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## PROJECT MEMORANDUM

### DOWNNS SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT

**To:** Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** March 9, 2015  
**Subject:** Monitoring Report #14: February 23 to February 28, 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 February 26, 2015.

**Work Schedule:** Work continued Monday through Saturday of the subject period. No work occurred Sunday (February 28)

## 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. 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. The substation expansion pad is over 25% complete.
2. Installation of tubular steel pole (TSP) foundations within the substation site occurred during the subject period (see Figure 1).
3. Transformers were delivered and installed during the subject period (see Figure 2).
4. Concrete deliveries, augering, trenching and foundation installation continued in the substation expansion area during the subject period (see Figure 3).
5. Installation of a Mechanical and Electrical Equipment Room (MEER) and associated wiring continued 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. Desert tortoise fencing continued to function along the property boundary fencing. No desert tortoises have been observed at the substation site since the start of construction.
4. 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).
5. Track-out was minimal during the subject period. A street sweeper is onsite to manage roadway cleaning as necessary.
6. Concrete wash-outs are properly contained (see Figure 4).
7. Trash containers were observed to be securely covered during the subject period.
8. Secondary containment was used under parked machinery to capture leaks (see Figure 5).

## #2 Linear Portion

NTP #2 was issued on February 20, 2015 for the linear portion of the Project which includes 115 kV and fiber optic installations, and substation upgrades. NTP #2 included conditions that had to be satisfied prior to the start of construction.

### Summary of Activity:

1. Construction activities are pending for NTP #2 work areas.

### Environmental Compliance:

1. Biologists and Cultural specialists are conducting preconstruction clearance and resource avoidance delineations for work areas along portions of the NTP #2 linear segment.
2. There are currently four active mourning dove nests along the NTP #2 linear segment. No additional nests were identified during the subject week.

## Notices to Proceed

Table 1 summarizes the Notices to Proceed (NTP) for the Downs Substation Expansion Project. NTP #2 for the remainder of the Project was issued on February 20, 2014.

**Table 1**  
**Notice to Proceeds (NTPs)**  
(Updated 03/09/15)

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.
NTP #2	01/27/15	02/20/15	Remainder of the Project	115 kV and fiber optic installations, and substation upgrades.

# Minor Project Changes

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

**Table 2**  
**Minor Project Changes (MPCs)**  
(Updated 03/09/15)

<b>MPC</b>	<b>Date Requested</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Description</b>
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 PHOTOGRAPH



Figure 1 – Foundations for TSPs were installed during the subject period. View east, 02/26/15.



Figure 2 – Two new transformers were installed during the subject period. View east, 02/26/15.



Figure 3 – Augering, trenching, and foundation installation continued in the substation expansion area. View south, 02/26/15.



Figure 4 – Concrete washout is secured at the end of the day. View north, 02/26/15.



Figure 5 – Secondary containment is placed under machinery at the end of the day. View southeast, 02/26/15.