

KBPS

Appeals Filed Challenging Sunrise Powerlink Approval

By [Ed Joyce](#)

August 12, 2009

Opponents of the proposed Sunrise Powerlink transmission line are appealing a state agency's approval of the project.

The Utility Consumers Action Network is filing two appeals with different courts. Michael Shames with UCAN says one challenge will be filed jointly with the Center for Biological Diversity to the state Supreme Court.

He says that petition argues the state Public Utilities Commission violated California's Environmental Quality Act.

"And we show a fair number of very clear violations of that environmental protection law," Shames says. "Both processes as well as just details that the commission were obligated to review and analyze before approving a project. And it simply failed to do so."

Shames says the other petition will be filed with the Fourth District Court of Appeals.

He says the PUC violated statutes and rules in considering alternatives for the Sunrise Powerlink project.

Shames also says the commission relied on information outside of the evidentiary process in approving the project.