

SCE VALLEY SOUTH SUBTRANSMISSION PROJECT

Date: July 26, 2019
To: Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Subject: Monitoring Report #7: July 7, 2019 to July 20, 2019

Introduction

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with Southern California Edison’s (SCE) Valley South Subtransmission Project (VSSP). Project components include:

- Installation and upgrades of the 115 kV subtransmission line
- Modification of some existing 12 kV and 33 kV distribution facilities
- Telecommunication equipment installation and upgrades
- Installation of new components at the Valley Substation

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): CPUC EM, Rosina Goodman, was onsite July 10 and July 17, 2019.

CPUC Notices to Proceed (NTPs)

Table 1 summarizes the NTPs issued for VSSP construction.

Table 1 - NTPs
 (Updated 07/26/19)

NTP #	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
NTP #1	12/11/18	01/04/19	Use of 2 Material Yards and Vegetation Management at six locations along the right-of-way.
NTP #2	02/26/19	03/25/19	Construction of Project components not subject to final engineering due to use of required insulated conductor in high fire hazard areas, Segments 1 and 2.
NTP #3	05/16/19	06/07/19	Poles subject to final engineering due to required use of insulated conductor in high fire hazard areas.

Construction & Compliance

To date, all pre-compliance materials associated with NTPs #1, #2, and #3 that have been submitted have been approved. Construction activities associated with NTP #1 began on February 4, 2019. Construction activities associated with NTP #2 began on May 6, 2019. Construction activities associated with NTP #3 began on June 18, 2019.

A summary of construction and compliance activities for the subject reporting period is provided below.

Summary of Construction Activity

1. Wilson Construction and their subcontractors, Cattract and KV Structures, are currently using the Valley Substation Contractor Yard for mobile office headquarters and equipment and material storage. Activities associated with the yard included delivery of materials including rebar cages, tubular steel poles (TSPs), and conduit.
2. Wilson began receiving wood poles and using the laydown area approved under Minor Project Change #2 (see Table 2 and Photo 1).
3. BMP inspections and maintenance occurred at TSP foundation locations in Segment 1.
4. KV Structures conducted foundation activities at Construction Areas UNK20 (see Photo 2) and UNK46. The alder tank and all construction equipment that was staged at UNK41 was demobilized back to the contractor yard. KV Structures have demobilized from the Project until the fall when the remaining 8 foundations will be released for construction.
5. Cattract continued placing conduit under Menifee Road and trenched from the vault east of Menifee Road to Construction Area UNK250 (see Photo 3). Slurry was then placed in the underground trench to UNK250 to encase the conduit. Cattract also worked on backfilling and hauling off spoils.

Environmental Compliance

1. On July 10, the CPUC EM approached the onsite biological monitor at Construction Area UNK20 where KV Structures was drilling the foundation near the reduced buffer for a red-tailed hawk. The CPUC EM asked to be shown the reduced buffer in SCE Field Reporting Environmental Database (FRED) and the monitor had trouble accessing the reduced buffer from his laptop. The issue was addressed with the SCE Environmental Manager. To address the issue, SCE stated they had all monitors attend a FRED refresher training to ensure they can all properly use FRED.
2. On July 10, The CPUC EM observed what looked like crews using an unapproved access road near the underground trenching activities near Construction Area UNK250 on the east side on Menifee Road. The Wilson Environmental Lead was contacted and she stated it was an approved road that was not included in the maps on Collector, the mobile mapping app the CPUC EMs use to identify approved construction work areas. The issue of incomplete data on Collector was addressed with the SCE Environmental Manager. SCE and Wilson has since added the approved roads to the Collector App and it was observed that crews were using an approved access road at that location.
3. On July 20, the CPUC EM observed an open water buffalo filled with water that could become an entrapment issue for wildlife. The issue was brought to the attention of the onsite biological monitor and the KV Structures foreman. The foreman stated he would ensure the water buffalo was covered overnight.
4. Traffic control was in place along Leon Road during foundation drilling activities at Construction Areas UNK20 and UNK46.
5. Biological, paleontological, and archaeological monitoring occurred during construction activities for foundations and underground trenching.
6. As of the end of the monitoring period, there are three active nests (California quail, California gnatcatcher, and red-tailed hawk). Buffers have been established and buffer reductions for active nests are being managed as outlined in the DRAFT Nesting Bird Management Plan (NBMP).
7. There were three special-status species observed or identified at locations associated with construction activities during the subject monitoring period. These include several smooth and paniculate tarplant individual plants and California gnatcatcher.

8. Three new potential Stephen's kangaroo rat burrows were observed during the subject monitoring period during preconstruction surveys. Two burrows are located within the construction work area for Pole 4402068E and one burrow is adjacent to the work area for Pole 4402068E. No animal activity was observed and an ESA buffer of 10 feet was established.
9. There were no SCE self-reported incidents or observations documented for construction activities throughout the monitoring period.
10. There were no SWPPP maintenance items associated with construction activities reported throughout the monitoring period. On July 11, SCE stated that once underground trenching activities were completed on the east side of Menifee Road, the contractor will place a stabilized construction entrance in accordance with the SWPPP TC-1 requirements prior to overhead construction starting. On July 17, the CPUC EM observed crew members sweeping track out on Menifee Road (see Photo 4).
11. There were no reportable (> 1 gallon) or non-reportable (< 1gallon) spills associated with construction activities during the monitoring period.

Temporary Extra Workspaces (TEWS) and Minor Project Changes (MPCs)

MPC #2 was approved on July 10. No TEWS were approved during the subject monitoring period. Table 2 summarizes the TEWS and MPRs for the Valley South Subtransmission Project to date.

Table 2 - TEWS & MPCs
(Updated 07/26/19)

MPC No.	Description	Status
1	Leon Road Realignment	Issued by CPUC 01/11/19
2	Laydown area for wood pole storage south of Valley Substation Yard.	Issued by CPUC 07/10/19

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – MPC #2 laydown area for wood pole storage (June 17, 2019).



Photo 2 – Foundation drilling at Construction Area UNK20 with traffic control in place on Leon Road (June 10, 2019).



Photo 3 – Placing conduit in the trench from Menifee Road to Construction Area UNK250 (June 17, 2019).



Photo 4 – Construction crew sweeping track out off of Menifee Road from the unstabilized entrance on the east side of Menifee Road (July 17, 2019).