



## Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project

California SCH #2005061161

Federal Docket No. 05-12734



### EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD TO OCTOBER 3, 2006

**To:** Readers of the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement  
**From:** John Boccio, CPUC, EIR Project Manager  
Marian Kadota, USDA Forest Service, EIS Project Manager  
**Subject:** **Extension of the Public Review Period** for the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Proposed Antelope-Pardee 500-kV Transmission Project  
**Date:** September 13, 2006

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act, and the USDA Forest Service, as Lead Agency, under the National Environmental Policy Act have extended the public review period for the Antelope-Pardee Transmission Project Draft EIR/EIS from 45 days to 60 days.<sup>1</sup> Therefore, the public comment period will end on October 3, 2006. *Written comments on the Draft EIR/EIS must be postmarked or received by fax or e-mail no later than October 3, 2006.*

#### Project Summary

Southern California Edison (SCE) proposes to construct a new 500-kV transmission line between SCE's existing Antelope and Pardee substations in north Los Angeles County. This project would replace an existing 66-kV line and traverse approximately 13 miles of National Forest System (NFS) lands. The proposed 500-kV transmission line would start at the Antelope Substation in the City of Lancaster, traverse the Angeles National Forest (ANF), and terminate at the Pardee Substation in the City of Santa Clarita.

The Draft EIR/EIS details the proposed Project and alternatives to the proposed Project, evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of the Project and alternatives, identifies those impacts that could be adverse, and presents mitigation measures, which, if adopted by the CPUC, USDA Forest Service, or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize those impacts. The alternatives to the proposed Project considered in the Draft EIR/EIS include the following:

- *Alternative 1: Antelope-Pardee Partial Underground.* This alternative would place two portions of the proposed transmission line underground and would reduce visual impacts, minimize constraints on USDA Forest Service management activities, such as wildland fire suppression, and decrease the risk of avian collisions and electrocutions.
- *Alternative 2: Antelope-Pardee East Mid-Slope Alternative.* This alternative would take a more easterly route through the ANF, would reduce the visual prominence of transmission towers along Del Sur Ridge and other locations, minimize constraints on USDA Forest Service management activities, such as wildland fire suppression, and decrease the risk of avian collisions and electrocutions.
- *Alternative 3: Antelope-Pardee Single-Circuit 500-kV Towers between Haskell Canyon and Pardee Substation.* Instead of removing the existing single-circuit towers along the southern portion of the proposed transmission route and replacing them with double-circuit towers, this alternative would retain the existing towers and construct a new parallel set of single-circuit 500-kV towers from Haskell Canyon to Pardee Substation (entirely on non-NFS lands).
- *Alternative 4: Antelope-Pardee Re-Routing of New Right-of-Way along Haskell Canyon.* In this alternative, the transmission line would follow a different alignment than the proposed Project in the vicinity of Haskell Canyon. This alternative would circumvent the Veluzat Motion Picture Ranch and a planned residential development (known as Meadow Peak) located between the southern boundary of the ANF and the City of Santa Clarita.
- *Alternative 5: Antelope-Pardee Sierra-Pelona Re-Route.* This alternative would establish a new overhead transmission line between the Antelope and Pardee substations along a route that was originally proposed to circumvent the ANF. This new transmission ROW would be located along the eastern edge of the ANF boundary and traverse the National Forest System lands for approximately one and one-half miles along this route.
- *No Project/Action Alternative.* This EIR/EIS also includes analysis of a No Project/Action alternative. With the No Project/Action Alternative, the CPUC and USDA Forest Service would deny SCE's applications and the Project would not be constructed. No amendments would be necessary to the Forest Land Management Plan.

#### Draft EIR/EIS Availability

The Draft EIR/EIS is available for review at several area libraries, other community locations, and on the Project website. CD copies of the Draft EIR/EIS or a separately bound Executive Summary may be requested by phone or fax at (661) 215-5152, or by e-mail at [antelope-pardee@aspeneq.com](mailto:antelope-pardee@aspeneq.com).

<sup>1</sup> The Order Granting Extension is available on the CPUC's website, <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov>, under Docket A.04-12-007 and at the following link: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/efile/RULINGS/59767.htm>

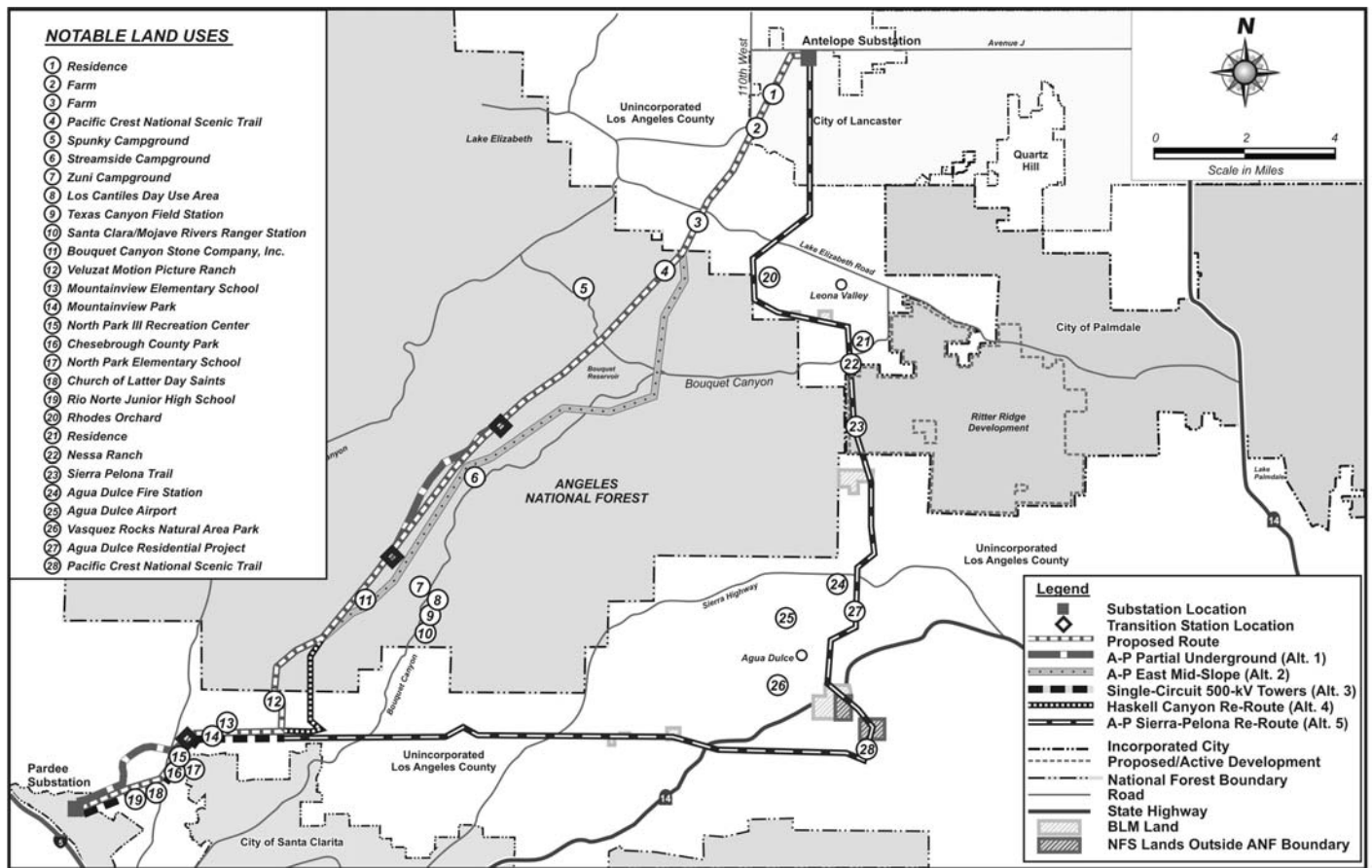
Written comments on the Draft EIR/EIS must be *postmarked or received by fax or email no later than October 3, 2006*, and should be sent to:

**John Boccio/Marian Kadota**  
**CPUC/USDA Forest Service**  
 c/o Aspen Environmental Group  
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 Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
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 E-mail: antelope-pardee@aspenev.com.

**Sources of Project Information**

For additional information, to read the Draft EIR/EIS online, or to find document repository sites, check the Project website at:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspenev/antelopepardee/antelopepardee.htm>



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**Important Notice**  
**Extension of Draft EIR/EIS**  
**Public Comment Period**