



South Coast
Air Quality Management District

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March 18, 2009

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CPUC/USDA Forest Service
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
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Agoura Hills, CA 91301

**Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Statement(Draft EIR/EIS) for the
Proposed Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. SCAQMD staff reviewed the above document and has the following comment.

In Volume I Section 3.3 on page 3.3-26, the lead agency discusses Federal General Conformity Significance Criteria but does not include the general conformity document in the Draft EIR/EIS. SCAQMD staff contacted the lead agency and was told that the preferred alternative had not yet been selected by the lead agency. Therefore, the general conformity document was not prepared. Since this document was not available for review in the Draft EIR/EIS, the SCAQMD staff is unable to determine the adequacy of the general conformity document. Upon completion, please forward the general conformity document to the SCAQMD for review.

The SCAQMD staff would be happy to work with the Lead Agency, if necessary, to address this issue and any other questions that may arise. Please contact Gordon Mize, Air Quality Specialist – CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3302, if you have any questions regarding review of the Draft EIR/EIS. With regard to the general conformity, please contact Mr. Joe Cassmassi, Planning and Rules Manager, at (909) 396-3155 or Ms. Kathy Hsiao, Program Supervisor, at (909) 396-3056.

Sincerely,

Steve Smith, Ph.D.
Program Supervisor – CEQA Section
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

SS:GM

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