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PROJECT MEMORANDUM
DOWN'S SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT

To: Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: July 20, 2015
Subject: Monitoring Report #31 – July 6 to July 12, 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 July 7, 2015.

Work Schedule: Work continued Monday through Friday during the subject period. No work occurred Saturday or Sunday.

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. Gravel and materials continue to be stored onsite. The substation expansion pad is approximately 95% complete.
2. Installation of a new tubular steel pole (TSP) foundation occurred during the subject period (see Figure 1). A previously installed foundation was found to be inadequate and needed to be replaced.

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 sensitive biological resources were observed.
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), an alternate route to access the Project work-area, that avoids public traffic, is available for use. However, during the subject period, construction traffic was minimal and accessed the site from West Ridgecrest Boulevard.
5. Track out was minimal during the subject period.

6. Trash containers were observed to be securely covered during the subject period.
7. No dust issues were observed.

#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. After a temporary construction shutdown due to a spike in desert tortoise activity, work resumed along the linear portion of the project during the subject period.
2. Trenching work began at Searles Substation during the subject period (see Figure 2).
3. Linear work is approximately 60% complete.

Environmental Compliance:

1. On July 2nd, Biologists observed a desert tortoise near a known burrow location along the telecom route. Apart from inactive/historic den locations, this is the only sensitive biological resource affecting work areas as of the subject period.
2. Biological monitoring was conducted during the subject period. No sensitive biological resources were observed.
3. 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
Notices to Proceed (NTPs)
(Updated 07/20/15)

NTP	Date Requested	Date Issued	Phase	Description
NTP #1	09/04/14	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 07/20/15)

MPC	Date Requested	Date Issued	Phase	Description
MPC #1	12/05/14	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.
MPC #2	05/20/15	05/26/15	Downs Substation Expansion	Installation of privacy slats on all chain link fencing encompassing the perimeter of the Downs Substation, including the expansion area.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPH



Figure 1 – Installation of new TSP foundation occurred at Downs Substation during the subject period. View south, 7/7/15.



Figure 2 – Trenching and excavation work occurred at the Searles Substation during the subject period. View northeast, 7/7/2015.