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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM**  
**DOWN SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

**To:** Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** September 17, 2015  
**Subject:** Monitoring Report #40 – September 7 to September 13, 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 September 11, 2015.

**Work Schedule:** Work continued Monday through Saturday during the subject period. No work occurred on 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. Crews continued installing the remaining perimeter fencing around the outer substation expansion area (see Figure 1).
2. Gravel and materials continue to be stored onsite. The substation expansion pad is approximately 95% complete.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. Desert tortoise fencing was appropriately installed as part of the fence installation work during the subject period. No desert tortoises have been observed at the substation site since the start of construction.
2. The concrete washout container was covered (see Figure 2).
3. Secondary containment was used under parked equipment.

### **#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. Overhead work continued along the southern alignment between Inyokern Substation and McGen Substation during the subject period (see Figure 3).
2. Linear work is approximately 85% 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.

## Notices to Proceed

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

**Table 1**  
**Notices to Proceed (NTPs)**  
(Updated 09/17/15)

<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 09/17/15)

<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 PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1 – Fence crews continued installing perimeter fencing at Downs Substation during the subject period. View west.



Figure 2 – The concrete washout is securely covered at the Downs Substation outer expansion area. View northwest.



Figure 3 – Crews conducted work along the southern alignment during the subject period.  
View at McGen Substation, facing northeast.