

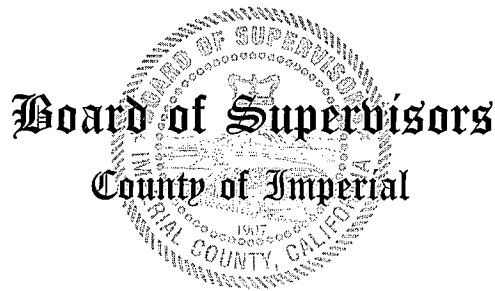
DISTRICT 1  
LOUIS FUENTES

DISTRICT 2  
JACK TERRAZAS

DISTRICT 3  
MICHAEL W. KELLEY

DISTRICT 4  
GARY WYATT

DISTRICT 5  
WALLY LEIMGRUBER



COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER

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February 2, 2010

The Honorable Tom Vilsack  
Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250

RE: The SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

The Imperial County Board of Supervisors is a strong supporter of the Sunrise Powerlink transmission line proposed by San Diego Gas & Electric, and approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on December 18, 2008 and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on January 20, 2009.

As you know, Imperial County has the capability of providing the State of California and the nation with thousands of megawatts of clean, green renewable energy. We are rich in geothermal resources and our potential for solar generated electricity is endless. However, without adequate transmission to export this clean renewable energy it will never be developed. The Sunrise Powerlink is just the first step in providing the necessary electric infrastructure to replace fossil fuel generation with renewable energy that has no harmful greenhouse gas emissions.

The County of Imperial and the many other supporters of the Sunrise Powerlink are anxiously waiting for the United States Forest Service (USFS) to issue a Record of Decision and Plan Amendment. While we understand the USFS has a responsibility to ensure the project has the least amount of environmental impacts on its lands, we hope you agree that it is time to move forward. In order for the Sunrise Powerlink to remain on schedule and begin construction this summer, the ROD must be issued as soon as possible.

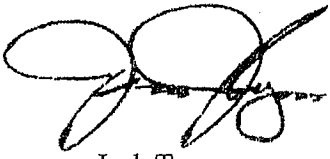
Imperial County is experiencing record high unemployment – currently exceeding 27 percent. The County is counting on the expansion of the renewable energy industry in our region to provide new jobs, higher wages, economic development opportunities and a larger tax base to fund the vital services our constituents need and deserve. Failure to approve and construct the Sunrise Powerlink would put several viable and badly-needed proposed projects in jeopardy. These projects would have a tremendous positive impact on the Imperial County by expanding an industry in the Imperial County that will be second only to agriculture.

Your immediate action of approving and issuing the USFS ROD and Plan Amendment for the Sunrise Powerlink would be a major step in moving our nation to a cleaner and greener energy future.

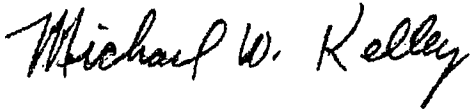
Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

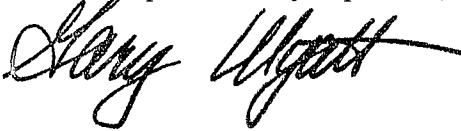
Louis A. Fuentes  
Chairman, Imperial County Board of Supervisors



Jack Terrazas  
Vice-Chairman, Imperial County Board of Supervisors



Michael W. Kelley  
Imperial County Supervisor, District 3



Gary Wyatt  
Imperial County Supervisor, District 4



Wally Leimgruber  
Imperial County Supervisor, District 5

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CC: Secretary Steven Chu, United States Department of Energy  
Secretary Ken Salazar, United State Department of the Interior