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May 26, 2011

VIA E-MAIL The.Secretary@hq.doe.gov
and U.S. Postal Service

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

Dear Secretary Chu:

The Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO (UWUA) represents over 50,000 members working in the electric, gas, water, and nuclear industries across the United States. Today we write in opposition to 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.

The transmission project proposed in this application would undermine several goals of President Obama's Administration. Specifically:

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 the energy into Southern California, instead of building them here where the power is being used. This moves our economy in the wrong direction at a time when we should be creating jobs here in the United States.
2. **It would increase the United States' dependence on imported energy:** The Administration has emphasized the need for America to become energy independent. Approving cross-border transmission lines to import energy from Mexico into California 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.

