



Notice of Availability

SCE Valley South Subtransmission Project

California SCH #2015051012

To: Interested Readers

From: CPUC EIR Project Manager

Subject: Notice of Availability, Draft Environmental Impact Report
SCE's Proposed Valley South Subtransmission Project (VSSP or proposed Project)

Date: January 29, 2016

The California Public Utilities Commission, as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for consideration of Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) application to build and operate the Valley South Subtransmission Project.

Availability of the Draft EIR

The Draft EIR is being released for public review on January 29, 2016 and comments on the Draft EIR are due on or before March 14, 2016. The Draft EIR is available for review at area libraries (see the list at end of this Notice) and for review and download on the project website:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/valleysouth/ValleySouth.htm>

Printed copies of the Executive Summary of the Draft EIR with a CD of the complete document may be requested by e-mail at Valley-South-Project@aspeneg.com or by phone or fax at **(888) 400-3930**.

Description of the Proposed Project

The proposed VSSP would include a new 115-kV subtransmission line extending approximately 15.4 miles from the SCE Valley Substation in the City of Menifee to a point west of the SCE Triton Substation in the City of Temecula. The proposed Project would modify the existing Valley Substation by constructing a new 12-mile 115-kV subtransmission line between the Valley Substation and an existing tubular steel pole (TSP) located at the intersection of Leon Road and Benton Road. This modification would constitute Segment 1 of the proposed Project. Segment 2 would reconductor approximately 3.4 miles of existing 115-kV conductor from the Leon/Benton Road TSP to an existing TSP, which is located just outside the SCE Triton Substation. The proposed Project would relocate the existing distribution and telecommunication lines from existing poles to the new poles that would be installed as part of Segments 1 and 2. Telecommunications facilities would be installed to connect the new subtransmission line to SCE's telecommunication system.

Construction would take approximately 16 months and would include installation of approximately 243 wood poles, 12 light-weight steel poles, 30 TSPs, and 18 wood guy stub poles. To accommodate the underground portion of the 115-kV subtransmission line at the Valley Substation, approximately 1,600 feet of underground duct bank and one approximately 100-foot TSP riser pole would be installed. To support construction, up to six staging yards and approximately 40 pulling, tensioning, and splicing set-up locations would be utilized.

Project Purpose and Need

The proposed Project is necessary to provide the additional capacity needed to serve the forecasted long-term electrical demand within the cities of Menifee, Murrieta, Temecula, and unincorporated Riverside County (Electrical Needs Area). SCE growth projections for the relevant Electrical Needs Area have indicated that there is a need for additional capacity to accommodate the projected increase in demand

associated with population growth in the region. The proposed Project is also needed to maintain and improve the reliability of the electrical distribution system within the Electrical Needs Area. The proposed Project would accomplish this by allowing for the operational flexibility needed by SCE to ensure safe and reliable electrical service to all customers in the Electrical Needs Area.

Contents of the Draft EIR

The Draft EIR includes detailed analysis of the environmental effects of the proposed Project on 13 environmental issue areas. The EIR also includes a detailed description of the proposed Project, including construction, operation, and maintenance activities.

Impacts of the Proposed Project. The proposed Project would have significant unmitigable impacts on visual resources and cultural resources, significant impacts that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with mitigation, and other impacts that are adverse but would not require mitigation.

Alternatives to the Proposed Project. Nine different alternatives were identified and evaluated as part of the EIR analysis. These alternatives were identified through the public scoping process, by the EIR team to reduce project impacts, and by SCE. All identified alternatives were considered and rationale provided for any alternatives that were eliminated from consideration in the EIR. The three alternatives evaluated in the EIR include: Alternative 1 – Subtransmission Line Route Alternative Along Menifee Road, Alternative 2 – Partial Underground Alternative, and Alternative 3 – No Project, No Build (required by CEQA).

Submitting Comments on the Draft EIR

Written comments on the Draft EIR must be postmarked or received by US mail, fax or email **no later than March 14, 2016**. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number with your comments. Written comments on the Draft EIR should be sent to:

**Valley South Subtransmission Project
Draft EIR Comments**
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
5020 Chesebro Road, Suite 200
Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Fax: (888) 400-3930
E-mail: Valley-South-Project@aspene.com

Public Meeting

In order to help affected communities understand the proposed Project and the findings of the Draft EIR, and to explain how the public can participate in the CPUC decision-making process, the CPUC will hold a public meeting on Monday February 22, 2016. The public meeting is an opportunity to learn about the proposed project, ask questions, and provide comments. At the start of the meeting, a brief presentation will summarize the EIR process, the proposed Project and alternatives evaluated, the conclusions of the Draft EIR, and the decision-making process. Written comments may be submitted during the meeting; there will be no facilities to record oral comments.

Public Meeting
Monday February 22, 2016 6 pm to 8 pm
Residence Inn Marriott (Meeting Room)
25407 Madison Avenue, Murrieta

For additional information or to read the Draft EIR online, please go to the Internet website presented on page 1 of this notice. The table below includes the location of libraries where a hard copy of the Draft EIR is available for review.

Project Document Repository Sites

Perris Library	163 E San Jacino Ave, Perris, CA 92570
Romoland Library	26001 Briggs Road, Sun City, CA 92585
Paloma Valley Library	31375 Bradley Road, Menifee, CA 92584
Murrieta Public Library	8 Town Square, Murrieta, CA, 92562
Grace Mellman Community Library	41000 County Center Drive, Temecula, CA 92591

