



LOS ANGELES COUNTY LETTERGRAM

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIVISION
LOS ANGELES RIVER WATERSHED SECTION



DATE: August 7, 2006
TO: Suk Chong
Land Development Division

FROM: Vik Bapna 

DOCKET	
06-AFC-4	
DATE	<u>AUG 07 2006</u>
RECD.	<u>AUG 08 2006</u>

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION – VERNON POWER PLANT

As requested, Watershed Management Division's Los Angeles River/Harbor Watershed Section has reviewed the Application for Certification submitted by the City of Vernon for the Vernon Power Plant. There are two proposals for the construction of the power line that will link the new Vernon Power Plant to the existing Southern California Edison Laguna Bell Substation. Proposal 1 involves constructing a power line that will cross the Los Angeles River at the vicinity of 47th Street and then continue along the east side of the Los Angeles River from 47th Street southerly to Randolph Street. Proposal 2 involves constructing a power line along Randolph Street, which would cross the Los Angeles River as it heads east to connect with the substation. Please find our comments below.

- This portion of the Los Angeles River is owned by the County of Los Angeles Flood Control District and maintained by the US Army Corps of Engineers.
- Public Works is leading the implementation of the Los Angeles River Master Plan (LARMP), which identifies opportunities for aesthetic, recreational, and environmental resource enhancements along the Los Angeles River and Tujunga Wash.
- The river-adjacent area suggested in both Proposals 1 and 2 is identified in the LARMP because of the opportunities for future greenway and trail connections.
- The area has also been looked at extensively by North East Trees, a Los Angeles River stakeholder, in a bikeway study that focused on ways to connect the Lower Los Angeles River Bikeway to the City of Los Angeles through the City of Vernon.
- At this time, Public Works is designing the Vernon Bikeway Extension, which will extend the Lower Los Angeles River Bikeway from Atlantic Boulevard north to 47th Street.
- Further, the addition of power lines along the river corridor may not support the aesthetic, environmental quality, or recreation goals articulated in the LARMP.
- Based on the considerations above, we prefer Proposal 2. If Proposal 2 is implemented, we ask that the Proposition A funded river landscaping located at Randolph Street remain undisturbed or, if necessary, replaced in kind.
- We may consider Proposal 1 if a river greenway from 47th Street to Randolph Street is added to the project proposal.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss further, please contact Heather Speight at (626) 458 – 4323 or via email at hspeight@ladpw.org.