



April 23, 2020

Commissioner Liane M. Randolph
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Application No. A.16-10-012; Natural Resources Defense Council and Audubon Support of Ten West Link

Dear Commissioner Randolph,

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) is a non-profit environmental organization with 1.3 million members and online activists, more than 250,000 of whom live in California. NRDC uses law, science and the support of its members and activists to protect the planet's wildlife and wild places and to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all living things.

The National Audubon Society protects birds and the places they need, today and tomorrow, throughout the Americas using [science](#), advocacy, education, and [on-the-ground conservation](#). Audubon's 27 state programs, 35 nature centers, 465 chapters, and partners have an unparalleled wingspan that reaches millions of people each year to inform, inspire, and unite diverse communities in conservation action.

NRDC and Audubon have worked to promote the environmentally responsible siting of large scale renewable energy for more than a decade on public and private lands. We recognize the many complexities involved in siting a multi-state long distance transmission line on lands managed by BLM in particular.

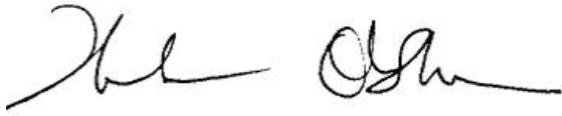
In 4 years of engagement with BLM and the project's developer, NRDC and Audubon have emphasized the importance of avoiding lands of high conservation and wildlife value in planning the route. We have provided spatial and other data and extensive comments to support our engagement.

We are pleased to report that the final route and construction and operations of the line are well-sited and we support this project that will bring renewable energy to markets in California.

We especially highlight the decision to avoid the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge and the agricultural and riparian lands along the Colorado River, both high priorities for our organizations in conserving lands and wildlife. The approved routing through a designated Section 368/Westwide Energy Corridor is a much lower impact choice.

This is an excellent example of the kind of responsibly sited renewable energy development that the West needs in order to meet our climate and clean energy goals while protecting our critically important natural heritage and treasured public lands.

Sincerely,



Helen O'Shea
Director, Western Renewable Energy Project
Natural Resources Defense Council
hoshea@nrdc.org



Garry George
Clean Energy Director
National Audubon Society
garry.george@audubon.org

Cc: ALJ Macdonald
A.16-10-012 Service List