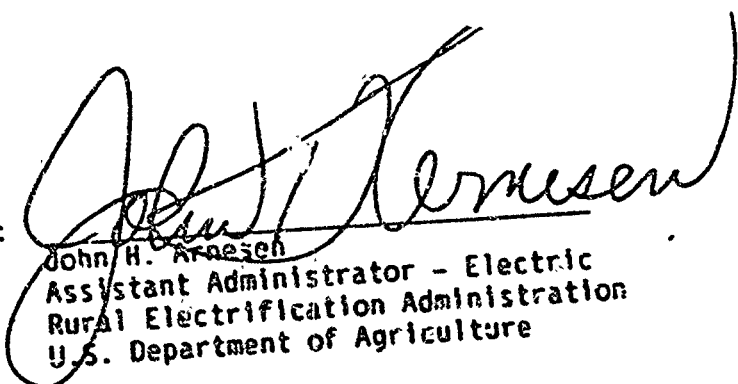
Administrator

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Finding of No Significant Impact  
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
California 16 Plumas

Chicoot-Herlong 69 kV Transmission Line  
and Associated Facilities

Approved by:

  
John H. Arnesen

Assistant Administrator - Electric  
Rural Electrification Administration  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

12/22/87  
Date

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## Finding of No Significant Impact

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (Plumas-Sierra) of Portola, California has requested approval from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) to construct 51.2 km (32 miles) of 69 kV transmission line and associated facilities. The proposed line would extend from the Chilcoot Substation in Plumas County to the Herlong Substation in Lassen County. Associated facilities would include the removal of the existing 12.5/7.2 kV distribution line structures and underbuilding the distribution circuit on the proposed transmission line. Substation modifications would also be made to the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations.

The environmental effects of the project are discussed and evaluated in the Borrower's Environmental Report (BER) and other support documents prepared by Plumas-Sierra. The REA staff has reviewed this information and prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) which represents an independent evaluation of the environmental effects of the proposed project. A copy of the EA is attached to and incorporated as part of this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

REA has determined that the proposed project will not affect wetlands, floodplains, important farmland, prime rangeland or forestland, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat, and any property listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Visual impact from construction of the proposed line would be unavoidable. However, it would be minimal. No other issues of environmental concern were identified by REA.

Alternatives examined for the proposed project include no action, rebuilding the existing 69 kV line, building a new line adjacent to the existing 69 kV transmission line and removing the existing line, constructing a new line between the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations and alternate routes. REA has concluded that the overall positive benefits of the project implementation outweigh the negative impacts associated with the project. Construction and operation of the proposed facility would not, in REA's judgment, result in any unacceptable environmental impact. In accordance with REA's Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR Part 1794, Plumas-Sierra advertised the availability of its BER in newspapers of general circulation in the project area. Comments were solicited from the public. No comments were received within 30 days of the notice.

REA has independently evaluated the proposed project and has concluded that approval of the project would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. REA reached a FONSI in accordance with 7 CFR Sections 1794.33 (a)(7) and 1794.63. The preparation of an environmental impact statement is not necessary.

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## Finding of No Significant Impact

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative (Plumas-Sierra) of Portola, California has requested approval from the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) to construct 51.2 km (32 miles) of 69 kV transmission line and associated facilities. The proposed line would extend from the Chilcoot Substation in Plumas County to the Herlong Substation in Lassen County. Associated facilities would include the removal of the existing 12.5/7.2 kV distribution line structures and underbuilding the distribution circuit on the proposed transmission line. Substation modifications would also be made to the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations.

The environmental effects of the project are discussed and evaluated in the Borrower's Environmental Report (BER) and other support documents prepared by Plumas-Sierra. The REA staff has reviewed this information and prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) which represents an independent evaluation of the environmental effects of the proposed project. A copy of the EA is attached to and incorporated as part of this Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

REA has determined that the proposed project will not affect wetlands, floodplains, important farmland, prime rangeland or forestland, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat, and any property listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Visual impact from construction of the proposed line would be unavoidable. However, it would be minimal. No other issues of environmental concern were identified by REA.

Alternatives examined for the proposed project include no action, rebuilding the existing 69 kV line, building a new line adjacent to the existing 69 kV transmission line and removing the existing line, constructing a new line between the Chilcoot and Herlong Substations and alternate routes. REA has concluded that the overall positive benefits of the project implementation outweigh the negative impacts associated with the project. Construction and operation of the proposed facility would not, in REA's judgment, result in any unacceptable environmental impact. In accordance with REA's Environmental Policies and Procedures, 7 CFR Part 1794, Plumas-Sierra advertised the availability of its BER in newspapers of general circulation in the project area. Comments were solicited from the public. No comments were received within 30 days of the notice.

REA has independently evaluated the proposed project and has concluded that approval of the project would not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. REA reached a FONSI in accordance with 7 CFR Sections 1794.33 (a)(7) and 1794.63. The preparation of an environmental impact statement is not necessary.

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United States Department of the Interior  
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
 CARSON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE  
 1535 Hot Springs Rd., Ste. 300  
 Carson City, NV 89703-0638

EXHIBIT "F"  
 W 24517



IN REPLY REFER TO

CA-22472  
 2800  
 (NV-03337)

JAN 18 1990

REC'D FEB 18 1990

CERTIFIED MAIL  
 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Bernie Pfile  
 General Manager  
 Plumas - Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative  
 P.O. Box 2000  
 Fortola, CA 96122-2000

Dear Mr. Pfile:

The enclosed right-of-way grant will be subject to the terms and conditions contained therein. If you concur with the stipulations, please sign and return both copies of the grant to this office. If you do not concur, submit your objections and recommendations for review and consideration.

A bill is enclosed for a one-time fee of \$100.00 for monitoring the construction, operation, maintenance and termination of the right-of-way.

An executed copy of the grant will be returned to you upon our receipt of the signed grants and fee. We wish to emphasize that only existing roadways are to be used to access the subject lands. If you have any questions, please contact Joanna Buel of this office at 882-1631.

Sincerely yours,

*James W. Elliott*

James W. Elliott  
 District Manager

- 2 Enclosures  
 1. Grant (2)  
 2. Bill

cc John McGowan (original copy)  
 FOR: ROWS

JUST 1-22-90

PAUL SMITH

1000 mi.

CALENDAR PAGE Full  
 MINUTE PAGE 2984

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
RIGHT-OF-WAY GRANT/TEMPORARY USE PERMIT

Issuing Office Carson City District  
1535 Hot Springs Road, Suite  
Carson City, NV 89706  
Serial Number  
CA-22472

1. A (right-of-way) (permit) is hereby granted pursuant to:

- a.  Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976 (90 Stat. 2776; 43 U.S.C. 1701);
- b.  Section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (39 U.S.C. 185);
- c.  Other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

2. Nature of Interest:

a. By this instrument, the holder PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE receives a permit to construct, operate, maintain, and terminate a 69/116 kV transmission line on public lands (or Federal land for MLA Rights-of-Way) described as follows:

Mount Diablo Meridian

T. 22 N., R. 17 E.,  
sec. 3, lot 1, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 4, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 5, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 6, lots 2 and 3;  
sec. 10, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

T. 23 N., R. 17 E.,  
sec. 2, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 11, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 14, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 15, E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 22, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 27, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 34, E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{4}$ .

T. 24 N., R. 17 E.,  
sec. 25, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

b. The right-of-way or permit area granted herein is 75 feet wide, 36,955 feet long and contains 65.39 acres, more or less. If a site type facility, the facility contains \_\_\_\_\_ acres.

c. This instrument shall terminate on \_\_\_\_\_ 30 years from its effective date unless, prior thereto, it is relinquished, abandoned, terminated, or modified pursuant to the terms and conditions of this instrument or of any applicable Federal law or regulation.

d. This instrument  may  may not be renewed. If renewed, the right-of-way or permit shall be subject to the regulations existing at the time of renewal and any other terms and conditions that the authorized officer deems necessary to protect the public interest.

e. Notwithstanding the expiration of this instrument or any renewal thereof, entry relinquishment, abandonment, or termination, the provisions of this instrument, to the extent applicable, shall continue in effect and shall be binding on the holder, its successors, or assigns, until they have fully satisfied the obligations and/or liabilities accruing herein before or on account of the expiration, or prior termination, of the grant.

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STANDARD STIPULATIONS

1. This grant is subject to all valid rights existing on the effective date of this grant.
2. The right to grant additional rights-of-way or permits for compatible use on, over, under, or adjacent to the land involved in this grant is reserved to the Authorized Officer.
3. The Holder shall conduct all activities associated with the construction, operation, and termination of the right-of-way within the authorized limits of the right-of-way.
4. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the Holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the Authorized Officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the Authorized Officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the Authorized Officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The Holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures will be made by the Authorized Officer after consulting with the Holder.
5. Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the Authorized Officer, powerlines shall be constructed in accordance to standards outlined in "Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Powerlines," Raptor Research Foundation, Inc., 1981. The Holder shall assume the burden and expense of proving that pole designs not shown in the above publication are "eagle safe." Such proof shall be provided by a raptor expert approved by the Authorized Officer. The BLM reserves the right to require modifications or additions to all powerline structures placed on this right-of-way, should they be necessary to ensure the safety of large perching birds. Such modifications and/or additions shall be made by the Holder without liability or expense to the United States. The Holder shall report any and all wildlife kills, including raptor electrocutions, discovered or reported on or near the project facilities to the Authorized Officer.
6. In case of change of address, the Holder shall immediately notify the Authorized Officer.
7. Prior to abandonment of any portion of the facilities authorized by this grant, the Holder shall contact the Authorized Officer to arrange a joint inspection of the right-of-way. The inspection will be held to agree on an acceptable rehabilitation plan. The Authorized Officer must approve the plan in writing prior to the Holder commencing any abandonment and/or rehabilitation activities.

SPECIAL STIPULATIONS

1. The Holder shall not clear any vegetation from the right-of-way. All vehicular travel shall be overland along the right-of-way.
2. Construction of the powerline from the Diatomics Plant to State Route 70 shall not occur during the time period of November 15 through March 31 to reduce impacts to wildlife in the area.
3. During the month of November following construction, the Holder shall reseed and rake all areas disturbed as a result of construction activities. The following seed mixture and rates of application shall be used:

Intermediate Wheatgrass  
(6 lbs. per acre - Pure Live Seed (PLS))

Crested Wheatgrass (highcrest var.)  
(6 lbs. per acre (PLS))

Sainfoin  
(2 lbs. per acre (PLS))

Alfalfa (ladak var.)  
(1 lb. per acre (PLS))

4. The Holder shall use clean creosote-treated powerpoles.
5. The Holder shall repair any fence to original condition that has been damaged within the right-of-way area as a result of construction activities.
6. Trees within the right-of-way area, which are necessary for wildlife cover, shall not be removed by the Holder unless absolutely necessary.
7. Cultural resources site CA-LAS-1386 shall be spanned using two 3-pole wooden structures to be constructed in accordance with the plans marked Exhibit D.

3 Rental.

For and in consideration of the rights granted, the holder agrees to pay the Bureau of Land Management fair market value rental as determined by the authorized officer unless specifically exempted from such payment by regulation. Provided, however, that the rental may be adjusted by the authorized officer, whenever necessary, to reflect changes in the fair market rental value as determined by the application of sound business management principles, and as far as practicable and feasible, in accordance with comparable commercial practices.

4 Terms and Conditions:

- a. This grant or permit is issued subject to the holder's compliance with all applicable regulations contained in Title 43 Code of Federal Regulations, sections 2800 and 2880.
- b. Upon grant termination by the authorized officer, all improvements shall be removed from the public lands within 90 days, or otherwise disposed of as provided in paragraph (4)(d) or as directed by the authorized officer.
- c. Each grant issued pursuant to the authority of paragraph (1)(a) for a term of 20 years or more shall, at a minimum, be reviewed by the authorized officer at the end of the 20th year and at regular intervals thereafter not to exceed 10 years. Provided, however, that a right-of-way or permit granted herein may be reviewed at any time deemed necessary by the authorized officer.
- d. The stipulations, plans, maps, or designs set forth in Exhibits A, B, and C, dated December 18, 1989 attached hereto, are incorporated into and made a part of this grant instrument as fully and effectively as if they were set forth herein in their entirety.
- e. Failure of the holder to comply with applicable law or any provision of this right-of-way grant or permit shall constitute grounds for suspension or termination thereof.
- f. The holder shall perform all operations in a good and workmanlike manner so as to ensure protection of the environment and the health and safety of the public.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The undersigned agrees to the terms and conditions of this right-of-way grant or permit.

[Signature]  
(Signature of Holder)

PLUMMER - ERIC R. C.  
CONTRACT MANAGER  
(Title)

1-19-90  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Authorized Officer)

District Manager, Carson City District  
(Title)


\_\_\_\_\_  
(Effective Date of Grant)

CALENDAR PAGE 504  
2788

RECEIVED APR 23 1990

III. DECISION RECORD/FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

The Environmental Assessment prepared by Power Engineers, Inc., reveals the lack of significant impacts resulting from the proposed action as mitigated; therefore, no environmental impact statement is required. The proposal has been found to be in the public interest and therefore approved as recommended.

  
James M. Phillips  
Area Manager  
Lahontan Resource Area

Date: 4/5/89

CALENDAR PAGE 505  
MINUTE PAGE 2989



PROJECT MONITORING PROGRAM  
PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
PROPOSED 69KV TRANSMISSION LINE  
CHILCOCT, PLUMAS COUNTY TO HERLONG, LASSEN COUNTY  
W 24517

**Impact:** During construction of the transmission line, 2' x 2' x 8' holes will be drilled in the soil for placement of the transmission poles. A total of .025 acres will be disturbed during the route construction. The majority of the soil disturbance will occur on grasslands.

**Project Modification:**  
The soil will be backfilled with the excavated material. Any remaining material will be spread about the immediate area. Reseeding and raking will be done in accordance with specifications already stipulated by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and agreed to by Plumas Sierra. For example, the following seed mixture and rates of application will be followed:

Intermediate Wheatgrass  
(5 lbs. per cre - Pure Live Seed (PLS))

Crested Wheatgrass (highcrest var.)  
(6 lbs. per acre (PLS))

Sainfoin  
(2 lbs. per acre (PLS))

Alfalfa (ladak var.)  
(1 lb. per acre (PLS)).

**Monitoring:**

Plumas Sierra will contract with a qualified biologist who will inspect sites which have been backfilled and reseeded to ensure that proper application rates and seed mixtures have been followed. The biologist will file a compliance verification report with the State Lands Commission staff upon completion of such inspections.

Project Monitoring Program  
Page Two  
W 34517

**Impact:** During the construction and placement of the transmission line, some grassland areas will be disturbed.

**Project Modification:**

The soil will be backfilled with the excavated material. Any remaining material will be spread about the immediate area. Reseeding and raking will be done in accordance with specifications already stipulated by the Bureau of Lan Management (BLM) and agreed to by Plumas Sierra. For example, the following seed mixture and rates of application will be followed:

Intermediate Wheatgrass  
(6 lbs. per acre - Pure Live Seed (PLS))

Crested Wheatgrass (highcrest var.)  
(6 lbs. per acre (PLS))

Sainfoin  
(2 lbs. per acre (PLS))

Alfalfa (ladak var.)  
(1 lb. per acre (PLS)).

**Monitoring:**

Plumas Sierra will contract with a qualified biologist who will inspect sites which have been backfilled and reseeded to ensure that proper application rates and seed mixtures have been followed. The biologist will file a compliance verification report with the State Lands Commission staff upon completion of such inspections.

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| CALENDAR PAGE  | 507  |
| LOG SHEET PAGE | 2751 |

Project Monitoring Program  
Page Three  
W 24517

**Impact:** The proposed route of the transmission line will cross through a portion of the key deer and antelope wintering range.

**Project Modification:**

The Bureau of Land Management has requested that construction activities not occur from November 15 through March 31 to reduce impacts to this area. Any deviation from this requirement must be approved by the Bureau of Land Management.

**Monitoring:**

Spot checks will be made during this period to verify that no construction has occurred. Person(s) designated by State Lands Commission staff will perform the checks.

**Impact:** During the drilling of the holes for the transmission line, an increase in the ambient noise level will increase.

**Project Modification:**

Applicant has agreed to limit the hours of construction activities to weekdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. when construction activities occur in and around the town of Doyle.

**Monitoring:**

Any complaint of construction noise between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. will be investigated by designated staff of the State Lands Commission.

**Impact:** The construction corridor of the transmission line between Chilcoot and Herlong will occur through rural areas of Plumas and Lassen Counties, mostly within the Long Valley area.

**Project Modification:**

The transmission line has been routed to utilize existing contour features for concealment where possible, particularly in the area of Highway 395 south of Red Rock. Both Plumas and Lassen County Planning Commissions have found that the proposed transmission route is consistent with their General Plans.

Amended 9/27/90

(REVISED 9/27/90)

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| ABSOLUTE PAGE | 2392 |

Project Monitoring Program  
Page Four  
W 24517

**Monitoring:**

A post-construction as-built survey will be submitted to staff of the State Lands Commission which will confirm proper line placement.

**Impact:** Cultural resource site CA-LAS-1386 has been identified within the construction corridor, and may be impacted.

**Project Modification:**

The cultural resources site will be avoided utilizing two, 3-pole wooden structures to avoid damaging the site. The California Office of Historic Preservation has agreed that the proposed pole placement will have no effect on historic properties. Applicant will provide an archaeological monitor to be present during pole siting and excavation in the vicinity of CA-LAS-1386, pursuant to a November 28, 1989 recommendation from the California Office of Historic Preservation.

Applicant will suspend all operations in the immediate construction area if any cultural and/or paleontological resources are discovered. Upon discovery of a potentially significant resource, REA and SHPO will be contacted. Construction activities will not resume until approval from SHPO and REA have been received.

**Monitoring:**

See Project Modification. Archaeological monitor will file report with the State Lands Commission staff to verify avoidance of site.

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| MINUTE PAGE   | 2773 |





EXHIBIT "H"  
W 24517

# PLUMAS-SIERRA REA

## LONG VALLEY PROJECT 69KV TRANSMISSION LINE

### REPORT ON FIELD INVESTIGATION FOR POTENTIAL BANK SWALLOW HABITAT

PREPARED BY  
SEA CONSULTING ENGINEERS  
SPARKS NEVADA

AUGUST 1990

Reno/Sparks, Nevada  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Phoenix, Arizona

(ADDED 509.1-509.19)

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| CALENDAR PAGE | 509.1 |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2994  |



Consulting Engineers

950 INDUSTRIAL WAY  
SPARKS, NEVADA 89431-6092  
(702) 358-6931  
FAX: 358-6954

August 29, 1990  
Project No. 2093-01-1

**POWER ENGINEERS INCORPORATED**  
P.O. Box 1066  
Hailey, Idaho 83333

Attn: Mr. Frank Rowland  
Project Manager

Re: Plumas-Sierra REA Long Valley Project  
Bank Swallow Habitat Investigation

Dear Mr. Rowland:

This letter transmits our attached report addressing the field investigation conducted by our subconsultant, ornithologist Dr. Owen A. Knorr. Dr. Knorr's credentials are included in the appendix of this report. He is clearly an eminent ornithologist with experience in this area and with the target species.

The report concludes that there is no evidence of the threatened bird species Bank Swallow within or immediately adjacent to the planned alignment of the Chilcoot-Herlong Long Valley project power line.

This investigation and report was prepared in response to Power Engineer's request and addressed Environmental Analysis document review comments made by California Fish and Game representatives. Fish and Game comments were directed toward concerns as to project impacts on potential Bank Swallow populations in the proposed right-of-way.

Dr. Knorr and SEA representatives, Jack Sorensen, P.E., and Rich Shock, planner, participated in a conference call with Mr. Tom Stone, California Regional Fish and Game, Redding, California. The conference provided scope and direction for the field investigation.

Sincerely,

SEA, INCORPORATED  
Consulting Engineers

*Jack Sorensen*  
Jack D. Sorensen, P.E.

RICHARD W. ARDEN, P.E.  
President

RONALD D. BYRD, P.E.  
Executive Vice President

JOE W. HOWARD, P.E.  
Senior Vice President

HARRY R. ERICSON, P.L.S.  
Senior Vice President

LARRY J. JOHNSON  
Vice President

JDS:jk

Enclosures

Reno/Sparks  
Las Vegas  
Phoenix

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| CALENDAR PAGE | 509.2 |
| MINUTE PAGE   | 2995  |



# UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA-RENO

Department of Biology  
College of Arts and Science  
University of Nevada-Reno  
Reno, Nevada 89557-0015  
(702) 784-6188

28 August 80

SEA Engineers, Inc.  
950 Industrial Way  
Sparks, Nevada

ATTN: Jack Sorensen  
Rich Shock

Gentlemen:

In accordance with our agreement, I have investigated the right-of-way of the Chilcoot/Herlong REA power line project for evidences of Bank Swallow habitat and breeding season residence.

My report including characteristics of the species, investigation procedures, findings, and conclusions is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

*Owen A. Knorr*

Dr. Owen A. Knorr  
Professor Emeritus of Biology  
Director, Institute of Alpine Ecology

Encl

|               |       |
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**REPORT ON FIELD INVESTIGATIONS**  
**REGARDING POTENTIAL BANK SWALLOW HABITAT**  
**FLUMAS-SIERRA REA LONG VALLEY PROJECT**  
**CHILCOOT/NERLONG**

**THE ASSIGNMENT**

To determine the presence or absence of a threatened California species of bird, the Bank Swallow, in the right-of-way of said power line and, if present, to suggest construction mitigation measures as needed to avoid impacting the species.

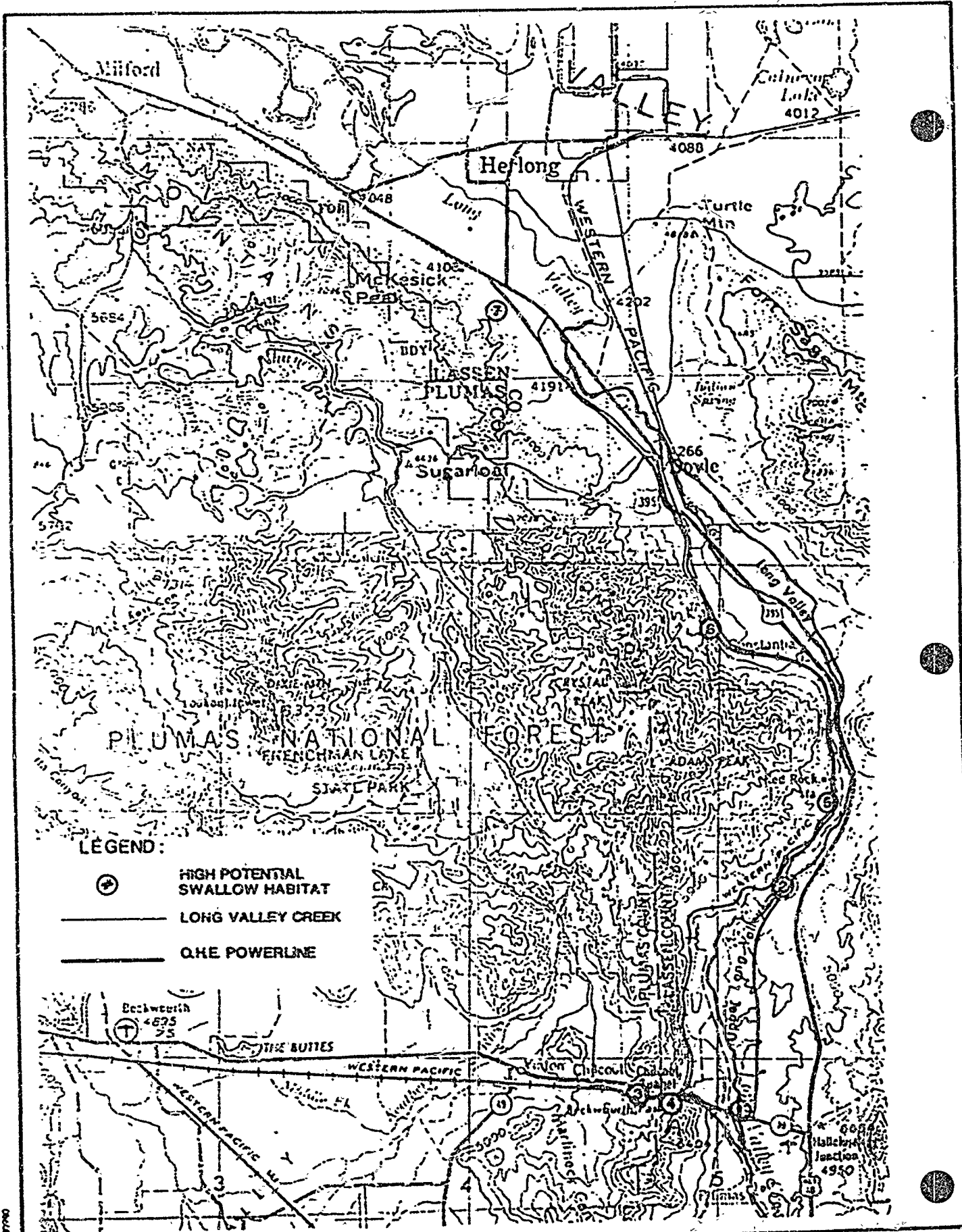
**THE SPECIES**

The Bank Swallow (Riparia riparia) is widely distributed in North America, Europe, Eurasia, and northern Africa. However, due to habitat destruction of human activity, the species has recently (1989) been designated as threatened in the state of California.

As its scientific name implies, the species nests in riparian (streamside) situations where the surrounding countryside is sufficiently mesic (moist) to provide the necessary volume of airborne insects on which they feed. The birds excavate burrows two or three inches in diameter in vertical stream banks, occasionally in highway cuts, and less often in borrow pits. The nesting burrows extend a foot or more into the bank and are usually placed near the top of the embankment. Although they nest individually, they are colonial birds and up to a half dozen or more burrows are usually found in the immediate vicinity. They will not nest in a bank that is not sheer since ledges of any sort would permit terrestrial marauders to plunder the nests. Also, the banks chosen are usually seven or eight feet or more in height.







DATAPRINT 142790



RENO/SPARKS, NEVADA  
 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA  
 PHOENIX, ARIZONA

**PLUMAS-SIERRA REA  
 LONG VALLEY PROJECT  
 BANK SWALLOW HABITAT INVESTIGATION**

Project No. 2093-01-1  
**CALENDAR PAGE 5 JUL 5**  
**MINUTE PAGE 2 198**

Collectively, these nesting characteristics make determinations as to the presence or absence of Bank Swallow colonies fairly straightforward. However, it should be noted that Rough-winged Swallows, Kingfishers, rodents, and other forms nest in somewhat similar burrows in banks, and one therefore must carefully examine evidence prior to making determinations.

### THE SETTING

Most of the proposed power line (29 miles) lies in the Long Valley through which Long Valley Creek flows. This stream rises northwest of Peavine Mountain and flows generally north for more than 40 miles, emptying into Honey Lake, a playsa basin. The Long Valley is filled to a depth of 40 feet or more with glacial alluvium from the Late Pleistocene into which Long Valley Creek has cut entrenched meanders. These vertical stream banks appear superficially to be ideal for the Bank Swallow. However, the region receives only seven-inches of moisture a year on average and the terrain surrounding the stream is true desert. The dominant vegetation is sage (Artemisia), Bitterbrush (Purshia), Rabbit Brush (Chrysothamnus), Mormon Tea (Ephedra), and other arid species. The only arborescent (tree-like) plants are junipers (Juniperus) and occasional cottonwoods (Populus) and pine (Pinus). A number of dry-land grass species are also present.

In spite of the desert-like conditions prevailing over most of the easement, there is a small portion of the terrain at the 17-mile point (Poles 17/8-17/13) where a hot spring outflow has been used to create a lush meadow of grass. Also, from mile 20 to mile 26, irrigation along the Constantia Road has created alfalfa and hay fields more typical of bank Swallow foraging grounds, but none of the other riparian elements associated with the nesting ground of the bird is present.

Docile most of the time, Long Valley Creek is subject to periodic flooding of dramatic proportions. In February 1986, it went far beyond its banks washing out several sections of

U.S. Highway 395 and destroying a bridge north of Doyle. This has importance for Bank Swallow habitat since these events cut down existing stream banks and establish new ones.

### SEASONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Although the field investigations were conducted at the end of the nesting season, numerous swallows of other species were observed allaying concerns that the absence of Bank Swallows was due to their departure for the winter.

### FIELD WORK

The right-of-way was surveyed in three ways: aerial overflight, automobile, and on foot.

**Aerial:** The entire easement was overflown at 900 feet AGL in both directions to locate roads providing easiest access and to locate possible Bank Swallow habitat which might be difficult to see from the ground. Also, a better understanding of the topography of the easement in terms of Bank Swallow habitat was a major objective.

**Automobile and On Foot:** The entire right-of-way was viewed on the ground either from a vehicle or on foot. Binoculars were employed to verify habitat details when at a distance. To facilitate the locating of all potential Bank Swallow habitat, the aerial photo strips and engineering power line profiles provided by Power Engineers were consulted constantly.

### FINDINGS

More than 99 percent of the right-of-way is unsuitable for Bank Swallow habitat because of its desert-like nature. There are two exceptions which will be identified with site numbers and more specifically with pole numbers (see map).



Site 1 - The first crossing of Long Valley Creek by the easement occurs adjacent to the highway bridge over Long Valley Creek on State Route 70. This is also between poles 5/12 and 5/13. At this point, there is an embankment about six feet high containing a burrow within the easement (see aerial photo and habitat photo). However, according to the characteristics of Bank Swallow nesting sites, this bank is too low, and nowhere in the vicinity could any other burrows be found for this colonial bird. It is believed to be an abandoned Rough-winged Swallow burrow. No Bank Swallows were seen.

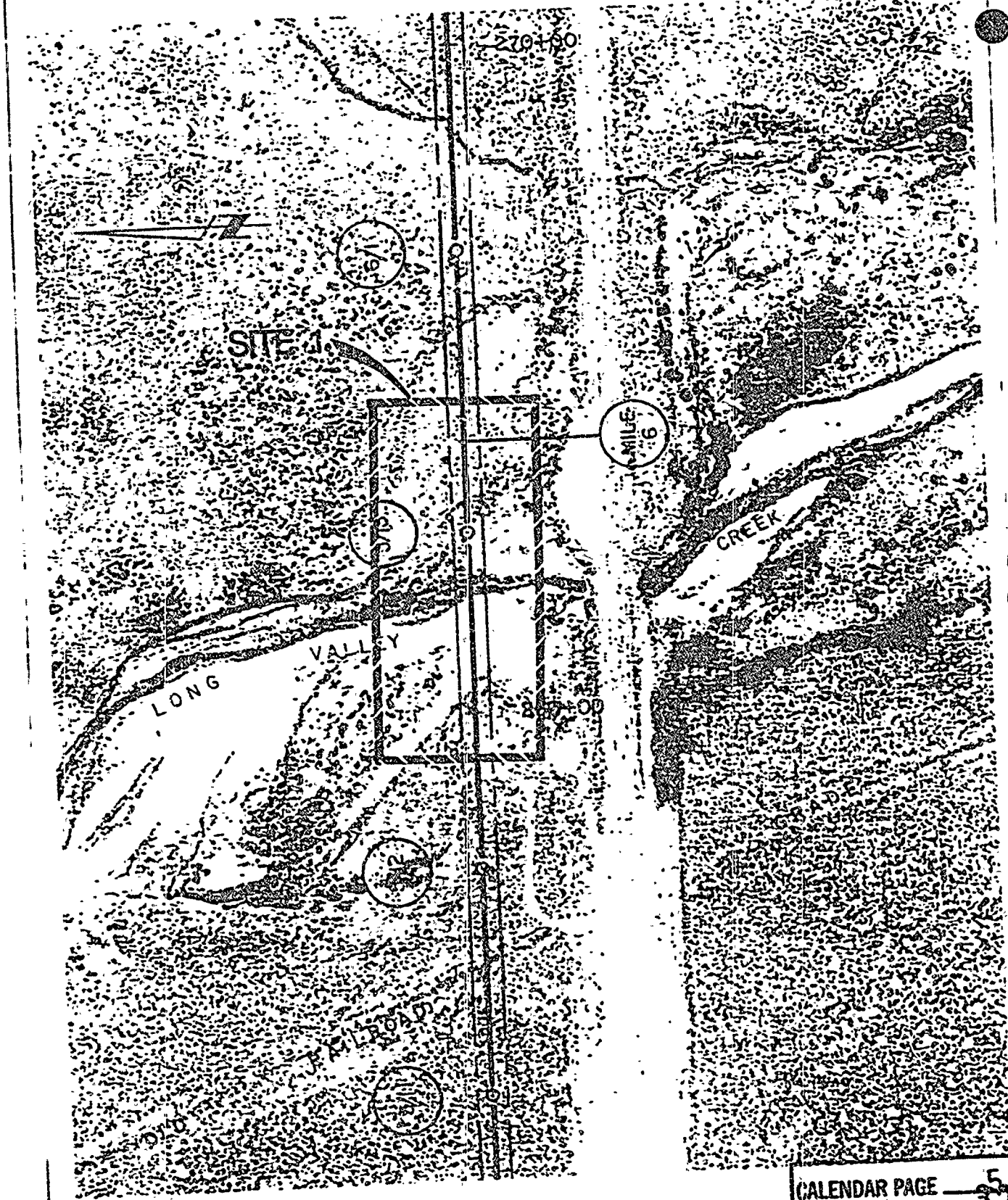
Site 2 - The second crossing of Long Valley Creek by the easement is immediately east of the Pozzolan Plant between poles 13/4 and 13/5. Here the embankment on both sides of the stream is high (12 to 15 feet) and pierced by a number of burrows. However, the embankment on the east side of the stream is cross-crossed by a number of ledges providing access by terrestrial predators and ground squirrels were seen in several of the burrows, (see aerial and habitat photos). These mammals were also very active and apparent in the burrows in the west side of the stream. No Bank Swallow burrows were found and no Bank Swallows were seen.

#### ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

Several other potential Bank Swallow habitation sites were located adjacent to the easement and they are described here to throw additional light on the question of the presence or absence of the Bank Swallow along the easement.

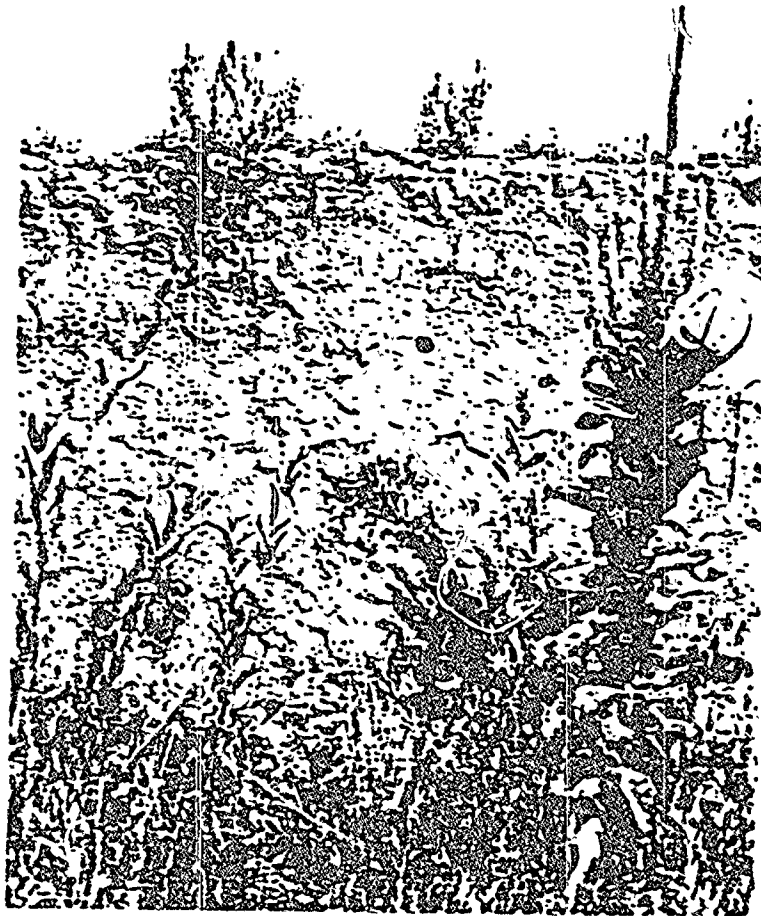
Site 3 - One hundred feet south of the easement at mile 3, the west entrance of the Beckwourth Tunnel of the Western Pacific Railroad provides embankments 25 to 30 feet high. Several burrows were examined at this site but they were not numerous enough nor free of ground access to belong to Bank Swallows. No Bank Swallows were seen in the area.





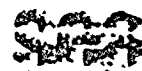
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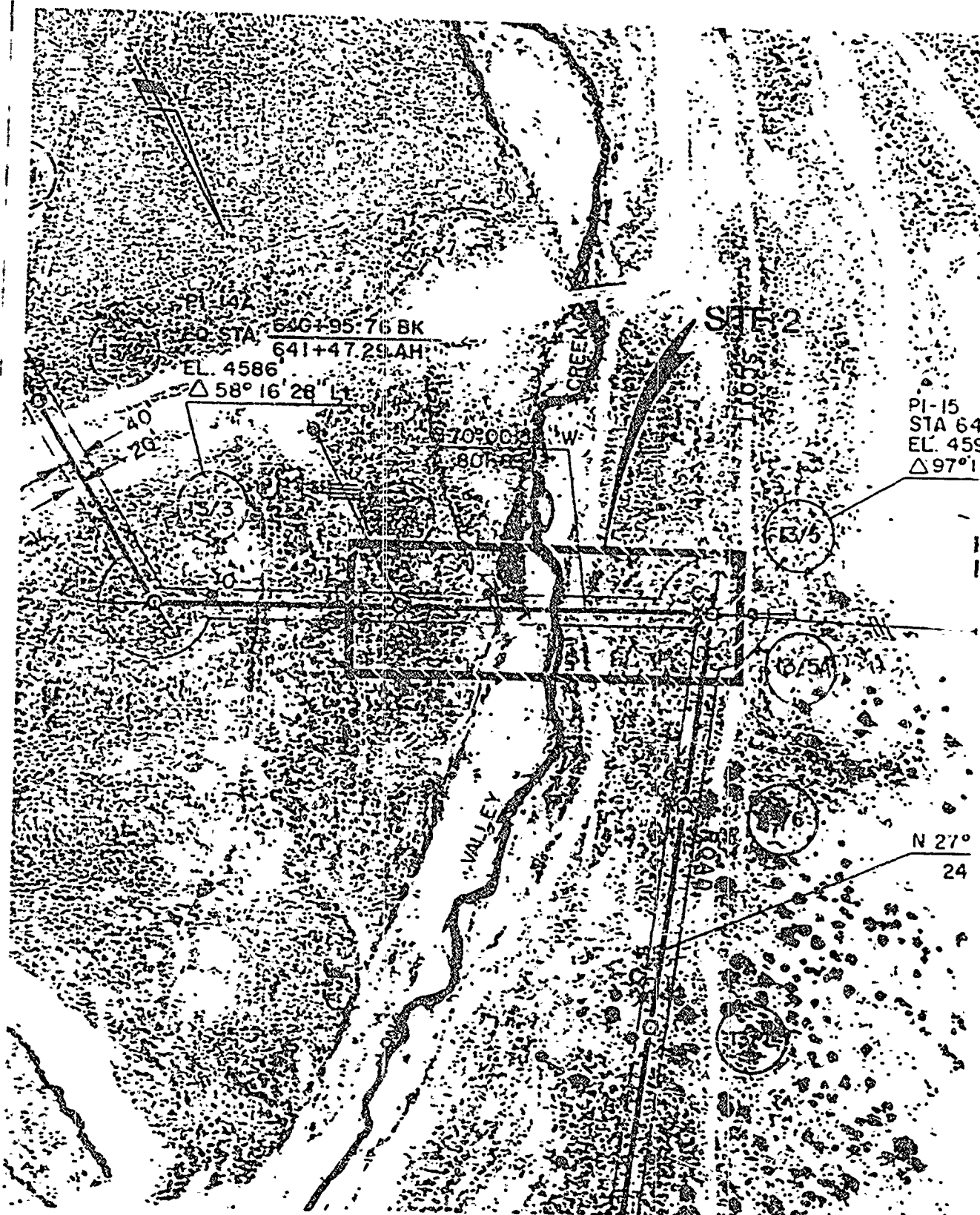




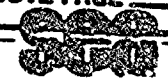
SITE 1  
EAST BANK, LONG VALLEY CREEK

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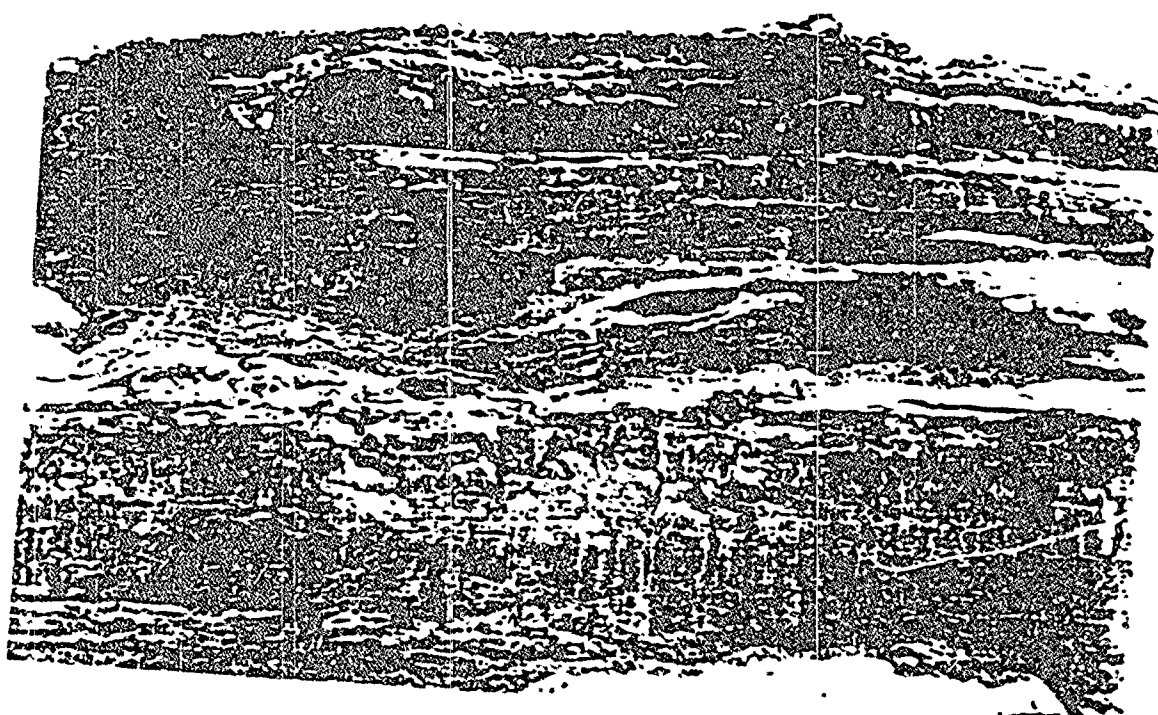




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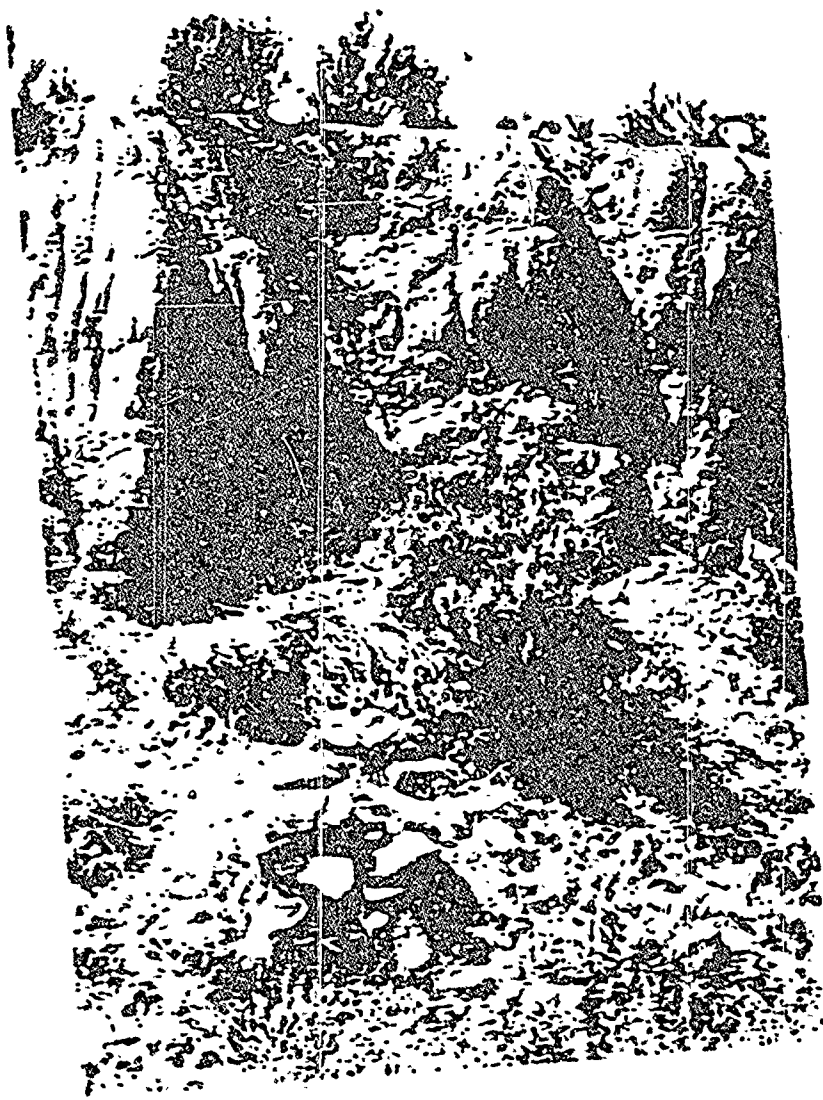


SITE 2  
EAST BANK, LONG VALLEY CREEK

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| MINUTE PAGE   | 3705   |

SEA





SITE 2  
WEST BANK, LONG VALLEY CREEK

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| MINUTE PAGE   | 3076  |

**SES**

Site 4 - In the 1970's, the highway cut at the summit of Beckwourth Pass contained an embankment with a number of burrows which to this traveler appeared to be a potential site for Bank Swallows, but never investigated. It is of interest that it has now been completely destroyed by off-road motorcycles and an impromptu motocross course. It lies several hundred feet west of the easement just west of mile 4.

Site 5 - Two hundred feet east of the right-of-way at pole 18/1, an embankment above Long Valley Creek possesses a number of burrows. However, one of them was occupied by a Kestrel (American Sparrow Hawk) (Falco sparverius) which preys on young Bank Swallows as they sit at the entrance of their burrow before taking their first flight. No Bank Swallows were seen and none was expected under these circumstances.

Site 6 - At pole 22/1, in the centerline of the easement, a flock of about 60 swallows was observed sitting on the existing power line. Most of them were Violet-Green Swallows (Tachycineta thalassina) which nest in holes in aspen trees nearby. Several are Barn Swallows (Hirundo rustica) and one was a Cliff Swallow (Petrochelidon pyrrhonota). This was an important discovery since it suggests that the absence of Bank Swallows was not because all the swallows had departed on their southward migration. No Bank Swallows were seen.

Site 7 - About 300 feet east of pole 32/15 in the sand and gravel pit adjacent to the Heriong Substation, an embankment was found with several burrows. However, they were easily accessible from the ground and the other nesting characteristics were absent. No Bank Swallows were seen.

In summary, no Bank Swallow colonies or Bank Swallow habitat were found in the course of these investigations of the right-of-way and none was found adjacent to the right-of-way. No Bank Swallows were observed during this field work.

## CONCLUSIONS

One can only conclude from these field investigations that:

1. There are no Bank Swallows or Bank Swallow habitat in the right-of-way of the proposed power line and, hence,
2. No construction mitigation measures will be required.

# APPENDIX

CALENDAR PAGE 505.16  
MINUTE PAGE 3009

SEA



OWEN ALBERT KNORR  
Background Information

EDUCATION

B.S. Colorado College - Biological Sciences (1951)  
M.S. University of Colorado - Biological Sciences (1953)  
Ph.D. University of Colorado - Biological Sciences (1956)

SCHOLASTIC

Phi Beta Kappa (junior year)  
magna cum laude  
Graduated 3rd of 383  
Fellow, National Science Foundation  
First recipient, Chapman Memorial Award, American Museum of  
Natural History (for ornithological research)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS -- PAST AND PRESENT

Statewide Higher Education Executive Officers Association  
Association for Institutional Research (Charter Member)  
American Conference of Academic Deans  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Institute of Biological Science  
Sigma Xi (scientific honorary)  
Phi Sigma (biological honorary)  
American Ornithologists Union  
Ecological Society of America

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (FULL-TIME)

Instructor in Biology, University of Colorado (1956-1958)  
Assistant Professor of Biology, University of Colorado (1958-1960)  
Associate Professor of Biology, University of Colorado (1960-1963)  
Professor of Biology, University of Colorado (1963-1965)  
Member, Graduate Faculty, University of Colorado (1961-1965)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (PART-TIME)

Assistant in Biology, Colorado College (1947-1951)  
Instructor in Biology, University of Colorado (1951-1956)  
Occasional Lecturer in Higher Education, State University of  
New York (1965-1968)  
Visiting Professor in Biological Science, California State  
University, Sacramento (1971) (1973-1974)  
Professor of Biology, University of Nevada (1975-

COURSES TAUGHT

Area of Primary Discipline - General Biology  
General Ecology  
Human Parasitology  
Ornithology  
Administrative Area - Problems & Issues in American  
Higher Education

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Surveying the blood Protozoa of western birds  
National Geographic Ornithological Expedition to the Mexican  
Border  
Distribution of the Black Swift in Western America  
Population dynamics of the Grasshopper Sparrow  
Research Associate, Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research,  
University of Colorado; engaged in studying the ecosystems  
of the Front Range of the Colorado Rocky Mountains and  
associated ecological problems (part-time under various  
contracts with Atomic Energy Commission; Snow, Ice and  
Permafrost Research Establishment; U.S. Army Quartermaster  
Corps Research and Development Office)  
General higher educational research in administration of insti-  
tutions and statewide systems of higher education

ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMITTEE EXPERIENCE

Chairman of Biology, University of Colorado, Denver Campus,  
(1956-1959)  
Chairman, Faculty-Administration Advisory Group, University of  
Colorado (1957-60)  
Chairman, Faculty Senate Committee on the Budget, University of  
Colorado (1963)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMITTEE EXPERIENCE continued

- Member, Special Faculty Liaison Committee to the Colorado State Legislature (1962-1963)
- Academic Dean, University of Colorado, Denver Campus (1958-1963)
- Director, Division of Higher Education, University of the State of New York (Staff of the Board of Regents) (1963-1968)
- Executive Director, California Coordinating Council for Higher Education (1968-1974)
- Member, Board of Governors, Institute for Technology and Society (1970-1972)
- Commissioner, Education Commission of the States (1970-1974)
- Member, Board of Governors, California Maritime Academy (1973-1974)
- Member, Executive Committee, International Council of Academic Institutions (1973-1976)
- Chairman, Articulation Board, University of Nevada (1974-1975)
- Chairman, Academic Standards Committee, University of Nevada (1974-1975)
- Member, Accrediting Teams, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, North-Central Association, and Middle States Association

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