



CITY OF SACRAMENTO

45

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

725 "J" STREET

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MARTY VAN DUYN
PLANNING DIRECTOR

By the City Council
Office of the City Clerk

November 5, 1980

City Council
Sacramento, California

NOV 12 1980

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Sacramento Municipal Utility District's Draft Environmental Impact Report for transmission lines and substation in the South Sacramento area (M-507)

SUMMARY

The Planning Commission has requested that the attached staff report on SMUD's draft EIR for transmission lines and substation be transmitted to the City Council as an informational item. The Commission, On October 30, 1980, found the draft EIR generally adequate and directed staff to forward the Commission's comments to SMUD.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SMUD has prepared a draft EIR on three projects consisting of installing 230,000 volt transmission lines and a related substation. The projects are being proposed to meet the projected electrical demand of industrial and commercial development as well as 70,000 new residences in the South Sacramento area. In addition, the projects will provide a redundant transmission link for uninterrupted power supply to Sacramento in the event of failure of one transmission line between Rancho Seco and Hedge Substation. A portion of one of the proposed projects (Project A) is within the City. Project A consists of installing new double circuit 230,000 volt transmission line for approximately 16 miles from U.S. 99 and Dillard Road (south of Elk Grove) to the Pocket Substation (Gardendale Road and Western Pacific Railroad tracks). There are six alternative alignments for this project that are within the City boundaries. These are:

Alternative 1 thru 4 - east from U.S. 99 and Dillard Road to Western Pacific Railroad tracks (WPRR), along the east side of WPRR to Pocket Substation; approximately two miles within the City.

Alternative 5 - northwest from U.S. 99 and Dillard Road through Laguna Creek drainage area to WPRR, and north along WPRR to Pocket Substation; approximately 3.5 miles within the City.

Alternative 6 - north from U.S. 99 and Dillard Road along P.G.&E. easement and west along P.G.&E. easement to WPRR and north along east side of WPRR; approximately 3.5 miles.

The SMUD staff prefers Alternative 3 which would have the transmission line overhead within the City. If the City portion of Alternative 3 was placed underground, there would be an additional cost of \$17,022,000.

The Planning Commission approved the following comments be forwarded to SMUD:

1. Recommends the transmission line be adjacent to the existing railroad tracks (Alternative 1 - 4).
2. Suggests SMUD consider the transmission line be underground.
3. Identify whether SMUD proposes to underground future transmission line facilities within the current City limits. Indicate the prioritization for undergrounding future facilities.
4. The City has a policy that transmission facilities should incorporate into a project mitigation measures such as undergrounding or rerouting transmission lines to reduce visual impacts and antenna reception interference, reducing the number of poles or towers and using landscaping to screen or soften the visual impacts of projects (City Zoning Ordinance, Section 29, Ordinance 4319, adopted February 1980).
5. Any SMUD project within the City will require a Transmission Facility Permit which is reviewed by the Planning Commission and acted on by the City Council pursuant to City Zoning Ordinance, Section 29.

VOTE OF COMMISSION

The Planning Commission approved the attached staff report by a vote of six ayes, two absent, and one vacancy.

RECOMMENDATION

This matter is submitted to the Council for its information and specific action is not necessary unless the Council desires to transmit additional comments on this matter.

Respectfully submitted,


Marty Van Duyen
Planning Director

FOR CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION

WALTER J. SLIPE
CITY MANAGER

MVD:CC:jm
Attachments
M-507

November 12, 1980
District Nos. 7, 8

SACRAMENTO CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

MEETING DATE 10-30-80
 ITEM NO. _____ FILE NO. P-
 M- 507

- GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT
- COMMUNITY PLAN AMENDMENT
- REZONING
- SPECIAL PERMIT
- VARIANCE
- TENTATIVE MAP
- SUBDIVISION MODIFICATION
- EIR DETERMINATION
- OTHER SMUD DRAFT EIR FOR TRANSMISSION LINES IN So. SACRAMENTO AREA.

Recommendation:

LOCATION: _____

- Favorable
- Unfavorable
- Petition
- Correspondence

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PROPOSERS</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>

<u>NAME</u>	<u>OPPOSERS</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>

MOTION NO. 1

	YES	NO	MOTION	2ND
Augusta	<u>absent</u>			
Goodin	<u>absent</u>			
Hunter	✓			
Larson	✓			
Muraki	✓			
Simpson	✓			✓
Silva	✓		✓	
Fong	✓			

MOTION:

- TO APPROVE
- TO DENY
- TO APPROVE SUBJECT TO COND. & BASED ON FINDINGS OF FACT IN STAFF REPORT
- INTENT TO APPROVE SUBJ. TO COND. & BASED ON FINDINGS OF FACT DUE _____
- TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL _____ & FORWARD TO CITY COUNCIL
- TO RATIFY NEGATIVE DECLARATION
- TO CONTINUE TO _____ MEETING
- OTHER APPROVE STAFF REPORT & ON

- EXHIBITS: A. Site Plan
 B. Floor Plan
 C. Elevation
 D. Landscaping

DRAFT EIR PER CPC AMENDMENTS 1-4 dros

City Planning Commission
Sacramento, California

Members in Session:

Subject: Sacramento Municipal Utility District's Draft Environmental Impact Report for transmission lines and substation in the south Sacramento area (M-507)

SUMMARY

SMUD has prepared a draft EIR on three projects consisting of installing 230,000 volt transmission lines and a related substation. The projects are being proposed to meet the projected electrical demand from development in the south Sacramento area. A portion of one of the proposed projects is within the City. The staff believes that this document is generally adequate but should indicate that any adopted project will require a City Transmission Facility permit. The staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve this report and forward copies to the City Council as an informational item.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 1978, the SMUD General Plan EIR described 13 separate projects in general terms with the intention that site specific environmental documents would be prepared. The subject document evaluates three of the projects addressed in the General Plan.

These projects are being proposed to meet the projected electrical demand of industrial and commercial sectors as well as the 70,000 new residences in the south Sacramento area. In addition, the projects will provide a redundant transmission link for uninterrupted power supply to Sacramento in the event of failure of one transmission line between Rancho Seco and Hedge Substation.

The three proposed projects are:

Project A: installing new double circuit 230,000 volt transmission line for approximately 16 miles from U.S. 99 and Valensin Road (south of Elk Grove) to the Pocket Substation (Gardendale Road and Western Pacific Railroad tracks). There are eight alternative alignments for this project (see Exhibit A) and would require additional right-of-way acquisition.

Project B: string additional 230,000 volt transmission line on vacant side of existing towers for approximately 13 miles from Rancho Seco to U.S. 99 and Valensin Road.

Project C: construction of a new 230,000 volt substation near Grant Line Road and Southern Pacific Railroad tracks and constructing a new 69,000 volt transmission line from that proposed substation northward along the Southern Pacific tracks and existing transmission line corridor to just south of Florin Road.

Of the three projects, only portions of Project A are within the City boundaries (see Exhibit B):

Alternative 1 thru 4 - north from Transition Station A along the east side of Western Pacific Railroad tracks to Pocket Substation

Alternative 5 - northwest from Bruceville and Sheldon Roads thru Laguna Creek drainage area to Transition Station A

Alternative 6 - west from Transition Station C along PG & E's right-of-way to West Pacific Railroad tracks

Exhibit C is an impact summary matrix that assesses the entire length of each alternative. The transmission line portion of Project A that is within the City varies in length from 2 to 3.5 miles.

The draft EIR determined there would not be any significant effects on resident's health and radio/TV interference. The document states that SMUD responds to the anticipated community demand for additional electrical energy. This demand occurs as a result of City-County agencies that control and regulate development within the SMUD service area. The draft EIR indicated that the No Project or Delayed Project Alternative 7 could be feasible if major changes in community plans were implemented. These major changes identified required, in part or total, the following measures:

1. Moritorium on new electrical connections;
2. Moritorium on new construction;
3. Massive conservation effort by the community;
4. Acceptance of a less reliable electric system along with more frequent outages and possible large scale blackouts.

The delaying of the project's construction to a future date could be feasible under changes as listed above. Only the degree of change and the degree of feasibility would be different.

The transmission line alternatives were prioritized by the SMUD staff and Alternative 3 was preferred as indicated by Exhibit D. Alternative 3 would have transmission line overhead within the City. If the City portion of Alternative 3 was placed underground (Alternative 3UA) there would be an additional cost of **\$17,022,000.00*. The Planning staff recommends that Project A's transmission line alignment be adjacent to either the railroad tracks (Alternatives 1-4) or within existing transmission corridors (Alternative 6) and **suggest SMUD consider the transmission line installation be underground to reduce visual impacts*. In addition, the Planning staff would like to inform SMUD that any project within the City will require a Transmission Facility permit, pursuant to the City Zoning Ordinance, Section 29. Consequently, the City as a responsible agency will have to use this EIR and SMUD's environmental findings when acting on the Transmission Facility permit request.

**Amended by staff*

RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Planning Commission approve this report, along with any comments the Commission deems appropriate, and forward to SMUD and the City Council as an informational item.

Respectfully submitted,



Clifford Carstens,
Senior Planner

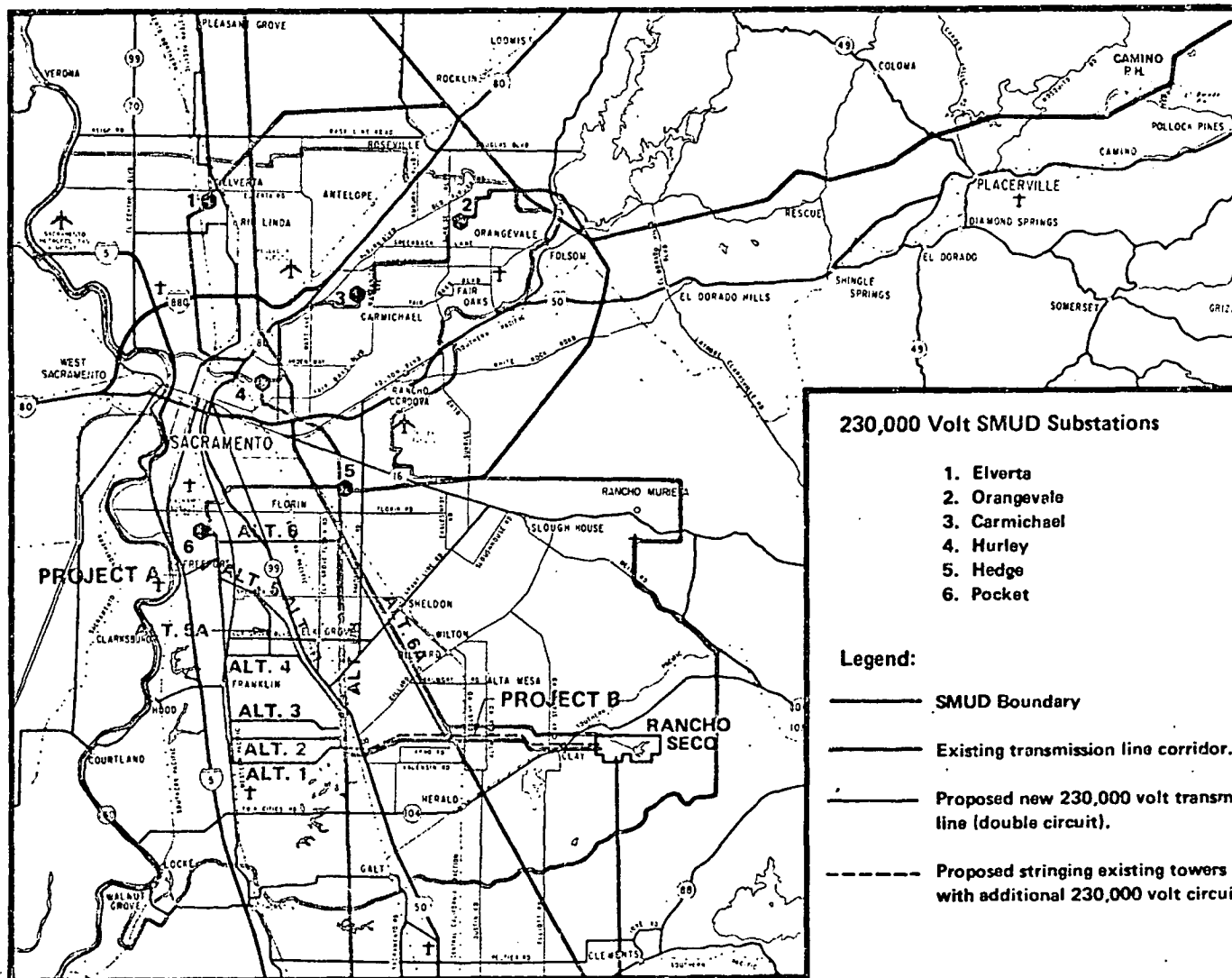
CC:sg

Attachments

The Planning Commission amended the staff report to include the following comments:

- 1. Recommends the proposed transmission line (Project A) be adjacent to the existing railroad tracks (Alternate Routes 1 thru 4).*
- 2. Identify whether SMUD proposes to underground future transmission line facilities within the current City limits. Indicate the prioritization for undergrounding future facilities.*
- 3. The City has a policy that transmission facilities should incorporate into a project mitigation measures such as undergrounding or rerouting transmission lines to reduce visual impacts and antenna reception interference, reducing the number of poles or towers and using landscaping to screen or soften the visual impacts of projects (City Zoning Ordinance Section 29, Ordinance #4319, adopted February, 1980).*

REGIONAL MAP
 PHASE III
 PROJECT A AND B
 230,000 Volt Transmission Line



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

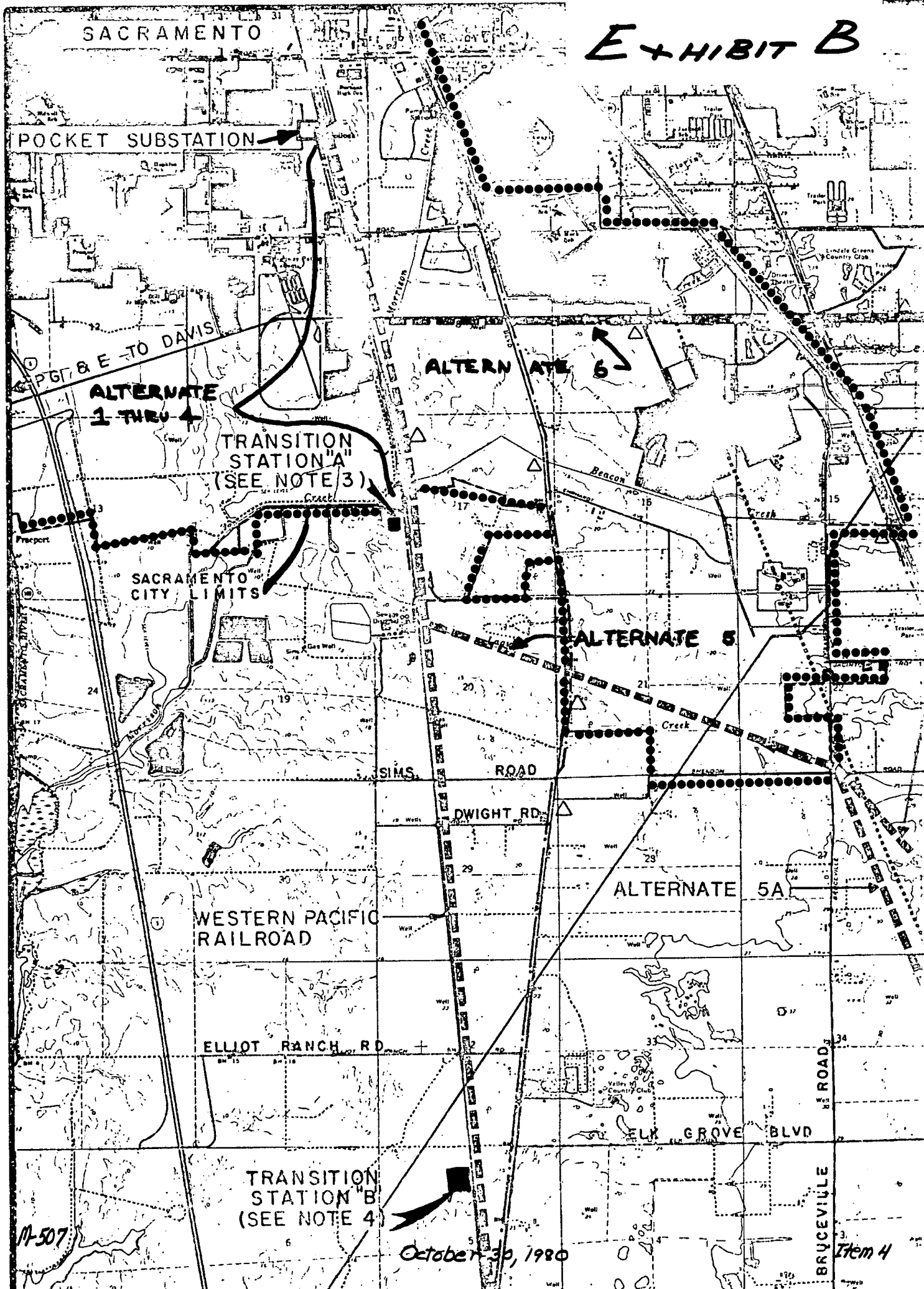
PHASE III PROJECT A

- 1) New double circuit 230,000 volt transmission line.
- 2) Length - 16 miles.
- 3) Additional SMUD right-of-way required.
- 4) Transmission line termination equipment to be installed at Pocket Substation.

PHASE III PROJECT B

- 1) Stringing vacant side of existing towers - length 13 miles.
- 2) No additional right-of-way required.

EXHIBIT B



TRANSITION STATION "B"
(SEE NOTE 4)

October 30, 1980

Item 4

Table 1-1

IMPACT SUMMARY MATRIX

Project A & B - 230,000 Volt Transmission Line

M-507

1-3
October 30, 1980

	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Total Length (Miles)</u>	<u>Under-ground Length (Miles)</u>	<u>Costs (x 1000)</u>	<u>Plant and Animal Impacts^{1/}</u>	<u>Community Impacts^{2/}</u>	<u>Farming Impacts (Acres)^{3/}</u>	<u>Visual Impacts^{4/}</u>	<u>Overall Impacts</u>
1.	1	28.9	0	\$12,482	4	Low	.67	Mod	Low
	1UA	28.9	2.5	29,786	4	Low	.67	Low	Low
	1UB	28.9	5.6	45,034	4	Low	.67	Low	Low
2.	2	28.7	0	\$12,441	3	Low	.52	Mod	Low
	2UA	28.7	2.5	29,718	3	Low	.52	Low	Low
	2UB	28.7	5.6	44,994	3	Low	.52	Low	Low
3.	3	28.7	0	\$12,617	2	Low	.61	Mod	Low
	3UA	28.7	2.5	29,639	2	Low	.61	Low	Low
	3UB	28.7	5.6	44,914	2	Low	.61	Low	Low
4.	4	28.2	0	\$12,448	1	Low	.64	High	Mod
	4UA	28.2	2.5	29,627	1	Low	.64	Mod	Mod
	4UB	28.2	5.6	44,874	1	Low	.64	Mod	Mod
5.	5A	27.5	0	\$12,410	6	High	.62	High	High
	5AUA	27.5	2.5	29,204	6	High	.62	Mod	High
	5B	26.5	0	11,729	6	Mod	.63	High	High
	5BUA	26.5	2.5	28,741	6	Mod	.63	Mod	High
6.	6A	24.4	6.6	\$50,947	5	Low	3.73	Mod	Mod
	6B	29.9	6.6	51,244	3	Low	.73	Low-Mod	Mod
	Alternate Pole Type G Cost Adder			\$+0/mile ^{5/}	---	---	---	Good	---
	Alternate Pole Type H Cost Adder			\$+18.5/mile ^{5/}	---	---	---	Better	---

1/ 1 Denotes least impact. Values taken from Baad, 1980a.

2/ Impact on existing or planned future residential development according to SMJD Board Resolution #9318 (Appendix E)

3/ See Section 6.3.1.1

4/ Low and Moderate visual impact not considered significant impact.

5/ Added to above.

Item 4

L-11111

Table 1-3

Project Recommendations

Project A & B - 230,000 Volt Transmission Line

<u>Alternative</u>	<u>SMJD Staff Recommendation ^{1/}</u>	<u>SMJD Board Adopted</u>	<u>Sacramento City Recommendation</u>	<u>Sacramento County Recommendation</u>	<u>Final Project Determination</u>
1. 1 1UA 1UB	2 6 10	Approval of Final EIR			Notice of Deter- mination
2. 2 2UA 2UB	3 7 11				
3. 3 3UA 3UB	1 5 9				
4. 4 4UA 4UB	4 8 12				
5. 5A 5UA 5B 5UA	Not Re- commended 15 16				
6. 6A 6B	13 14				
7. Pole Type G	either G or H				
Pole Type H	either G or H	Approval of Final EIR			Notice of Deter- mination

^{1/} 1 denotes most desirable alternative

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Item 4

EMBT
D