

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/22/2025 5:08:07 PM

First name: Cathy

Last name: Rutherford

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I object to that portion of the Draft Decision that calls for above ground routing between Beaverhead Flats and Village of Oak Creek. This section should be underground. New information not previously available includes an investigation by Jeremy White published in the New York Times on January 13, 2025. He concludes:

- 12 powerline fires NW of Los Angeles have burned 200,000 acres since 1970

- 8 of the 20 most destructive California wildfires have been caused by powerlines

- The Eaton Fire in January 2025 was caused by powerlines

- Serious powerline fires in California are no means limited to the LA area. The Camp Fire in Northern California resulted in 80 deaths. It was caused by line slap on a metal pole and molten metal falling to the ground igniting the fire. 1 million acres burned in the vicinity of Cresta Dam in Northern California as a result of powerlines

- In 2024, Texas had its largest wildfire, Smokehouse Creek, and electrical utility Excel Energy admitted that it was caused by its powerline.

Let's not be foolish and live to regret not making the right decision to avoid this avoidable risk.