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February 15, 2011

The Honorable Steven Chu
Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
The Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

On behalf of the 110,000 working families of the South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council, I urge you not to approve Sempra Energy's application on behalf of Baja Wind U.S. Transmission, LLC (now known as Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC) for a Presidential Permit (Docket Number PP-334) to construct a cross-border transmission line between northern Baja Mexico and San Diego County, California.

In his recent State of the Union address, President Obama recognized the urgency of "this generation's Sputnik moment" and announced an ambitious initiative to pursue clean energy goals that will reinvigorate the American economy. The transmission project proposed in the application would undermine the Administration's laudable efforts.

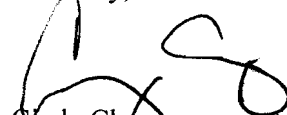
1. It would facilitate the export of American jobs. Sempra's cross-border transmission lines would enable the company to build energy projects in Mexico and import electricity into the United States instead of building them here where the energy is being used. This moves our economy in the wrong direction at a time when we should be creating jobs in the U.S.

2. It would increase the United States' dependence on foreign energy. The Administration has emphasized the need for America to become energy independent. Approving a cross-border transmission line to import energy from Mexico is the exact opposite of the President's stated goal. Our nation's economic future and security depends on developing energy infrastructure within our own borders.

3. It would undermine American environmental and labor laws. President Obama has emphasized his commitment to a green energy economy that would usher in a period of environmental advancement and economic prosperity. Construction of a cross-border transmission line will undermine the President's vision by sourcing energy from facilities not built to American labor or environmental standards.

If we are to reclaim America's middle class our nation must eliminate opportunities for corporations to export our jobs, exploit workers, or harm our global environmental heritage. For these reasons, I respectfully request that you reject Sempra Energy's application for a cross-border Presidential Permit.

Sincerely,

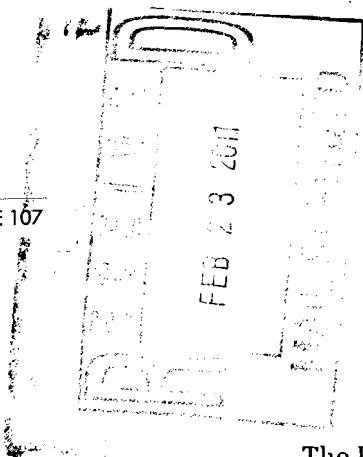

Cindy Chavez
Executive Officer

CC: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer

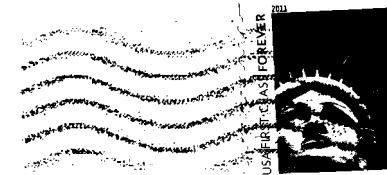


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