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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM**  
**DOWN'S SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

**To:** Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** August 21, 2015  
**Subject:** Monitoring Report #36 – August 10 to August 16, 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 August 11, 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. Some minor wire stringing activities occurred at the substation during the subject period.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. 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.

### **#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. Electrical work is complete at McGen Substation.
2. Overhead work continued between McGen Substation and Searles Substation during the subject week (see Figure 1).

3. Overhead work continued along the southern alignment between Inyokern Substation and McGen Substation during the subject period (see Figures 2&3).
4. Linear work is approximately 70% complete and is scheduled for completion by September 30, 2015.

**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. Work is scheduled for completion by September 30<sup>th</sup> to avoid the desert tortoise prohibition period.
2. Biological monitoring was conducted during the subject period. No sensitive biological resources were observed.
3. No dust issues were observed.
4. Staking is in place around sensitive resource areas.
5. Secondary containment was used under parked equipment.

**Notices to Proceed**

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

**Table 1**  
**Notices to Proceed (NTPs)**  
(Updated 08/21/15)

<b>NTP</b>	<b>Date Requested</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Description</b>
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 08/21/15)

<b>MPC</b>	<b>Date Requested</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Description</b>
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 – Line crews installed telecom cables along the alignment between Searles and McGen (pictured) substations during the subject period. View northeast, 8/11/2015.



Figure 2 – Crews install telecom cables along the alignment, along West Springer Avenue during the subject period. View east, 8/11/2015.