

# CITY OF CHINO HILLS

## PRESS RELEASE



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**PR09-151**

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### **CPUC APPROVES SCE TEHACHAPI RENEWABLE TRANSMISSION PROJECT ROUTE THROUGH CHINO HILLS NEIGHBORHOODS**

The City of Chino Hills is extremely disappointed with the California Public Utilities Commission action to approve Southern California Edison's Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project on a route that cuts right through our neighborhoods," said Mike Fleager, City Manager. "The City has evaluated our options and we will file an appeal regarding the CPUC decision."

The City of Chino Hills also filed a lawsuit against Southern California Edison in February. The basis of the complaint is that SCE will violate the City's property rights if it installs massive 198 foot steel transmission facilities holding lines that carry 500,000 volts of electricity on the City's property.

"Over 60 years ago SCE obtained a narrow 150-foot-wide easement over property now owned by the City, and built the current 100-foot towers," said Mr. Fleager. "Since that time, the County, and later the City, approved houses and improved its property based on the current size of the towers. SCE cannot now unilaterally double the size of the towers because real property law prohibits this "overburdening" of the easement. "

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A judge ordered the lawsuit continued to January 22<sup>nd</sup> pending a decision by the CPUC to approve a route.

”Plain and simple – we do not believe that Southern California Edison has the legal right to place 198 foot transmission poles within a 150-foot right-of-way,” said Mayor W.C. “Bill” Kruger. “We look forward to our day in civil court.”

The CPUC-approved route takes Southern California Edison power lines that have been inactive for 30-years or more, and nearly doubles their size, with new poles as tall as 198 feet, and lines that carry 500,000 volts. The new lines and poles are in close proximity to Chino Hills residents.

According to the City’s experts, they were unable to find any place in the United States where power lines carrying this much electricity were approved next to existing homes.

“These aren’t ordinary power lines that would be safe in a neighborhood,” said Mayor Kruger. “These power lines that carry 500,000 volts. That’s a lot of electricity flowing.”