

# Alternative 2

## Antelope-Pardee

### East Mid-Slope



*Del Sur Ridge, Angeles National Forest, from Bouquet Canyon Rd.*

## Description

To reduce the visibility of the transmission towers within the Angeles National Forest (ANF), this alternative was developed to move the towers off the top of Del Sur Ridge. This alternative would follow a similar route as the proposed Project, but would relocate most of the towers in the ANF further east towards Bouquet Canyon. Of the 56 towers to be located mid-slope, approximately 37 towers would be installed using helicopters. For those transmission towers located on steep hillsides, not installed by helicopter, permanent spur roads would be established so that tower sites would be accessible from the existing access road located along Del Sur Ridge. Spur roads on steep slopes would need to be cut in a switchback pattern to accommodate the safety requirements of trucks and other construction vehicles.

## Location

This alternative involves the construction of a new approximately 26.7-mile 500-kV transmission line between SCE's existing Antelope and Pardee substations. As shown in the figure on the back of this page, Alternative 2 would deviate from the proposed Project, roughly from Mile 5.7 to 17.5 (Alternative 2 Mile 18.6). Approximately 12.4 miles of the new alignment would fall outside of the boundaries of the existing 1,000-foot-wide Saugus Del Sur utility corridor within the ANF. As such, a new utility corridor would be placed on the east side of Del Sur Ridge.

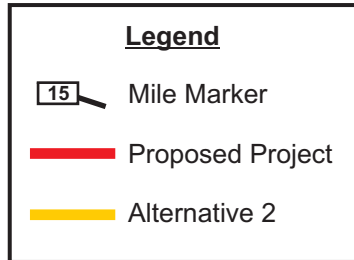
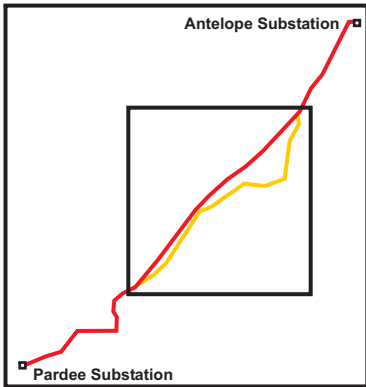
## Key Environmental Issues

- **Air Quality** – More helicopter construction than proposed for the other alternatives would increase construction emissions.
- **Biological Resources** – Would result in the least amount of habitat loss compared to the other alternatives due to fewer spur roads to towers being required. May also reduce the potential for line collisions by raptors, including condors, by reducing the number of towers located on top of Del Sur Ridge.
- **Geology, Soils, and Paleontology** – Crosses more existing landslides than the other alternatives and would also have the most susceptibility to slope instability and damage caused by landslides, earth flows, or debris slides.
- **Forest Management Activities** – Relocating the transmission line off Del Sur Ridge benefits firefighter safety and fire prevention activities.
- **Hydrology and Water Quality** – This is the least preferred alternative with regard to hydrology and water quality as it would introduce short-term and ongoing impacts to water quality due to erosion and sedimentation resulting from the installation of infrastructure in steep hillside areas.
- **Land Use and Public Recreation** – Would avoid significant impacts to the Bouquet Canyon Stone Quarry and recreational trails in the ANF. Would require acquisition of private land, but would not require the removal of existing residences.
- **Socioeconomics** – Would adversely affect the operations of the Veluzat Motion Picture Ranch.
- **Visual Resources** – Removal of the existing 66-kV transmission line from the top of Del Sur Ridge, and not placing the new 500-kV transmission line on the ridge, would improve the visual environment of National Forest System lands.

### Summary Facts

- **Total miles: 26.7 (13.2 on NFS lands)**
- **Single-circuit 500-kV towers: 101**
- **Double-circuit 500-kV towers: 21 + 1 existing**
- **Miles of new ROW: 15.7 (12.2 on NFS lands)**
- **37 towers constructed by helicopter**
- **Visual impacts on Del Sur Ridge would be minimized by shifting the transmission line alignment east towards Bouquet Canyon.**

# Alternative 2: Antelope-Pardee East Mid-Slope



Simulated View: Looking north from Bouquet



Simulated View: Looking north from Vasquez Canyon Road

