

# Alternative 5

## Antelope-Pardee Sierra Pelona Re-Route



*Looking north from Sierra Highway at Anthony Road.*

### Description

Alternative 5 was initially developed to completely avoid the Angeles National Forest (ANF) and National Forest System (NFS) lands between Antelope Substation and Pardee Substation. Ultimately, this alternative was developed to respond to Forest Service policy and Forest Plan direction to develop an alternative located off NFS lands. A goal in developing the alignment for Alternative 5 was to substantially avoid the Forest, as well as minimize disruptions to existing land uses by routing the corridor across open land to the extent feasible.

### Location

As shown in the figure on the back of this page, this alternative proceeds in a southerly direction from Antelope Substation to the Pardee Substation via the existing Pardee-Vincent corridor. Alternative 5 would rejoin the proposed Project route at Mile 20.3 (Alternative 5 Mile 31.9).

### Key Environmental Issues

- **Air Quality** – This alternative has the second highest annual and total emissions.
- **Biological Resources** – This would be the preferred alternative from a biological resources perspective, as it may result in beneficial impacts to the California condor and Management Indicator Species on NFS lands, and would be located in habitats characterized by greater disturbance than all the other alternatives.
- **Geology, Soils, Paleontology** – Greatest potential to be subject to strong ground shaking that could damage project structures than all the other alternatives.
- **Forest Management Activities** – This would be the preferred alternative from a Forest Management perspective as it would be largely off NFS lands, would result in the fewest impacts to Forest Management Activities, and would benefit aggressive fire suppression and firefighter safety in the ANF.
- **Land Use and Public Recreation** – This alternative would avoid significant impacts to the Veluzat Motion Picture Ranch and the Bouquet Canyon Stone Company; however it would traverse 103 privately owned parcels and possibly remove one or more homes.
- **Noise** – Has the potential to expose the greatest number of residences to noise associated with construction, operation, and maintenance activities than any of the other alternatives, as it would traverse Lancaster, Leona Valley, Agua Dulce, and the Santa Clarita area.
- **Public Services** – Would place the greatest demand on public services due the extended route length.
- **Socioeconomics** – Could result in the removal of existing housing; however, it would avoid direct revenue impacts to the Veluzat Motion Picture Ranch and the Bouquet Canyon Stone Quarry.
- **Traffic and Transportation** – Would result in more road crossings, including two crossings of State Route 14, and would result in increased duration and severity of traffic impacts.
- **Utilities and Service Systems** – Would generate approximately 4,605 tons of waste, more than the proposed Project or any of the other alternatives except Alternative 1.
- **Visual Resources** – This would be the preferred alternative from a visual resources perspective, as it would have the most beneficial effect on the visual environment within the ANF by removing the existing 66-kV transmission line infrastructure; results in the least detrimental effects on NFS lands by crossing only three small, scattered tracts; crosses the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail in an environment where three large transmission lines already exist; and would avoid the Veluzat Ranch.

#### Summary Facts

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

# Alternative 5: Antelope-Pardee Sierra Pelona Re-route



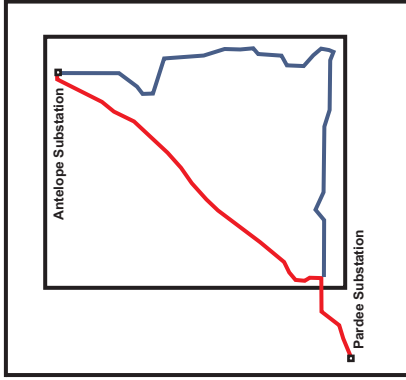
Simulated View: Looking south towards Portal Ridge from Avenue K



Simulated View: Looking west from Leona Valley Road

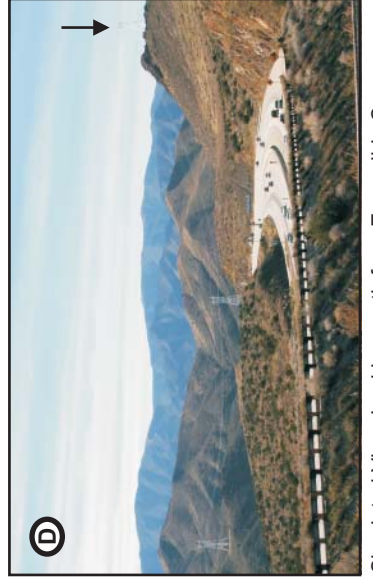
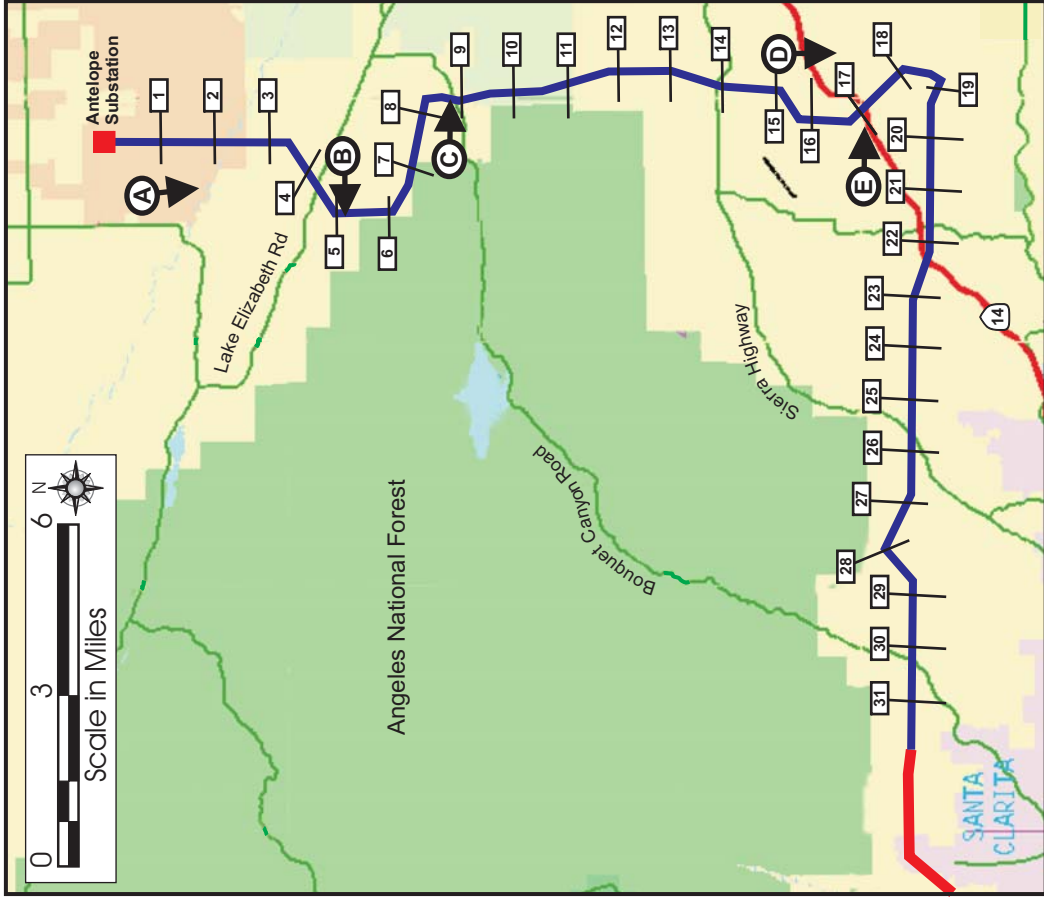


Simulated View: Looking east from Lost Valley Ranch Road



**Legend**

- Mile Marker
- Proposed Project
- Alternative 5



Simulated View: Looking south from Escondido Canyon Road at the Antelope Valley Freeway



Simulated View: Looking east from Vasquez Rocks County Park