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PROJECT MEMORANDUM

DOWNS SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT

To: Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: January 30, 2015
Subject: Monitoring Report #9: January 19 to 25, 2015

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the Southern California Edison (SCE) Downs Substation Expansion Project.

A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for construction and Minor Project Change (MPC) activities are provided in Tables 1 and 2, respectively (below).

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): David DuBois was on site January 22, 2015.

CPUC NTPs

#1 Downs Substation Expansion Site

NTP #1 was issued on October 22, 2014 for the site preparation, grading, and construction of the Downs Substation expansion, adjacent to the existing Downs Substation on the corner of South Downs Street and West Ridgecrest Boulevard in Ridgecrest. NTP #1 included conditions that had to be satisfied prior to the start of construction.

Summary of Activity:

1. Work continued Monday through Friday of the subject period. No work occurred Saturday or Sunday (January 24 & 5)
2. Preparation of the substation pad and surveying of the substation pad for foundation locations continued. Gravel and materials continued to be stored on the substation pad (see Figure 1). Foundation installation for structures also occurred on the substation pad (see Figure 2).
3. Installation of a Mechanical and Electrical Equipment Room (MEER) continued during the subject period. The building was placed on its foundation during the subject period (see Figure 3).
4. Installation of a detention pond at the southeast portion of the site remains partially complete. Pooling water has prevented completion of this work (see Figures 4 & 5).
5. Concrete continued to be delivered to the substation expansion area during the subject period.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Cultural monitoring has been suspended and did not occur during the subject period. The majority of grading is complete and the ground surface is 100% disturbed.
2. Biological monitoring was conducted during the subject period. No biological resources were observed during the subject period.
3. No dust issues were observed by the CPUC EM.
4. Desert tortoise fencing continued to function. No desert tortoises have been observed at the substation site since the start of construction.



5. Following the approval of MPC #1 (see Table 2 below), vehicles are using an alternate route to access the Project work area that avoids public traffic. During the subject period, the CPUC EM observed that the entrance was being left open; however, a biological monitor was posted at the gate throughout the day to check for wildlife (including desert tortoise).
6. Rains during the previous reporting period created some muddy conditions and some track-out was observed along Church Avenue. The issue was addressed and, during the subject period, only minimal track out was observed.
7. Concrete wash-outs are properly contained (see Figure 6).
8. The CPUC EM observed a trench without escape ramps. Construction personnel were notified and escape ramps were installed prior to closing the work site for the day (see Figure 7).
9. Trash containers were observed to be securely covered during the subject period.

Notices to Proceed

Table 1 summarizes the Notices to Proceed (NTP) for the Downs Substation Expansion Project.

Table 1
Notice to Proceeds (NTPs)
(Updated 01/30/15)

NTP #1	Date Requested	Date Issued	Phase	Description
NTP #1	9/4/14	10/22/14	Downs Substation Expansion	Site preparation/grading, installation of substation components in the expanded Down's Substation footprint.

Minor Project Changes

Table 2 summarizes the Minor Project Changes for the Downs Substation Expansion Project.

Table 2
Minor Project Changes (MPCs)
(Updated 01/30/15)

MPC	Date Requested	Date Issued	Phase	Description
MPC #1	12/5/14	12/15/14	Downs Substation Expansion	Requests the use of an existing dirt roadway that connects the southwest corner of the work area to Church Avenue.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1 – Gravel continues to be stored on the substation pad. View northeast, January 22, 2015.



Figure 2 – Foundations were installed during the subject period. View south, January 22, 2015.



Figure 3 – Installation of the MEER building occurred during the subject period. View northeast, January 22, 2015.



Figure 4 – Pooled water has delayed completion of the site's detention basin. View northeast, January 22, 2015.



Figure 5 – Panoramic view of detention basin grading progress, from southeast corner of site. View northwest, 01/08/15 above, 01/13/14 middle, and 01/22/14 below.



Figure 6 – Concrete washout is properly contained at the end of the work day. View south, January 22, 2015.



Figure 7 – A trench was equipped with escape ramps to help prevent animal entrapment. View east, January 22, 2015.