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**FILED**

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**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Application of  
San Diego Gas & Electric Company (U902E)  
for a Certificate of Public Convenience and  
Necessity for the South Orange County  
Reliability Enhancement Project.

Application 12-05-020  
(Filed May 18, 2012)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING GRANTING  
MOTIONS FILED BY THE CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO  
AND BY FOREST RESIDENTS OPPOSING  
NEW TRANSMISSION LINES**

This ruling disposes of applications for party status filed by the City of San Juan Capistrano (The City) on June 25, 2012, and by Forest Residents Opposing New Transmission Lines (FrontLines) on June 22, 2012. This ruling also disposes of The City's request for leave to late file its motion for party status. For the reasons set forth below, this ruling grants the requested motions.

San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) filed its application in this proceeding on May 18, 2012. Notice of the application first appeared in the May 21, 2012 Daily Calendar. Rule 2.6 of the California Public Utilities Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure provides that:

Unless otherwise provided by rule, decision, or General Order, a protest or response must be filed within 30 days of the date the notice of the filing of the application first appears in the Daily Calendar.

Therefore, protests to the application were due on June 20, 2012.<sup>1</sup> While FrontLines' June 22, 2012 Protest makes no mention of the June 20, 2012, deadline for filing protest, The City's June 25, 2012 Motion for Leave to File Late Protest acknowledges that protests were due on June 20, 2012.

Much of the confusion about the due date for protests can be explained by the statement on page 15 of SDG&E's May 18, 2012 application which states that protest are due on July 1, 2012, "30 days after notice." Given this misstatement, fairness demands that the late protests filed by The City and FrontLines be deemed timely.

FrontLines is an unincorporated association of residents and owners of private property within and in the vicinity of Cleveland National Forest. FrontLines asserts that the configuration of the proposed project has the potential to eliminate FrontLines' recommended alternative to the Talega-Escondido/Valley-Serrano project and that it has a direct and substantial interest in the proposed project.<sup>2</sup> For its part, The City notes that the Capistrano substation is located in the heart of the downtown and within well-established residential communities. The City asserts that it is interested in protecting the safety and welfare of its residents and assuring that the project is designed and approved with the least impacts to residents.

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<sup>1</sup> The Division of Ratepayer Advocates properly filed its protest on June 20, 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Though Decision 12-05-022 dismissed the application underlying the Talega-Escondido/Valley-Serrano project, FrontLines asserts a continuing interest in related matters before the Commission.

