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the project.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that the opinions reached herein are my own and that this Declaration was executed on this ___ day of May, 1990 at Susanville, California

James L. Uptegrove

JAMES L. UPTEGROVE



Exp. 9/30/93

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Power supply outages are neither controllable or predictable because the P-SREC system is radially fed from the PG&E 60kV system in Quincy. The PG&E 60kV system is radially fed for approximately 75 miles through mountainous terrain. This power supply situation leads to many outages, particularly during storms. Since PG&E has no immediate plans for loop feed to Quincy, the only solution for P-SREC power supply reliability is a second source of supply. At the present time, no other firm sources are available. Outage time could be reduced if emergency supplies were available. Sierra Pacific Power Company, (SPPCo) with a 60kV line to Portola, was contacted by the Northern California Power Authority (NCPA), the power supply representative for P-SREC, regarding entering into an emergency power supply agreement. P-SREC is a member of NCPA. NCPA found that SPPCo was not interested in such an agreement. Another possibility that is being pursued at this time is the new Municipal Utility District (MUD) in Susanville, CA. The MUD has a 50kV line near Leavitt Substation. Both P-SREC and NCPA will continue to pursue an emergency power supply agreement.

Planned outages are being reduced by P-SREC crews working lines hot and by a reduction in construction related outages. Tie lines between substations are being upgraded to improve inter connection capability. This will improve loop feed capability which will reduce planned outages on the distribution system. The 69kV transmission system does not have loop feed capability which results in outages when planned work cannot be done hot.

P-SREC is presently installing a fault locator at Quincy Substation on the 69kV system. This fault locator will estimate the distance to faults on the 69kV system. Knowing the distance to the fault will significantly reduce outage times on the 69kV system.

This Work Plan includes upgrading substation tie lines, adding fault locating targets on the 12.47kV UG distribution system, adding sectionalizing reclosers on the distribution system, installation of a sectionalizer on the 69kV Sierraville line and installation of a new 60kV GCB at Quincy Substation. These improvements, in conjunction with hot line work and a carefully planned construction program will continue to reduce P-SREC's consumer outage time.

the annual rainfall in the western portion of the service area is approximately 40 inches per year; most of the precipitation in the western portion falls as snow accumulating to more than 10 feet on the mountain tops. In the eastern portion of the service area, the annual rainfall is only about six inches.

Severe winter storms with accompanying high winds, as well as summer thunderstorms, often inflict considerable damage to electrical facilities causing a high number of consumer outages. A newly constructed 69kV transmission line through the area where the greatest damage previously had occurred has eliminated most of the problem. Outages now occur mainly on distribution facilities and are more isolated, thereby enabling repair crews to find and repair damages more quickly.

The principal area agricultural economy is based upon alfalfa and beef cattle. The alfalfa requires irrigation as a result of the low precipitation. The growing season is short due to the high elevation and cool temperatures; frost free days average about 72 per year.

Wildlife abounds in the area and hunting and fishing are major sources of recreation. Deer, bear, coyotes, cougars and many small game animals may be found. Rivers, streams and lakes are numerous in the area, and the trout fishing is considered to be some of the best in the western United States.

Some of the unincorporated towns included in the service area are Beckwourth, Chilcoot, Doyle, Graeagle, Janesville, Litchfield, Milford, Sattley, Sierraville, Standish, and Vinton.

2.0 Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.1 Project Description

The Chilcoot Substation, on 1.05 acres, is located in the Sierra Valley on Highway 70, approximately 0.9 miles west of Chilcoot in SW $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 35, T 23N, R 15E, MD3&M.

The substation has been in existence for twenty years and was modernized just

May 14, 1980

Vernie Pfile, General Manager
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 2000
Bartola, California 96122

707 Nevada Street, Room 200
Susanville, California 96150
(530) 257-8311, Ext. 209

ROBERT K. SOMMERS
President
LAFCo, Executive Office

Dear Mr. Pfile:

As you know, there has recently been some concern regarding your current plans for the proposed 69kV transmission line within Lassen County including some apparent inaccuracies within the environmental documents and the possible need for further review of the project by the Lassen County. As a result, I sent a letter to you on April 17, 1980 requesting up-dated plans and project documentation. At your request, Ms. Mary Ann Mix, of Power Engineers, Inc. promptly sent us a set of plans, copies of relevant correspondence, and copies of phone records of conversations with my staff. Thank you for your timely attention to my request.

Upon receipt of the information packet from Ms. Mix, I had Dick Simon of my staff thoroughly examine our project file and the new information in order to clarify any misunderstanding between Lassen County and Power Engineers, Inc. (representing Plumas-Sierra), which may have led to the recent confusion as to the status of the project and the role of Lassen County in reviewing the proposal.

First, let me clarify Lassen County Planning Commission's role in reviewing the project. Section 13.102.020(2)(a) of the County's Zoning Ordinance (No. 467) allows public utility transmission lines in all zoning districts without the necessity of obtaining a special use permit, provided that maps of the proposed alignment(s) along with a brief description of proposed structures and related improvements are provided to the Planning Commission for their review. The purpose of the review is two-fold: 1) it allows the Planning Commission and the utility agency to agree on mutually acceptable routes which "shall be determined in writing"; and 2) provides the Commission with the information needed to prepare the required findings concerning the consistency of the proposed route(s) with the County's General Plan.

On January 6, 1980, the Planning Commission reviewed the project as described in the Borrowers Environmental Report (ER) dated March 1987, including mitigation, and as shown on the maps dated August 11, 1987. The Commission's findings, as conveyed in my letter to Ms. Mix of January 6, 1980

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EXHIBIT C



May 14, 1990

Bernie Pfile, General Manager
Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 2000
Portola, California 96122

COUNTY OF LASSEN

Planning Department
Local Agency Formation
Commission
707 Nevada Street, Room 236
Susanville, California 96130
(916) 257-8311, Ext. 269

ROBERT K. SORVAAG
Planning Director
LAFCo. Executive Officer

Dear Mr. Pfile:

As you know, there has recently been some concern regarding your current plans for the proposed 69kV transmission line within Lassen County including some apparent inaccuracies within the environmental documents and the possible need for further review of the project by the Lassen County. As a result, I sent a letter to you on April 17, 1990 requesting up-dated plans and project documentation. At your request, Ms. Mary Ann Mix, of Power Engineers, Inc. promptly sent us a set of maps, copies of relevant correspondence, and copies of phone records of conversations with my staff. Thank you for your timely attention to my request.

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On January 6, 1988, the Planning Commission reviewed the project as described in the Borrowers Environmental Report (BER) dated March 1987, including mitigation, and as shown on the maps dated August 11, 1987. The Commission's findings, as conveyed in my letter to Ms. Mix of January 8, 1988

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Bernie Pfile
May 17, 1990
Page 2

(received by Ms. Mix August 15, 1988 due to our inadvertent delay in sending it) were:

1. The preferred route depicted on the Power Engineers, Inc. maps dated August 11, 1987 would not have significant impacts on the scenic values of the affected areas; and
2. The project, as presented, is consistent with the intent of the designated "Scenic Highway Corridor" for Highway 395, contained in the County General Plan.

I should point out that the proposed alignment has been revised twice since the Planning Commission's review. The first revision was described to us by Ms. Mix over the phone just prior to the Commission's January 6, 1988 meeting--we received the revised maps shortly after January 11. After the Commission's review my staff indicated to Ms. Mix, again over the phone, that the revised alignment would not require additional formal review by the Planning Commission since the new route was designed to reduce visual impacts--the Commission's main concern-- pursuant to comments from the BLM. I concur with staff regarding the subject revised route (maps dated Jan. 11, 1988). The current proposed alignment (second set of revised maps date April 23, 1990) which, according to Ms. Mix was revised in response to BLM comments and "Class II Cultural Surveys", appears to further reduce visual impacts south of Red Rock. If this is the case, the new alignment would not be in conflict with the Planning Commission's original findings and at this time it would seem that formal review of the April 23rd maps would not be necessary. However, I remain concerned about adequate environmental review of the project, and the portrayal within the April 1988 EA of Lassen County's participation in that review.

It is not at all clear, given the information Lassen County has received to date, that full compliance with either CEQA or NEPA has been achieved by the applicants while, at the same time, correspondence from Power Engineers, Inc. implies that compliance with both environmental Acts may be required (reference letters to Lassen County Planning Dept. dated April 7, 1989 and April 23, 1990).

Further, section 3.19 "Aesthetics" of the Environmental Assessment dated April 1988 indicates:

As a result of locating the line in or near the existing right of way, the Lassen County Planning Commission has

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Barnie Pfile
May 14, 1990
Page 3

issued a Negative Declaration. No new scenic areas will be involved.

First, the term "issued" is erroneous in the statement above. Issuance of a negative declaration implies lead agency status under CEQA, and full review of ALL potential environmental impacts. Lassen County is not the lead agency for this project, nor has the County considered the full range of possible impacts resulting from the project. This distinction must be very clear to all concerned. Additionally, the location of the line "in or near the existing right of way" was only one of several mitigations outlined as part of the project within the BER of March 1987. Other mitigations considered in the Commission's review included minimal removal of vegetation, use of natural contours for screening where feasible, reseeding disturbed areas and others. There was never a finding implying that new scenic areas would not be "involved". On the contrary, the Commission recognized that some new scenic areas would be involved, but made a finding of no significant impacts to the scenic highway corridor specifically because of the combined mitigation measures included in the project.

Second, Power Engineers, Inc. has declared that Lassen County, among other agencies functioning under the purview of CEQA, has "approved" the project and concurred with a negative declaration and an EA (reference letter to Lassen County Planning Dept. from Power Engineers, Inc. dated January 12, 1988; and revised BER dated June 1989). Please understand that under the circumstances, any "approval" from Lassen County is limited to the mutually agreed upon alignments established in writing, and the required findings regarding consistency with the County General Plan, both referenced in preceding paragraphs.

With regard to Lassen County's "concurrence" with a negative declaration and EA, please note that although the Planning Commission expressed an intent to concur, Lassen County has never received a copy of the draft negative declaration nor the EA from either Plumas-Sierra or Power Engineers.

Distribution of draft documents by the lead agency is required by CEQA (Guidelines Section 15072 et. seq.) prior to adoption of the negative declaration. Without an opportunity to review the draft, the County can not determine whether concurrence is appropriate.

My concerns can be summarized by the following questions:

1. Who is the lead agency for this project, i.e. who is responsible for carrying out/coordinating the

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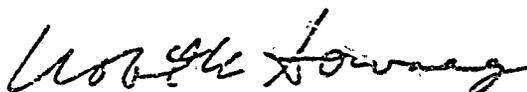
EXHIBIT

Bernie Pfile
May 14, 1990
Page 4

- environmental review process and adopting the final environmental document?
2. Is the project subject to both NEPA and CEQA, as implied in correspondence with Ms. Mix? If not, which Act prevails? If so, is the lead agency combining the environmental review or pursuing compliance with each Act separately?
 3. Is the BER dated March 1987, and revised June 1988 in any way related to the actual environmental documentation required by either CEQA or NEPA beyond providing background and environmental setting information? Ms. Mix has indicated that the BER serves as an Initial Study under CEQA (reference her letter to Planning dated August 11, 1987).
 4. Are the draft documents (neg. dec. under CEQA; EA under NEPA) available for review? Is the lead agency intending to distribute the draft documents to Lassen County for review?
 5. In what stage of the process is the project now?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert K. Sorvaag,
Planning Director

RKS:rws

cc: Supervisor John Gaither
Banky Curtis, Dept. of Fish and Game
Dick Stark, BLM Susanville
James Phillips, BLM Carson City
Mary Ann Mix, Power Engineers, Inc.
Bob Seckett
Robert King, OPR

/863.04/pfileltr2

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EXHIBIT C



April 17, 1990

Bernie Pfile, General Manager
Plumas Sierra Rural
Electric Cooperative
P.O. Box 2000
Portola, California 96122

COUNTY OF LASSEN

Planning Department
Local Agency Formation
Commission

707 Nevada Street, Room 236
Susanville, California 96130
(916) 257-8311; Ext. 269

ROBERT K. SORVAAG
Planning Director
LAFCo. Executive Officer

Dear Mr. Pfile:

Please provide this office with the most recent plans and project documents that describe the alignments and other improvements associated with Plumas Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative's proposed 69 KV transmission line in Lassen County. I am particularly interested in any changes that Plumas Sierra REC is intending to make with respect to this project that may differ from that which the Lassen County Planning Commission reviewed on January 6, 1988, pursuant to Lassen County Code Chapter 18, Section 18.102.2(a), that may necessitate further review by the County.

It has recently been brought to my attention that your Environmental Assessment dated April, 1988, erroneously states, "The Lassen County Planning Commission has issued a Negative Declaration," together with other apparent inaccuracies relating to such items as population, density and land use. Additionally, please provide me with a copy of your most recent applicable environmental documentation pertaining to this project, together with certification as to compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Your response to this matter will enable the County to determine if any additional review pursuant to the County Code will be necessary.

Sincerely,

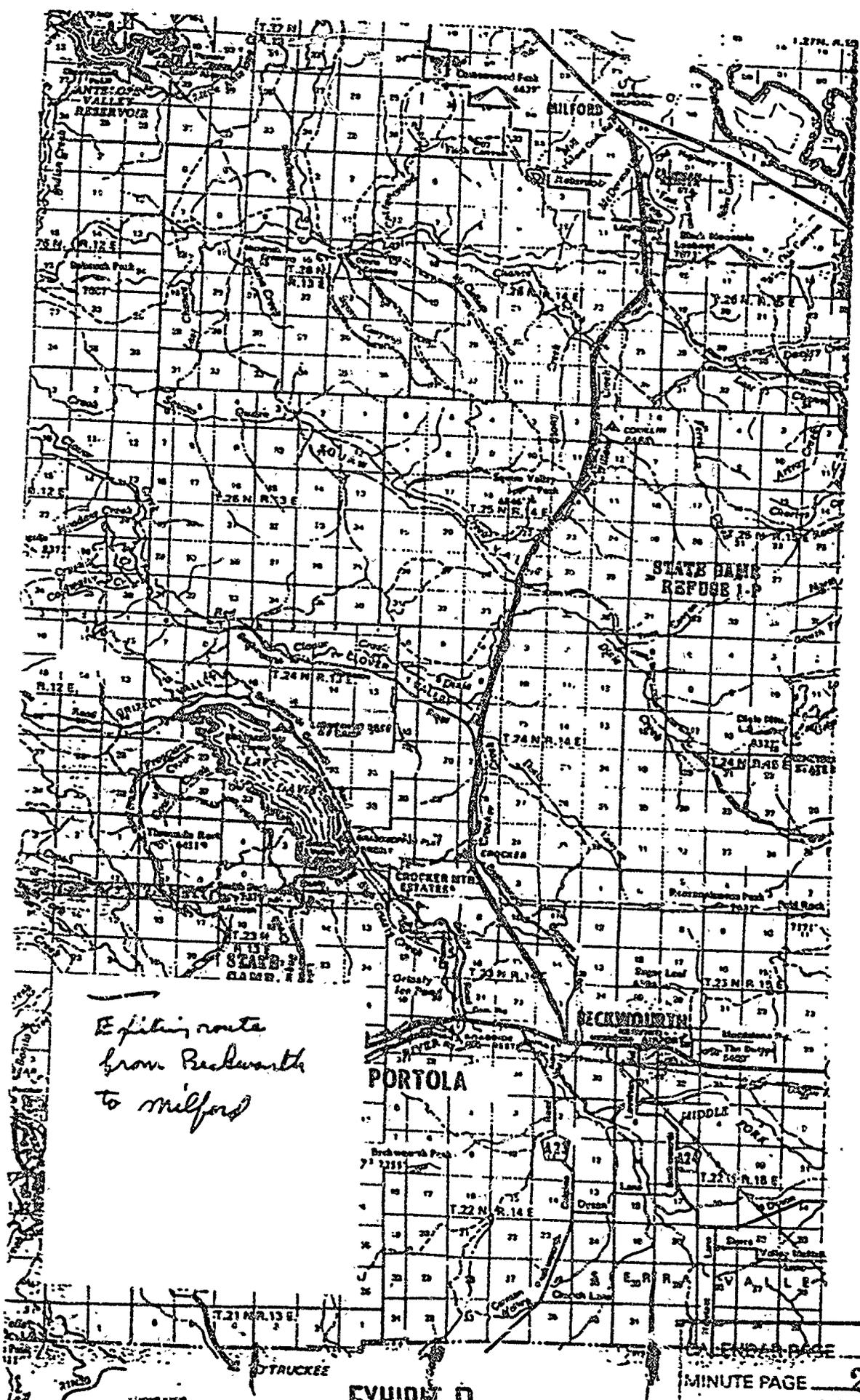
Robert K. Sorvaag,
Planning Director

RKS:nes

cc: Supervisor John Gaither
Banky Curtis, Dept. of Fish and Game
Dick Stark, Bureau of Land Management (Susanville)
James Phillips, Bureau of Land Management (Carson City)
Mary Ann Mix, Power Engineers, Inc.
Bob Beckett
Robert King, Office of Permit Assistance, State of
California Governor's Office/Office of Planning and
Research

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EXHIBIT



Exp. route
 from Beckwith
 to Milford

New Line

A new 69kV line tying together Chilcoot and Herlong Substations would provide a highly reliable power source for the north system. The transformer at Quincy, as well as the entire system, is at 69,000V. The July 1987 *Supplement to the 1980 System Planning Report* confirms there will be no need for a larger voltage line before the year 2015. The line could be constructed adjacent to existing roadways and right of ways, allowing easy access for service twelve months of the year. The existing 69kV line between Beckwourth and Milford could be maintained as an alternate feed to the north system resulting in greater system reliability. The system could be operated as a loop feed ensuring continuity of service during scheduled maintenance. Generation would not be required during construction, and the old "K" line would not require removal. The relatively flat terrain and ease of access would result in less expensive design and construction costs for the Chilcoot to Herlong line versus the Beckwourth to Milford mountainous route.

2.3.1 Alternatives to the Preferred Route

Union Pacific Railroad

Utilization of the Union Pacific Railroad right of way to accommodate the proposed line was examined. However, the UPRR policy is to deny all requests for easements except for cases in which no other alternative exists. In those cases, UP charges an annual rental fee which would render the proposed action economically unfeasible. Therefore, this alternative has not been pursued further.

Highway 395

From a point just south of Doyle, this alternative route would parallel the east side of Highway 395. This route crosses approximately two and one half miles of the Doyle Wildlife Area, and therefore generated considerable concern on the part of the California Department of Fish and Game (F&G).

An on-site meeting with P-SREC representatives and Tom Stone of the F&G was held May 21, 1987.

More reliable power coming to Lassen County

by Bob Marshall

A \$4.1 million, 32-mile transmission line will soon be bringing more reliable power to the Lassen County members of Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative.

Built in 1955, and hailed as a vast improvement for the cooperative at the time, the old K-line connecting Beckwourth and Milford is now overworked. Increased power use in

Lassen County, along with an aging transmission line, have made the new power line vital to Plumas-Sierra.

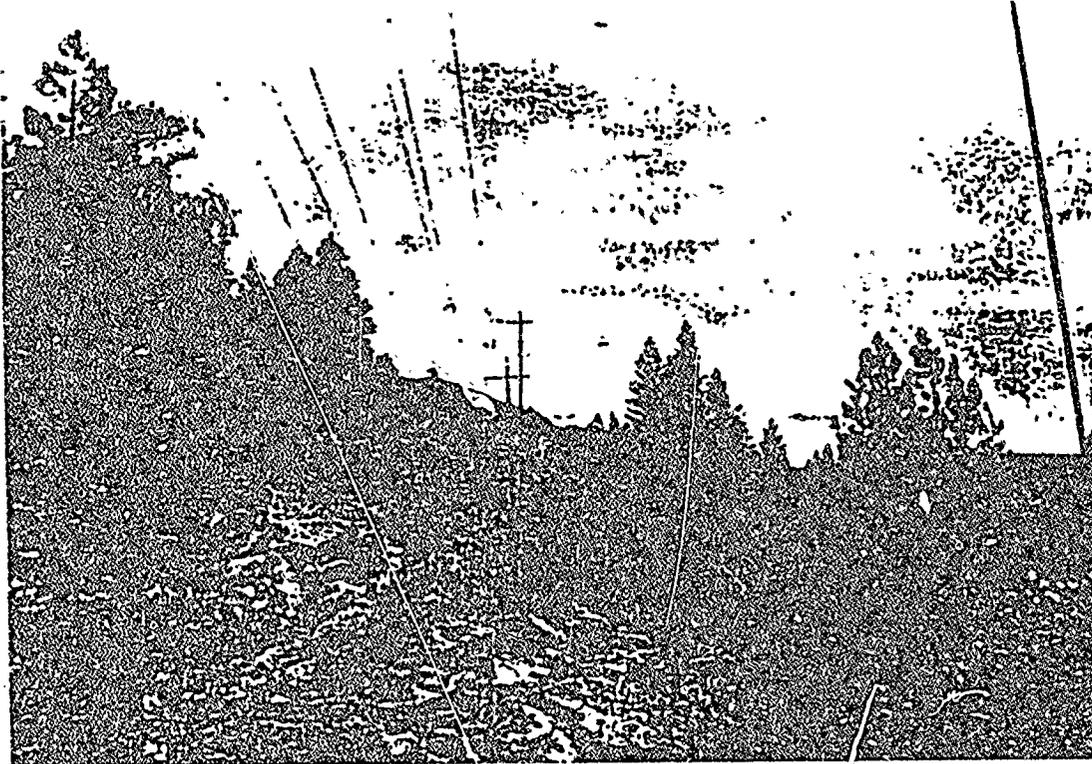
The old transmission line currently runs from Beckwourth, through Clover Valley and down the Milford grade, through terrain that can be impassable in winter.

Greg Nervino, Plumas-Sierra's line superintendent says, "The cooperative needs the new line. New services come on line, irrigation pumps are added and

the prison keeps expanding. The old line is inadequate for the load. If we don't get our system upgraded our quality of power will be in trouble within a year."

Replacing the Beckwourth-Milford transmission line (the old K-line) has long been a goal of the cooperative's management. The main transmission

Below and on the cover is the type of line that is being built to improve power reliability in Lassen County.



16 Plumas-Sierra
July 1970

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line from Quincy to Beckwourth was rebuilt in the 1970s leaving the K-line as the weakest link in the cooperative's system of transmission and distribution lines.

Bernard Pile, general manager of Plumas-Sierra, says "When the board of directors hired me, they made the new transmission line the #1 priority."

Before the K-line was built, power quality to many co-op members in Lassen County was unacceptable. The long, heavily used line to Susanville with everyone hooked up to it along the way caused problems. One of the jokes at the time ran, "Go put a candle up at the light bulb and see if the power is on."

In 1955, a transmission line was built from Beckwourth to Milford through Clover Valley. The route was the straightest, therefore the least expensive to build.

Maintenance along that line is a different story. The weather along the existing K-line can be brutal, leaving the lines inaccessible except for Sno-Cats and snowshoes.

Doug Lindstrom, Milford line foreman, remembers, "Working the K-line in winter could get really ugly. The snow would be six to eight feet deep around Conklin Park. On several occasions the Sno-Cat would get stuck or break down and we would have to walk off the mountain to safety."

Snow-free due to the warmth of current, the K-line would cool quickly during an outage and allow snow to build up on the line. More than once, the original break would be repaired while the line snapped in several more spots, forcing linemen to hunt the problem down once again. Lassen County members could be off for hours longer than the rest of the system.

Dennis Horton, new south area

"If we don't get our system upgraded, our quality of power will be in trouble within a year."

Line Superintendent Greg Nervino

supervisor, was a troubleman for many years. He remembers, "Sometimes we had to slog through slush with snowshoes on, trying to find the problem. And then you had to try and fix it, sometimes a mile from support vehicles. One time I got out of the Sno-Cat and sunk up to my armpits in snow."

During one winter outage in the early 1950s the Sno-Cat was dispatched to hunt a problem down on the K-line. In the deep snow, the features of the land became indistinguishable. The Sno-Cat broke through the snow and into a creek. The axle shattered, leaving the two employees on board stranded in the middle of a snowstorm.

Charlie Brown, one of those employees remembers, "I was trying to get the radio backup battery from the back of the Cat. It was frozen to the body of the Sno-Cat. I gave a jerk, and then a second. It came loose on the third try, sending me into the river. I was in the cab in a hurry, out of my frozen clothes and into a sleeping bag. It took quite some time for me to warm up."

A rescue Sno-Cat broke down, too. Finally, a department of water resources Sno-Cat was able to rescue

General Manager Bernie Pile

"When the board of directors hired me, they made the new transmission line the #1 priority."

the employees. The co-op's Sno-Cat was covered with ice by the time it was pulled out.

The new transmission line will run from Chilcot, over the pass, up Long Valley, through Constania and then Doyle to the Herlong Substation.

The route will run along an area that is drier and lower in elevation than the old line. The new line will also be far sturdier and easier to reach.

In many places, the new transmission/distribution line will replace an existing distribution line already on the route. Wider easements are being acquired from the property owners due to the slightly larger safety clearance needed for the higher voltage.

Greg Nervino says, "Having the wider easements will allow us to build a much better looking system. If we are forced to build in the existing easements, the power poles will have to be taller and closer together, looking more like a giant picket fence. We prefer to build an aesthetically pleasing system, but the new line must go in."

The line has been rerouted somewhat in a few places to make the property owners along the route happier. But reroutes are expensive, and sometimes the options don't exist.

Nervino says, "We try to make everyone happy, but sometimes we have no choice."

Don Wemple, a member of the board of directors from Milford, adds, "The new and improved version of our power line will bring far better service and reliability to this end of the line."

Fifty-one years ago power was turned on the first time to rural residents of Lassen County. Since then the cooperative has worked at improving the system. Now, the overall reliability of the system will take a large step forward. ■





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CARSON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE
1335 Hot Springs Rd., Ste. 200
Carson City, Nevada 89701

2900
NV-23330

MAR 22 1988

Power Engineers, Inc.
c/o Mary Ann Mix
1920 Airport Way
P.O. Box 1066
Halley, ID 83333

Gentlemen:

On March 14, 1988, we received a letter from Mary Ann Mix, Senior Environmental Specialist, regarding up-grade of the proposed Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative power line near Hallelujah Junction from a 69kV to 115kV. We understand that the differences between the two lines would be: Increase in insulator length from 35 inches to 47 inches, increase the right-of-way width from 50 feet to 75 feet and increasing the spans between the poles thus reducing the number of wood pole structures that would be utilized. The pole heights of 60 feet would remain the same as originally proposed.

The differences between the pole and insulator structures and right-of-way widths needed to accommodate the larger capacity line are not significant changes from the original proposal.

Since it is expected that number of pole structures would be reduced due to the increase in span lengths, we would not object to submission of a application requesting a 115kV voltage powerline with a 75 foot wide right-of-way as described.

Sincerely yours,

James M. Phillips
Area Manager
Lakewood Resource Area

E A, April 1988

26-
EXHIBIT F-1

CALENDAR PAGE
MINUTE PAGE 2322

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative

Highway 70, 6 miles west of Portola
(516) 232-4201

P.O. Box 2000
Portola, CA 96122-2000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President Robert McDonald, Quincy;
Vice-president Guido Maddalena, Sierraville;
Secretary/Treasurer Frank V. Dotta, Vinton;
Sedia Adams, Greasle;

Eugene Shirley, Harlong;
Donald J. Wempis, Millard.

MANAGER: Bernard "Bernie" Pflie

Dear Members,

I would like to thank all our members who attended this year's annual meeting. A cooperative is a democracy, and it thrives only when the cooperative members take interest in the direction the cooperative is going.

Each year we try to make the annual meeting more interesting than the last, with demonstrations of our equipment and activities, entertainment and other special features. For those of you who didn't make it, we would like to know why.

Lack of child care? Lack of interest? Timing (day-month-season)? Lack of information as to who was eligible to attend? Too far to travel?

We would like to receive comments on the meeting from those members who attended also. How can we improve the meeting? Should we have it outside under giant tents on a Saturday? Should we have it closer to the middle of our service area? Do you want more visual aids?

Please drop us a note in your next bill with your comments. Address the note to me. This is your cooperative and your annual meeting, and you have a say in how it will be run.

Many of our members will be getting a survey in the mail in the near future from the Northern California Power Agency (NCPA). NCPA is doing this survey on behalf of Plumas-Sierra and several other NCPA members to help with load forecasting and load management programs.

Plumas-Sierra REC needs the information from this survey so we can develop load management programs that can take the place of purchasing expensive new power supplies.

If you receive this survey from NCPA in the mail, we would really appreciate it if you take the time to fill it out and return it to us, either by dropping it off or sending it back in the postage-paid envelope. If you have any questions on

this survey please give us a call.

We have applied to the Rural Electric Administration (REA) for a loan of \$6.1 million for improvements on our distribution and transmission lines. The centerpiece is 32 miles of new transmission line from Chilcoot to Harlong which will greatly improve the reliability of power to the northern end of our system. This new line will give us the ability to serve any new load that develops up north, and will also allow us to wheel power to and from other utilities to our financial advantage.

Parts of the loan in reference to distribution lines have been approved. We still need to get the required environmental permits and authorization before we can get approval on the transmission part of the loan. We hope to get approval in a few months so we can start the project.

Our meter replacement program has been coming along, pretty much on schedule. We have discovered a few cases of theft, many meters running too slow and several misapplications of meters. This program will more than pay for itself through increased revenues due to everyone paying their proper utility bill.

Through our association with *Rural* magazine, we will be distributing safety and information booklets to our members. Every three or four months you will receive a booklet from us on inside or outside electrical safety and other topics. These booklets are illustrated and interesting for both adults and children to read. We encourage you and everyone in your family to read these brochures, especially the booklets on safety.

If you don't receive an annual report, please give us a call and we will send you one. This year's report is a 24-page special issue celebrating our 50th anniversary as a cooperative.

Charlie Brown is retiring from Plumas-Sierra on October 1. The retirement party for Charlie will be held November 7 at the Portola Memorial Hall. Those members and friends of Charlie and Ariene who want to attend should RSVP to our office.

Bernard W. Pflie,
general manager

Outages

We happily report that there were no major outages last month.

Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc. 1987

Coast 25

... cultural significance. The line is designed with adequate protection from the harshest storms experienced by the area. Construction will be halted during periods of excessive precipitation so as not to impact the soils or vegetation.

Minor impacts to soil, topography, vegetation, and visual quality will be experienced at the structure locations within the transmission line right of way, which will be 75 feet wide.

After the structure is placed in the excavation, it is backfilled with the excavated material. Any remaining material is spread about the immediate area. Any areas disturbed during construction will be reseeded with natural vegetation at a time of year favorable for establishment of a successful seeding as advised by the Soil Conservation Service in the interest of preventing soil erosion. All litter, waste, and debris will be removed from each construction site upon vacation and disposed of in a proper dumping area.

The line will be routed so as to limit the amount of vegetation clearing to only that necessary for safe line construction and operation. The line will also be routed so as to utilize existing contour features for concealment where feasible. Any impact to airspace will be insignificant, and air quality will not be affected at all.

Impacts to wildlife will be very minimal. The line will not significantly interfere with any migratory, rearing, or wintering activity of area wildlife. Since the Doyle Wildlife Area is predominantly a wintering area for mule deer, the anticipated construction will occur in the summer months, thereby eliminating any possible construction impacts on wintering deer. Some animals resident to the immediate construction sites will be temporarily displaced during the construction process but will most likely return to inhabit the proximity of the facility soon after site vacation. Some animals may even benefit from the increased grazing or browsing opportunities presented by the minimal clearing, pruning, and revegetation that will be performed. It is probable that a small number of rodents, reptiles, and amphibians might be destroyed by construction vehicles and equipment.

A cultural resource survey will be conducted at the area of the proposed new construction on BLM land, a distance of approximately 9.25 miles. Should the survey

GARY F. WOOLVERTON
ATTORNEY AT LAW
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Attorney for Defendants

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LASSEN

PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRIC)
COOPERATIVE, a non-profit)
Corporation,)

Plaintiff,)

vs.)

ROBERT A. BECKETT and LOMA A.)
BECKETT, husband and wife, as)
Joint Tenants; DOES 1 through)
1000, inclusive, and all)
persons unknown claiming an)
interest in the property)
described in the Complaint,)
Defendants)

CASE NO.: 20866

DECLARATION OF ROBERT A.
BECKETT

I, ROBERT A. BECKETT, say and declare:

1. I am one of the Defendants in the above-entitled action.

2. The Plaintiffs are trying to force a power transmission line across my property, as well as across the property of adjoining landowners.

3. An alternate route for the power transmission line

1 is available. The Plaintiffs are in a position to take their
2 power transmission line through BLM property. The power
3 transmission line will detrimentally affect the value of
4 Defendants' property, as well as the value of all properties
5 surrounding him. In addition, subdivision potential exists
6 with respect to the various property along the area
7 contemplated for the line. That power transmission line will
8 detrimentally affect that value.

9 4. In my conversations with officials of the Plaintiffs,
10 they have acknowledged that an alternate route is possible.
11 They argue, though, that although an alternate route is
12 possible, it may be somewhat more time consuming since they
13 will have to deal with the Federal Government.

14 5. I have personally discussed the matter with the
15 officials at BLM and BLM has indicated the feasibility of
16 using BLM land and have indicated that the Plaintiffs would
17 have to go through some sort of a permit process.

18 6. I am informed and believe that the Plaintiffs have
19 not even tried to utilize this permit process in order to use
20 the BLM land.

21 7. Therefore, I believe that the public interest and
22 necessity do not require that the proposed project take
23 private land when an alternate route is available. I do not
24 believe that the Plaintiffs have satisfied C.C.P. sections
25 1250.370(b) and (d).

26 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is
27 true and correct, and that this Declaration was executed on
28