

Agua Dulce Living

ISSUE 8

• ESTABLISHED 2005 TO KEEP YOU INFORMED •

Summer 2006

UHH OH, TROUBLE IN PARADISE!

In my wildest dreams I never thought it was possible, but the entire town of Agua Dulce is united on a single issue! It seems that Southern California Edison, SCE, is proposing to construct a new 25.6 mile 500-K transmission line between SCE's existing Antelope and Pardee substations in north Los Angeles County.



View up Anthony Road Now

One of the six proposals submitted, referred to as "Alternative 5: Antelope-Pardee Sierra-Pelona Re-Route" has the huge towers coming right down the hills along Anthony Road and through our town.



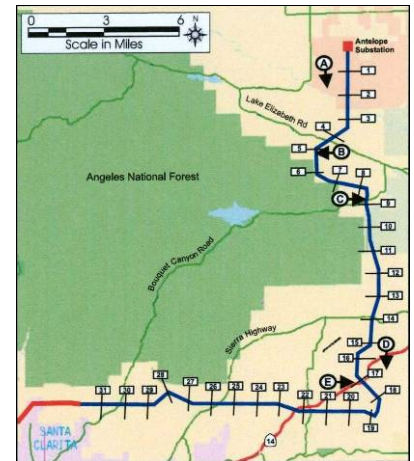
View with the proposed Transmission Towers



Proposed Project Map

- Total Miles: 25.6 (12.6 on NFS land)
- Single-circuit 500-kV Towers: 93
- Double-circuit 500-kV Towers: 21+1 existing
- Miles of new ROW: 2.8
- Generally remains in the existing Saugus-del Sur Utility Corridor

This same proposal also has a major impact on our neighbors in beautiful Leona Valley. At first glance the route seems so ridiculous that you'd think they can't possibly be considering it. Instead of the 25.6 mile route originally proposed to run in a direct line through the National Forest, Alternative 5 is a total of 37.2 miles (12 miles longer), it traverses over 103 private parcels and is 16 more miles of new rows. It is the only alternative that includes the "potential condemnation of one or more homes". As farfetched as Alternative 5 sounds we can't afford to ignore it and hope it will go away, we have to act now!



Alternative 5: proposed Project Map

- Total Miles: 37.2 (1.5 on NFS land)
- Single-circuit 500-kV Towers: 94
- Double-circuit 500-kV Towers: 76+1 existing
- Miles of new ROW: 18.8

It's the National Forestry Service (NFS) that we have to fight; SCE wants the proposed route that goes straight through NFS land. NFS wants Alternative 5.

One of our many charms here in Agua Dulce is that we are fighters. Our population is strong willed; independent and fearless in a fight (just ask the County). I can pretty much guarantee the NFS & SCE that we will make the battles over the airport and the vineyard look like child's play if they decide to go forward with this proposal to build these transmission power towers through our town.

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If you are a resident of Agua Dulce and you have not heard about this yet, I suggest you contact the newly formed committee leading the fight, ADAPT - Agua Dulce Against Power Towers, send an e-mail to: LaurieOstrom@aol.com with "ADAPT" in the subject line, please include your name and address in the body of the e-mail. Laurie will contact you with the information you need to make your voice heard.

Time is of the essence, the deadline for public comment is October 3rd. It's up to all of us to save our community! Oh, and we also need your money to hire lawyers, we anticipate a minimum of \$20,000 in fees for the first run at this. Any and all donations will be gladly accepted and appreciated. Look at it this way, there are approximately 1,780 homes in Agua Dulce (61 are currently on the market) so if each household donated just \$12.00 we'd reach our goal.

UHH OH, MORE TROUBLE IN PARADISE!!

I just heard that somebody broke into my buddy Gloria's, Images Salon on Agua Dulce Cyn Rd, sometime late Sunday night September 17th. The front door lock was chiseled out and then the door was kicked in. The thieves made off with the cash register, lots of costume jewelry, assorted hair care products, and a fetching Red leather backpack that I've had my eye on.

So here's the deal mom & dad, if little Susie turns up with a darling new Red leather "Brighton" style backpack with silver ornaments or her hair is suddenly bouncing and behaving, I think you've got a

problem. This is a small town and it shouldn't be too hard to figure out who the "perps" are. Now I remember why I forgot to have children.

And another thing, if you're as ticked off as I am about the situation over at our town center where we have our beautiful market, Sweetwater Farms, the best chips, salsa and Cadillac Margaritas at Maria Bonita's and our perfect pizza place, Vincenzo's, then please give the landlord, Adly, a call and let him hear from you. His office number is 310 837-4406. It's just not right what he is putting our hard working business owners through.

REMEMBERING 9/11



***Captain Howard Kaplan & Maggie
aka Sonny & Cher***

On September 12th, 2001 local resident, my friend, and Los Angeles Fire Department Captain, Howard Kaplan, flew to New York City to assist the FDNY in any way he could after the downing of the twin towers. To say that this was a life changing experience for Howard would be an understatement.

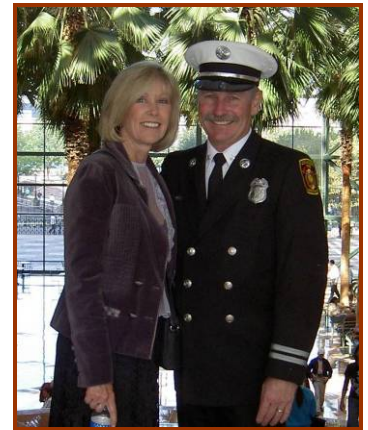
For the last four years Howard with the help of Nancy Bolt, a Staff Assistant RX1 at Fire Suppression Camp 2, have organized trips back to NYC to honor and show their respect for the City, the people and of course

the FDNY. This year, along with 20 Firemen, I joined in on the pilgrimage.



***Elijah, Bill, Tony, Me, Nancy & Art with
two Firefighters from FDNY***

When Howard, his girlfriend Maggie and I met up with everybody at the Burbank airport on September 7th, I was meeting my new traveling companions for the first time. And now after spending a very special, emotional, physically exhausting and incredibly fun week with these wonderful people, I feel like I've known them all my life. And I have never been more proud to be an American.



Debbie & Captain Il Bill Waite

We arrived in NYC, in the Hell's Kitchen area, very early Thursday morning and since our rooms wouldn't be ready until the afternoon, we just dropped off our bags and hit the streets. We all looked a little road weary after flying all night but nobody cared and we were all in good spirits.

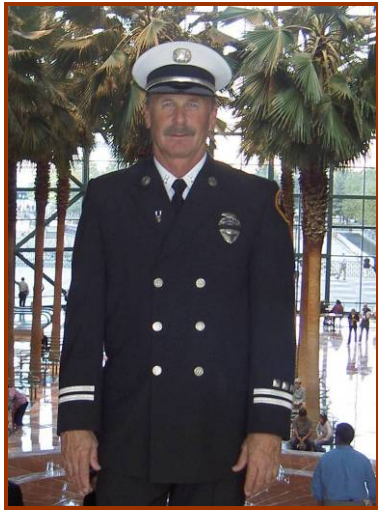
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Firefighter Paramedic Danny Gutierrez

I teamed up with Captain Bill Waite from Fire Station 72 and his wife Debbie, Captain Art Burgess and Firefighter Paramedic Daniel Gutierrez, both from Fire Station 9 in Skid Row and we went straight to the Empire State Building to see the view.



Captain William J. Borgio

The next day Captain Bill Borgio, from Fire Station 105 joined our group and after that the six of us were inseparable. We spent the morning in Central Park and then visited several fire houses to pay our respects. In the afternoon we went to the Fire Fighter Museum on Spring Street and that's where I lost it.



With my new FDNY friends

From the Joe McNally exhibit



**Louie Cacchioli
Firefighter, Engine 47, FDNY**

Rescued many from Tower No. 1.

"I stepped outside after bringing about 40 or 50 people down a stairway. I looked around. It was crazy. Somebody yelled, 'Look out! The tower's coming down!' I started running. I tossed my air mask away to make myself lighter. Next thing I know, there's a big black ball of smoke. I threw myself on my knees, and I'm crying. I said to myself, 'Oh, my God, I'm going to die.' I was crawling. Then—the biggest miracle thing in the world. My hands came onto an air mask. It still had air. Another 15 seconds, I wouldn't have made it."

On the third floor there is a special exhibit, Joe McNally's "Faces of Ground Zero, portraits of the heroes of September 11, 2001". The exhibit is 246 life-size Polaroid portraits with a plain white background and a brief description of their story. That was overwhelming enough, but then I saw Captain Burgess standing in front of the picture of a Red Cross worker. The look in his eyes is something I will never forget, such deep and profound sadness, it was unbearable.



Captain Art Burgess

Captain Burgess was also at Ground Zero on September 12th, 2001 and he shared some of his story with me. The horror of what he experienced was overshadowed by his extreme gratitude and respect for the Red Cross volunteers that were there to support and aid the fire fighters, iron workers and other volunteers that took on the unimaginable task of searching through the still smoldering piles of rubble in hopes of finding survivors. I can't even comprehend what these amazing heroes lived through.

We left the museum and headed straight to "Suspenders" a restaurant & bar owned by a member of the "Brotherhood" near ground zero. We drank too much beer, laughed, told stories and tried not to think about why we were there.



Danny & Darin



Danny & I at Suspenders

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That night we all met up at the Kevin St. James Bar across the street from our hotel, which became our clubhouse for the week, and had a pretty wild night.



Danny, Tony, Art, Greg & Elijah

A lot of steam was blown off and at times I was laughing so hard the tears were just streaming down my face. Let's just say that Danny Gutierrez was the absolute hit of the night and leave it at that. For a small fee, I do have pictures available.



Fire Boat in the harbor

On Saturday Art arranged for the whole group to go to the Marine 1 Fire Station and cruise the harbor on the Governor Alfred E. Smith fire boat. They even did the whole water display thing for us. How cool is that? Unfortunately Debbie and Danny (deservedly so) were not feeling 100% and didn't enjoy the boat ride as much as the rest of us, but by the end they were able to rally and were just fine.



Ground Zero and what's left of the buildings

On Monday morning September 11th we all met downstairs at 7:00am for the subway ride to the ground zero ceremonies. All the men were in their dress uniforms and looked so proud and handsome. Trust me when I tell you that Los Angeles was well represented.

I don't even know how to describe the events of the day or what it felt like actually being there. It was heart wrenching to hear the names being read out loud by the spouses, partners, or friends of those lost at the World Trade Center.



Danny, Me & Art at Ground Zero

But as sad as it was it was also life affirming. The people we met were so grateful we were there and that their Country and the world had not forgotten about them.

There were uniformed officers and firefighters from Canada,

England, Ireland, Italy, and Poland and on and on.



People came from all over the world!

There were a few protestors there, although it wasn't clear to me what they were actually protesting. About 10 idiots were wearing black t-shirts that said something like "Investigate 9/11" and a bunch of other crap. I know it's a free country and we enjoy freedom of speech, but if I'd had a gun I would have shot them.



Santa Maria Firefighter Dennis Szczepanski & Debbie Waite

We heard so many personal stories that week and I'll share just one of them with you.

We met a man from India who on the morning of 9/11/2001 had been on his way to a meeting at Cantor Fitzgerald. In the cab on the way over he spilled coffee on his tie so he stopped off at a store to buy a new one. While he was purchasing his tie the first plane hit.

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Nearly seven hundred of Cantor Fitzgerald's one thousand New York employees were at their desks on the top floors of One World Trade Center when the hijacked passenger plane struck eight floors below. Not one of them lived.

He watched as the first tower fell. He started to cry when he told us about losing his two very good friends that day. He said he was at the ceremony to honor them. Danny asked him if he was married and had a family. The man looked at us, pulled out his wallet and showed us a picture of his wife and 12 year old daughter, both of whom were killed in the Tsunami two years ago.

I don't know how people live through such tragedies. How do you carry on, how do you take your next breath?

I am so grateful I was able to make this trip, thank you Howard! I will never forget it or the people I met. And I will never, never complain about anything ever again.

Agua Dulce Airport Adventure Club Goes to Ketchikan, Alaska



*The 29 Agua Dulce Airport
Adventure Clubbers*

You know how friends and family invite you over for dinner and then trick you into watching their vacation slides? Well, that's about to happen to you, but you're not getting dinner.

On July 23rd twenty-nine friends (24 Agua Dulce locals and 5 out of the area folks) landed in Ketchikan, Alaska for an unbelievable week of fishing, kayaking, flying, hiking, eating and enjoying each others company.

The first night we stayed at a local hotel in Ketchikan, right on the water, across from the airport. From my balcony I watched the sea planes flying, fishing boats and even a couple of cruise ships going by. Totally an engine loving adult Disneyland.

The next morning I woke up early to the sound of diesel engines and watched the fishing boats load up. I must have watched 15 boats board with 5 or 6 men on each boat. Not one woman anywhere! I remember thinking I was the luckiest "girl" in the world to be included with my group of 13 women and 16 men.

Later that morning we set off on the Spears Sea II and sailed the 62 miles to our new home for the week, Rocky Bay Lodge in Nicholas Bay. Since we were such a large group we had booked the entire floating fishing lodge for ourselves. We had 21 people on board and 8 people stayed on the SS II.



*Rocky Bay Lodge, Ketchikan, Alaska
check out their website at*

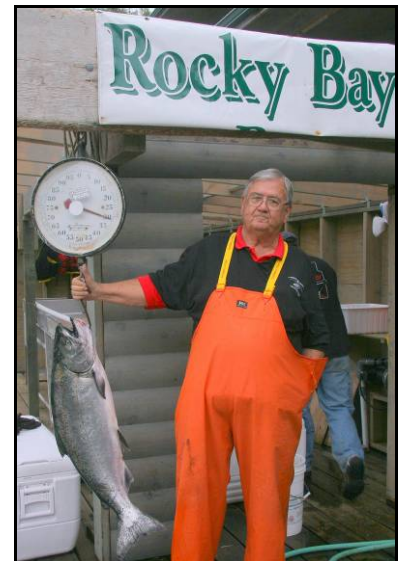
<http://www.rockybaylodge.com/index.html>

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*Rocky Bay Lodge & the SS II from
the air*

Rocky Bay Lodge is owned and operated by the Munhoven family. The Munhoven's are wonderful people, and along with their two dogs Kona & Max, they made us feel right at home. The lodge is very cozy and comfortable and the remote location is a dream.



*Jim "Fish Fear Me" White with one
of his two 28 lb King Salmon*



*Laurie, Dave and me in the birds nest
on the SS II, Kristen below.*



Famed photographer Dave McCord and his Muse, Sally



The SS II & Donald Munhoven landing his Sea Plane in Nichols Bay



Laurie & Don in the boat house



The boat house where the SS II lives. Note the size of it, that's me in the right corner and I'm 5'7"



Ted, Don, Danny & Brad back with their "catch"



Jim, Dave, Me, Larry, Susie, Kristen and our catch for the day! Between all of us we came home with over 800 lbs of fish



Proud fisherman & AV wizard Larry with his 15 lb Salmon



Malcolm as he will no doubt appear on a future cover of "Fly Fisherman Legends" quarterly

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Marty with his 24 lb Grouper



Wayne & Connie had my favorite helicopter outfitted with floats so they could land on the water. They are so thoughtful!



Tim bringing Marty in for a landing



Not a big margin for error when you're landing on a very small floating barge. That's how good a pilot Marty is.



Ken aka Sky King and Larry in the corner riding the high seas



Sweet, sweet Angie fleecing the Texas boys at poker at the Lodge



We saw dozens of Eagles



Lorna found a message in a bottle washed up on the beach



There's a bear on our beach!



Malcolm, Steve & Donny Munhoven and a huge King Salmon caught on a fly rod. I love the look on Steve's face!



Marty landed the helicopter on the beach of a lake at the top of a huge mountain. The lake is too small for sea planes to land and the terrain is too rugged to hike up. And since there are not a lot of helicopters in Alaska, it's a good bet that I, Marty, Julie and Susie (the one taking the picture) are one of just a few human beings that have ever set foot here. It just gives me chills to think about that!



Back from the wild frontier



Our camp director and go-to girl, Mary, making sure all goes well.



Our girl Connie fishing off of the SS II



Our buddy Wayne, relaxing and enjoying a good cigar after a great dinner and a hard day of fishing. We would have dinner at 7:00pm, the sun didn't set until around 9:30 and we would often still be cleaning fish at 11:00 when it finally got dark. I loved those long Alaskan days.

Our week in Alaska was so incredible I didn't think anything could ever top it. And then Larry took our over 1,600 combined pictures and made an amazing half hour video set to music. I cry every time I watch it.

I've told my family that in a few years when senior dementia totally takes over my mind, don't worry about it. Just put me in a room and run Larry's Alaska video in a loop for me and I'll be just fine.....

I wish you could have been there and shared in the unforgettable experience of *Agua Dulce Living*, the away game.

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10415 Bedworth Road
Agua Dulce



\$890,000

Beautifully upgraded and updated custom home on 2 ½ flat acres! Excellent location on a private paved road, close to town with stunning views of Vasquez Rocks!



View of the back of the house with stone fountain

Landscaped with mature trees and **actual** grass in front and back yards (rare for Agua Dulce!) There's even a Rose garden in the side yard.



8- Person Sundance Maxxus Hot Tub on concrete slab

This lovely 1,616 sq foot home with an additional 600 sq ft garden room has 3 Bedrooms & 2 baths. There is a two car attached garage with sealed floors.

The inside is done with inviting neutral colors, with 18" Travertine tile floors, stylish crown molding and ceiling fans through out.

Marilyn Garner REALTOR®



600 sq ft enclosed garden room with insulated walls, dual pane sliding glass windows, 3 sliding glass doors with screens, 3 ceiling fans and electrical outlets through out. Oh, and 18" Travertine tile floor.



Living room with dual pane glass slider to Garden room, 18" Travertine tile floor and fireplace with pellet stove insert to keep you warm and snug all winter long!



Kitchen with 12" Granite tile countertops, new stainless steel appliances and 18" Travertine tile floors



Dining room with dual fireplace resurfaced with 18" Travertine tile.



Master bedroom with dual pane sliding door to access Garden room & ceiling fan.

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This property has so much more to offer than just a beautiful home, there's something for everybody!



36x40 Workshop

Check out the 36x40 workshop, the 12x40 RV Garage, wired with 220 electrical, and both buildings have sealed floors. The 6 stall barn with pipe corals is just waiting for you to bring your horses.



12x40 RV Garage with 220 electric



With 2 ½ flat acres you could build an arena, park your Studio trucks or plant your very own Vineyard.

To keep the dust down there's approximately 11,000 sq ft of sealed asphalt driveways and concrete sidewalks.

And just when you think it can't get any better, there's a 12x56 Mobil home on the property (currently renting for \$900.00 a month.) Oh, and according to the seller there's plenty of water all of which is filtered through a Proline Water Filtration System.



12x56 Granny house

Call me to set up your private showing (661) 904-1323

11117 Lewis Hill Drive
Agua Dulce



\$1,050,000



Absolutely beautiful single story ranch house, with excellent curb appeal. Honestly it looks to me like Jim, Margaret, Princess, Bud and Kitten should live here!

This very well maintained and spotless home is approx 2,632 sq ft and is located on 5 acres nestled in a private setting, yet close to town.

This great house boasts 4 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths and a nice size office with a private entrance to the backyard patio (could be a 5th bedroom). There is a big laundry room between the office and the kitchen which has additional cabinets and plenty of room for your extra refrigerator.



Huge kitchen with Center Island, plenty of storage & work space. Hard wood floors. Breakfast counter.

A cozy den with a bar and a fireplace has its own private entrance from the front patio. Or you can enter through the attached two car garage.



Formal dining room with hardwood floors and ceiling fan is right next to the kitchen. Double glass doors lead out to covered patio.



Large open formal living room with wood beam ceiling, stone wall with fireplace and a pellet stove in the left corner you can't see.

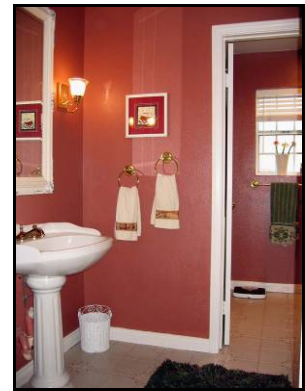
The formal living room has a stone fireplace and a pellet stove. If you're not familiar with pellet stoves, you should be. They will really cut down on your heating bill. When I use mine in the winter I have to open the door and wear shorts with my Ugg Boots in the house, it gets that warm!



Formal entry way, living room is to your left.



Large mater bedroom with mirrored closet doors and private exit to outside patio. Master bath has dual sinks.



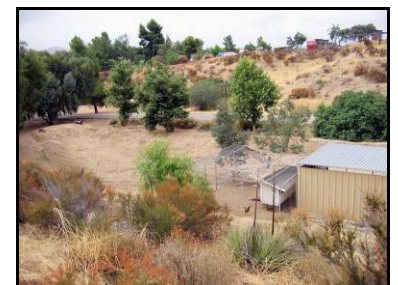
Guest bathroom off of the office



Covered patio with fire pit



Behind the house on a flat graded pad is the horse coral and tack room with electricity



Your chickens live hear. Fresh eggs every morning!

There is another flat graded pad on the Kobe Rd side of the property and the seller has County approved plans for additional two car garage with a room up above. Call me for your private showing.

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Contact Information

For more information or for any of your Real Estate needs, no matter where you live, please feel free to contact me direct 661 904-1323, I'd love to help you find your dream house or sell your current home.

If you're just curious about the current market you can visit my web site at:

<http://www.marilynmerlotinscv.com/>

You can search the MLS listings from the privacy of your own home and sign up for free automatic e-mail alerts and be the first to know when a property becomes available.



Agua Dulce Vineyards

9640 Sierra Highway
661-268-7402

www.aguadulcevineyards.com

L70 Agua Dulce Airport

33638 Agua Dulce Cyn Rd
661-268-8835

www.L70Airport.com

Agua Dulce Flower Finesse By Marisol Jenkins

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661-268-7601

Agua Dulce Hardware

33314 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-0167

Agua Dulce Nursery

33355 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-0676

American Water Well

33604 Agua Dulce Cyn Rd
661-268-1080

Boston-Henry

33605 Agua Dulce Cyn Rd
661-268-1731

Bullwinkel's Gifts & Antiques

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www.canyonwave.net

Cartridge World

27674 Newhall Ranch Rd #C-80
661-295-5056

www.cartridgeworldusa.com

Images Salon

33336 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-1626

Masthead courtesy of Bob Wynne

Wynne Fine Arts

818-761-8956

www.wynnefinearts.com

Maria Bonita Mexican Restaurant

33311 Agua Dulce Rd
661-268-8004

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Agua Dulce, CA
661-286-8600 vm 4105

SCV Bookmobile

33301 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
Wednesdays, 10am-12& 1-4pm
661-260-1792

Sweetwater Café

33310 Agua Dulce Canyon Rd
661-268-1213

Sweetwater Farms Market

33301 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
661-268-0700

Vasquez Rocks Park

10700 W. Escondido Canyon Rd,
661-268-0840

Vincenzo's Pizza

33323 Agua Dulce Canyon Road
661-268-8833

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<http://www.marilynmerlotinscv.com/>

And click on the menu link "Agua Dulce Living" on the left hand side.

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My dog, Riley, and I in the Agua Dulce Vineyards

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