

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

March 30, 2009

Donald Johnson
Project Manager
Southern California Edison
2131 Walnut Grove Ave.
Rosemead, C 911770

RE: SCE Antelope-Pardee 500 kV Transmission Project, Segment 1 – Variance Request #37

Dear Mr. Johnson,

On March 30, 2009, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a variance requesting to install an underground coaxial cable from an existing cellular control building to new Tower 11 on Segment 1, Section 1 of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP), in Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County. **This Variance Request is approved by CPUC for the proposed activities based on the following factors:**

- SCE submitted the following information:

An AT&T cellular site is currently located on an existing tower that is scheduled to be dismantled as part of TRTP. As a result, the cellular site will be installed onto the replacement tower (Tower 11). The trench for the underground coaxial cable is approximately 35 inches deep by 18 inches wide. The trench will cross an existing access road through the disturbance area of Tower 11. No additional biological impacts are anticipated since the trenching will be occurring within the previously approved disturbance area of Tower 11 and the disturbance area of the existing road. This area also does not have any cultural resources and has already been previously cleared.

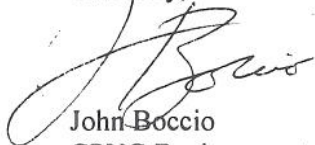
- Biological surveys were conducted as part of SCE mitigation requirements for construction of this transmission line. No recent surveys have been submitted for the area around the new Tower 11 and biological clearance surveys will need to be conducted and submitted to the CPUC prior to equipment and vehicles mobilizing to the project area. No significant impacts to biological resources are anticipated with the implementation of the conditions noted below.
- The area around Tower 11 does not have any known cultural resources and has been previously cleared as part of the surveys conducted as part of SCE mitigation requirements for construction of this transmission line.

The conditions noted below shall be met by SCE and its contractors:

- All project mitigation measures, compliance plans, and permit conditions shall be implemented during construction activities. Some measures are on-going/time-sensitive requirements and shall be implemented prior to and during construction where applicable.
- Biological surveys shall be re-conducted and results submitted to the CPUC for review and approval prior to equipment and vehicles mobilizing to the project area. After complete surveys have been submitted and approved by the CPUC, site occupation can occur; however, if occupation does not occur within seven calendar days of survey submittals, biological clearance sweeps shall be conducted prior to site occupation, including nesting bird surveys.

- SCE has assigned Biological Monitors to the Project. They are responsible for ensuring that impacts to special-status species, native vegetation, wildlife habitat, or unique resources are minimized to the fullest extent possible. The Biological Monitor shall be on-site to monitor all work and shall conduct sweeps of the approved areas which will be impacted. If breeding birds with active nests are found, a biological monitor shall establish a 300-foot buffer around the nest and no activities will be allowed within the buffer until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails. The 300-foot buffer may be adjusted to reflect existing conditions including ambient noise and disturbance only with the approval of the CDFG and/or USFWS (Please note that the CPUC must be notified prior to the onset of construction). The biological monitor shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to determine success/failure and to ensure that project activities are not conducted within the buffer until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails. If nesting birds move into the work area SCE will monitor the nest to ensure that their activities do not result in the loss or failure of the nest. A preliminary 300-foot buffer area around the nest will be established and SCE shall coordinate with the CPUC, CDFG and/or USFWS.
- After use, all areas proposed under this Variance shall be completely restored to preexisting conditions following the construction activities.
- If construction debris or spills enter into environmentally sensitive areas, the jurisdictional agencies and CPUC EM shall be notified immediately.
- If not already provided, copies of all landowner agreements/lease agreements shall be submitted to the CPUC prior to use.
- Prior to the commencement of construction activities, all crew personnel including crane, haul truck and concrete truck drivers shall be appropriately WEAP trained on environmental issues including protocols for air quality, hazardous materials, biological resources, known and unanticipated cultural materials, as well as SWPPP BMPs. A log shall be maintained on-site with the names of all crew personnel trained.
- All work boundaries shall be flagged prior to construction. No movement or staging of construction vehicles or equipment shall be allowed outside of the approved areas.
- Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be implemented at all times during the use of the project area, as will Best Management Practices. Implementation of all necessary erosion control devices will be properly installed and maintained throughout the duration of project area use. A copy of the SWPPP will be available on-site for reference.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, and this Variance shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities where applicable.

Sincerely,



John Boccio
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen