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EAST COUNTY EDC

November 26, 2002

Ms. Irene Stillings
Executive Director
San Diego Regional Energy Office
8520 Tech Way
San Diego, CA 92123

Dear Ms. Stillings,

Addressing regional energy issues is critical to the business community in East County and the economic stability of the region. The San Diego Regional Energy Infrastructure Study is a useful tool in the continuous resource planning efforts and the on-going discussion of how to meet the region's growing energy needs. The report reaffirms the assessment of most energy industry participants that the region needs more energy infrastructure in the future.

Your study indicates that it is clear that the San Diego region needs more transmission to deliver already contracted-for energy. Indeed, the state has allocated several long-term power supply contracts to the San Diego area, minimizing the need for more local generation, but maximizing the need for additional transmission capacity. San Diego Gas & Electric is addressing the need for additional energy transmission infrastructure through its proposal for the Valley-Rainbow Interconnect, yet this critical piece of infrastructure has not been included in your report. The East County Economic Development Council (ECEDC) strongly urges you to support this urgently needed infrastructure project.

I hope that you will include this letter in your record. The ECEDC would like to join business organizations, labor organizations, and cities throughout the region in support of the Valley Rainbow Interconnect. At the ECEDC, planning for our region's energy future is essential. Our region's economic prosperity depends on it.

Sincerely,

Tony Ambrose
Chairman