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

**To:** Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** December 15, 2015  
**Subject:** Monitoring Report #49 – November 30 to December 6, 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 December 3, 2015.

**Work Schedule:** Work occurred 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. Crews completed installation of a restroom facility during the subject period (see Figure 1).
2. Crews completed oleander bush removal along the northern and eastern boundaries of the substation (see Figure 2).
3. Trenching for drip irrigation occurred along the perimeter of the substation footprint during the subject period (see Figure 3).
4. Gravel and materials continue to be stored onsite. The substation expansion area is approximately 95% complete.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. The CPUC EM contacted compliance personnel to recommend additional cultural resource monitoring during earth disturbing activities along the west edge of the substation expansion area (previously undisturbed), where landscaping and culvert installation work will be occurring during the coming weeks. Cultural monitoring will occur as necessary for this work.
2. Work-limit staking was absent along the western edge of the landscaping and culvert installation work area, along the west edge of the substation expansion area. The CPUC EM notified compliance personnel and work limit staking was promptly installed (see Figure 4).

3. No track-out was observed during the subject period.
4. No dust issues were observed during the subject period.
5. Desert tortoise fencing was appropriately installed during fence installation work. 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. Overhead fiber optic work is complete.

### Environmental Compliance:

1. On October 8<sup>th</sup>, SCE requested that the deadline for submitting the final technical report, concerning paleontological monitoring for the project, be extended to December 21, 2015. The extension would allow for the inclusion of radiocarbon dating results that are currently being processed. The request for an extension was approved.

## Notices to Proceed

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

**Table 1**  
**Notices to Proceed (NTPs)**  
(Updated 12/15/15)

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 12/15/15)

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.

<b>MPC</b>	<b>Date Requested</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Phase</b>	<b>Description</b>
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 – Installation of a restroom facility was completed during the subject period. View east (12/3/15).



Figure 2 – Oleander removal was completed during the subject period. View southeast (12/3/15).



Figure 3 – Landscape crews trenched irrigation lines along the northern edge of the substation during the subject period. View east (10/20/15 above, 12/3/15 below).

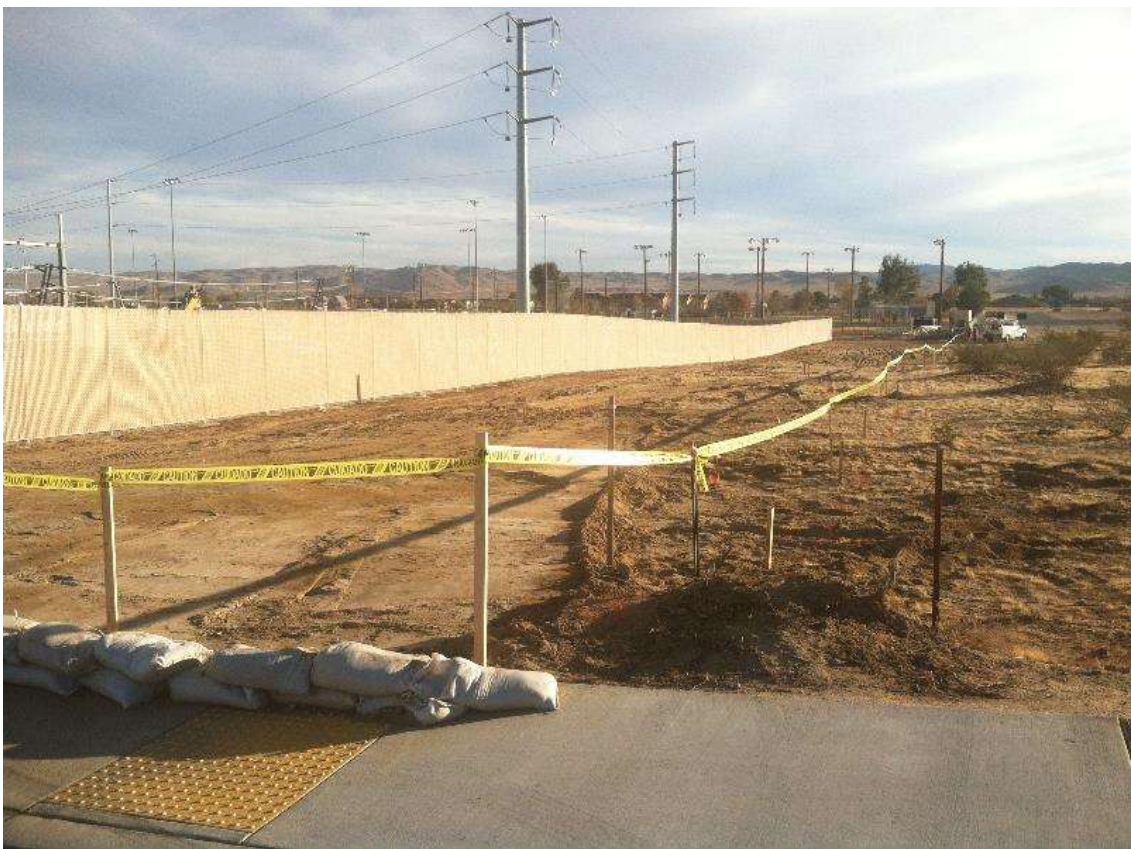


Figure 4 – Landscape crews installed work limits along the western edge of the work area.  
View southeast (both images 12/3/15).