

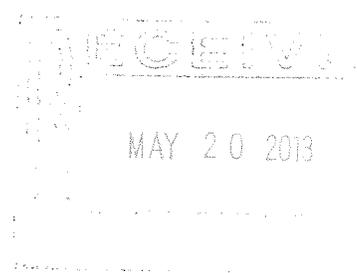


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May 8, 2013



Ms. Emma Howard
Department of Regional Planning
Los Angeles County
320 West Temple Street, Room 1354
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Draft Significant Ecological Area Ordinance—December 20, 2012

Dear Ms. Howard:

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) recently was made aware of the proposed draft ordinance and is submitting comments on the proposed Los Angeles County Draft Significant Ecological Area (SEA) Ordinance. The LADWP, the nation's largest municipal utility, provides power and water to more than four million residents and businesses in the City of Los Angeles. Our mission is to provide safe, reliable, affordable service in an environmentally sustainable manner.

The LADWP operates or receives power from generating facilities throughout the Southwest that includes wind generation in the Tehachapi Mountains, solar facilities in the desert, hydroelectric generation in the Owens Valley, and out-of-state power plants in Nevada, Utah, and the Pacific Northwest. Additional renewable facilities are currently in development to help the City meet its goals for renewable energy. To deliver this power to its customers, the LADWP owns and operates over 3,500 miles of high-voltage transmission and more than 10,000 miles of distribution lines. In addition, the LADWP operates two aqueducts that bring water to the City from the Owens Valley.

The LADWP owns and operates these existing facilities, most of which cross through land within the current and proposed SEA boundaries. These facilities require regular maintenance to remain safe and reliable. Meeting the increasing energy demands of the City will likely require the construction of additional facilities in the future. Proposed projects go through an intensive environmental review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and all impacts are mitigated to the greatest extent

Water and Power Conservation . . . a way of life

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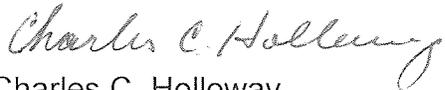
feasible. In addition, the LADWP obtains all necessary permits and works closely with agencies, including the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, to minimize and mitigate impacts. This coordination occurs for all projects, including maintenance of existing facilities. Because this vigorous environmental process meets the goals of the proposed SEA Ordinance, an exemption for the installation, operation, and maintenance of utility infrastructure should be included in the final Ordinance language.

Please add the LADWP to your mailing list at:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Ms. Julie Van Wagner of my staff at (213) 367-5295.

Sincerely,



Charles C. Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment

JVW:mg
c: Ms. Julie Van Wagner