



5020 Chesebro Road, Suite 200, Agoura Hills, CA 91301
Tel. 818-597-3407, Fax 818-597-8001, www.aspeneg.com

**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE DPV2 TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

To: Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: January 18, 2012
Subject: Weekly Report 23, December 19 to December 25, 2011

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the SCE DPV2 Transmission and Red Bluff Substation Projects.

A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTPs) with construction and Variance Request activity are also provided (see Tables 1 and 2, respectively, near the end of this report). Additionally, a summary of Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) and non-compliance activities are provided in Tables 3 and 4, respectively.

CPUC/BLM/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM): Jamie Miner and Rosina Gallego were on site December 19 through December 22.

CPUC NTPS

DPV2 CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIAL YARDS

NTP #1 was issued for construction and set-up of construction yards, including the Devers #1, Desert Center #1 (DC1), Desert Center #2 (DC2), Blythe, Beaumont #1, Menifee, and Perris Construction Yards.

Summary of Activity:

1. All major construction activities for the construction yards covered under this NTP were completed prior to the subject period. At this time, activities at these locations are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.
2. Activities associated with the underground temporary power line at the Devers #1 Construction Yard continued through the subject period. By December 20, trenching had reached the yard boundaries and all associated activities that had previously occurred along the access road had been completed and cleaned-up (see Figures 1 and 2).

Environmental Compliance:

1. The SCE General Monitor conducted a weekly spot check of all of the construction yards covered under NTP #1 on December 23 with the exception of the Devers #1 Construction Yard, which was inspected on December 21. The CPUC EM also conducted a site visit to the Devers #1 Construction Yard on December 20. No compliance issues were reported during the subject period.
2. Biological sweeps of the construction yards covered under NTP #1 were conducted by the SCE Biological Monitors throughout the subject period. No compliance issues or special-status species observations were reported.

DPV2 EXCLUSIONARY FENCING AT 41 TOWER LOCATIONS

NTP #2 was issued by CPUC for the installation of Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard (*Uma inornata*) and flat-tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma mcallii*) exclusionary fencing at 41 tower locations between the Devers Substation and Indio.



Summary of Activity:

1. All major construction activities associated with exclusionary fencing under NTP #2 were completed prior to the subject period.

Environmental Compliance:

1. The CPUC EM noted on December 20 that exclusionary fencing that had been previously damaged at Tower #2132 and #2133 was yet to be repaired (see Figures 3 and 4). The CPUC EM (J. Miner) called Tera Baird, USFWS, to determine the USFWS expectations regarding damaged fencing. Because it is currently the inactive season for Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard and flat-tailed horned lizard, the USFWS requested that fencing be promptly repaired; however, additional clearance sweeps would not be warranted. The CPUC EM contacted Patty Nevins, SCE Environmental Coordinator, to ask when the fencing would be repaired. Patty Nevins stated that they would have a crew repair the fence as soon as possible. As of December 22, it was reported by Mark Augustyne, SCE General Monitor, during a conversation with the CPUC EM that repairs had yet to be completed.

BEAUMONT #2 CONSTRUCTION YARD

NTP #3 was issued for construction activities associated with the development of the Beaumont #2 Construction Yard.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #3 were conducted during the subject period.

INDIO #1 CONSTRUCTION YARD

NTP #4 was issued for construction activities associated with the development of the Indio #1 Construction Yard.

Summary of Activity:

1. All major construction activities associated with the Indio #1 Construction Yard under NTP #4 were completed prior to the subject period. Activities occurring during the subject period at this location included minor site maintenance and deliveries only.

Environmental Compliance:

1. The SCE Biological Monitor conducted a biological sweep of the Indio #1 Construction Yard on December 20. The SCE Biological Monitor reported that bird netting of equipment and materials had been completed or was in the process of being completed. No special-status species were observed during the subject period.

RED BLUFF SUBSTATION DISTRIBUTION (NON-BLM LANDS)

NTP #5 was issued for upgrades of a segment of the existing SCE 12 kV circuit overhead distribution line to supply light and power to the Red Bluff Substation on non-BLM lands.

Summary of Activity:

1. All major construction activities associated with the Red Bluff distribution line were completed prior to the subject period.

COLORADO RIVER SUBSTATION DISTRIBUTION

NTP #6 was authorized for the construction and occupation of the following components associated with the CRS on non-BLM lands: (1) extension of an existing 33 kV distribution line to supply substation light

and power; (2) installation of a telecommunications line; and, (3) access road improvements (including a new access road driveway) to serve the CRS.

Summary of Activity:

1. Activities associated with the CRS distribution line included the installation of dead-ends and grommets up to the northern edge of the alignment on December 20. On December 21, approximately 10,000 feet of wire was pulled and secured up to the paved portion of Blythe Way. Equipment was demobilized and left the site that day and was not expected to return until early January.

Environmental Compliance:

1. The SCE Biological Monitor was onsite during construction activities on December 20 and 21. Access roads were swept for biological resources prior to use by equipment.
2. A peregrine falcon was observed by the SCE Biological Monitor on December 21. The individual bird was identified perched on the distribution line poles and flew to the south when approached during the pre-construction biological sweep.

DPV1 MINOR RELOCATION

NTP #7 was authorized for the construction activities associated with the minor relocation of the existing Devers-Valley 500 kV transmission line as part of the DPV2 Project. These activities include the construction of stub roads, foundations, steel assembly, erection of four lattice steel towers (LSTs), and the installation of associated hardware assemblies and interconnecting wires. Activities will also include the removal of structures, foundations, associated hardware assemblies, and interconnecting wires for three existing LSTs.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #7 were conducted during the subject period.

TRANSMISSION LINE: RED BLUFF SUBSTATION TO COLORADO RIVER SUBSTATION

NTP #8 was authorized for the construction of 31 miles of overhead 500 kV transmission line from CRS to the new Red Bluff Substation and the replacement of five miles of existing overhead ground wire (OHGW) with new optical ground wire (OPGW) on the existing Devers—Palo Verde No. 1 (DPV1) transmission line. Project elements associated with NTP #8 include new stub roads and maintenance of existing access roads, development of wire set up sites (e.g., pull sites, splicing sites, tensioning sites), and the installation of tower foundations, structures, wires, and guard structures.

Summary of Activity:

1. No construction activities associated with NTP #8 were conducted during the subject period.

TRANSMISSION LINE: DEVERS SUBSTATION TO RED BLUFF SUBSTATION

NTP #9 was authorized for the construction of 81-miles of overhead 500 kV transmission line from the existing Devers Substation to the new Red Bluff Substation. Project elements associated with NTP #9 include new stub roads and maintenance of existing access roads, development of wire set up sites (e.g., pull sites, splicing sites, tensioning sites), and the installation of tower foundations, structures, wires, and guard structures.

Summary of Activity:

1. No construction activities associated with NTP #9 were conducted during the subject period.

TRANSMISSION LINE: DEVERS SUBSTATION TO VALLEY SUBSTATION

NTP #10 was authorized for the construction of the overhead 500 kV transmission line from the existing Devers Substation to the existing Valley Substation, excluding the portion of the line that would traverse the San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF) property. Project elements associated with NTP #10 include new stub roads and maintenance of existing access roads, development of wire set up sites (e.g., pull sites, splicing sites, tensioning sites), and the installation of tower foundations, structures, wires, and guard structures.

Summary of Activity:

1. No construction activities associated with NTP #9 were conducted during the subject period.

DEVERS #2 AND INDIO #2 CONSTRUCTION YARDS

NTP #11 was authorized for the construction and occupation of the Devers #2 and Indio #2 Construction Yards.

Summary of Activity:

1. Activities associated with the development of the Devers #2 Construction Yard commenced during the subject period. These included the installation of BMPs, vegetation clearing/grubbing, grading, gravel placement, and fence construction activities (see Figure 5).
2. Construction activities associated with the development of the Indio #2 Construction Yard that occurred during the subject period included gravel placement, chain link fence and privacy screening installation, and compacting and forming of the driveway. However, concrete work for the driveway was on hold until a City of Indio inspection could be completed.

Environmental Compliance:

1. SCE General and Biological Monitors were onsite during construction activities at each of the yards covered under NTP #11 throughout the subject period. The CPUC EM inspected construction activities at the Devers #2 Construction Yard on December 20 and December 22 and the Indio #2 Construction Yard on December 22. No compliance issues were reported during the subject period.
2. Throughout the subject period at the two yards covered under NTP #11, dust suppression was conducted, equipment and materials were placed in secondary containment, BMPs were inspected, and personnel was WEAP trained (see Figure 6).
3. The same burrowing owl that was identified near the project area the previous week continued to utilize the burrow located approximately 100 feet north of the northern boundary at the beginning of the week. However, this individual was no longer observed onsite at the end of the subject period.
4. On December 21, the SCE Biological Monitor reported an individual golden eagle that twice flew over the work area at the Devers #2 Construction Yard. Each time, the bird was chased out of the area by a raven.

BLM NTPS

DPV2 AND COLORADO RIVER SUBSTATION

BLM NTP #1 and a Right-of-Way grant were issued by BLM on September 19, 2011 for construction of the DPV2 Project on BLM lands, which included the Colorado River Substation and associated components.

Summary of Activity:

1. Major construction activities associated with the development of the water well concluded during the subject period and the drill rig was deconstructed on December 20.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Upon completion of the water well, SCE Biological Monitors continued to check surface releases from the associated sprinkler system. However, the CPUC EM expressed concerns during a December 19 site visit related to the amount of ponded water resulting from the surface releases (see Figure 7). As a result, the CPUC EM contacted Mark Masser, BLM, and sent photos to coordinate with the BLM on any potential issues. Mark Masser stated that he would review and notify with any concerns.
2. Excluder devices were installed at kit fox sites on December 20.
3. There were no non-compliance issues or special-status species observations at the CRS site reported by the SCE Monitors during the subject period.

RED BLUFF SUBSTATION

BLM NTP #2 and a Right-of-Way grant were issued by BLM on September 19, 2011 for construction of the Red Bluff Substation and the Desert Center Communication Site.

Summary of Activity:

1. The continuation of 24-hour drilling activities was implemented at the Red Bluff Substation site through December 21, at which time gravel filling of the bore hole and removal of the drill were conducted.

Environmental Compliance:

1. SCE General and Biological Monitors were onsite throughout all construction activities associated with water well drilling.
2. The CPUC EM was onsite on December 22 and no compliance issues were observed.
3. A small water leak initiating from the drill was observed and reported by the SCE General Monitor on December 20. The area was immediately surrounded by sandbags and no additional impacts were reported (see Figure

There were no non-compliance incidents reported or observed during the subject period.

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES DURING CONSTRUCTION (OTHER THAN CPUC EMS):

None

CPUC/BLM NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTPS)

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC/BLM Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for the DPV2 and Red Bluff Projects, to date.

TABLE 1
NTPs
(Updated 1/18/12)

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment	Description
CPUC NTPs				
NTP #1	04/28/11	06/23/11	Yards	Authorization to proceed with the development of the Devers, Desert Center 1, Desert Center 2, Summit, Blythe, Perris, Beaumont, and Menifee Construction Yards.
NTP #2	08/05/11	09/09/11	T/L	Installation of exclusionary fencing, Devers to Blythe. No cultural resources affected. Bio pending.

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment	Description
NTP #3	08/26/11	09/19/11	Yards	Construction of Beaumont Construction Yard #2.
NTP #4	09/09/11	09/20/11	Yards	Construction of Indio Construction Yard.
NTP #5	09/16/11	10/11/11	Red Bluff Distribution Line	Upgrades to a segment of the existing SCE 12 kV circuit overhead distribution line to supply light and power to the Red Bluff Substation, non-BLM lands.
NTP #6	09/16/11	10/17/11	Substation	Authorization to proceed with improvements to the new Colorado River Substation on private lands, including extension of the existing 33 kV distribution line, installation of a new telecommunication line, and access road improvements.
NTP #7	09/09/11	12/01/11	T/L – DPV1	Construction activities associated with a minor relocation of the Devers-Valley No. 1 Line (DV1).
NTP #8	10/08/11	12/01/11	T/L – CRS to Red Bluff	Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between Red Bluff and Colorado River Substations and replacement of existing DPV1 overhead ground wire; non-BLM lands.
NTP #9	10/08/11	12/02/11	T/L – Devers to Red Bluff	Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between the existing Devers Substation and the new Red Bluff Substation; non-BLM lands.
NTP #10	10/08/11	12/02/11	T/L – Devers to Valley	Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between existing Devers and Valley Substations; not including San Bernardino National Forest lands.
NTP #11	11/08/11	12/09/11	Yards	Construction of Devers 2 and Indio 2 Construction Yards.
BLM NTPs				
BLM NTP #1	08/26/11	09/19/11	DPV2 Substation, T/L	Authorization to proceed with construction of the DPV2 Transmission Line, Colorado River Substation, and associated project components on BLM lands.
BLM NTP #2	08/26/11	09/19/11	Substation	Construction of Red Bluff Substation and associated project components, BLM lands.

VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

Variance Requests and Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) Requests submitted to date are summarized in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

TABLE 2
VARIANCE REQUESTS
(Updated 1/18/12)

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
VR #1	05/06/11	05/24/11	Devers- Valley	Construction of traditional lattice towers instead of “Tetra” towers at two locations (Structures #1139 and #1140)
VR #2	04/21/11	05/26/11	All	Revisions to Mitigation Measure B-7d pertaining to seasonal restrictions for Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard and flat-tailed horned lizard to support consistency with conditions provided in the Biological Opinion.
VR #3	07/12/11	07/18/11	DC 1 & DC 2 Yards	Utilize offsite well location and installation of 12,000-gallon water tank for filling trucks.
VR #4	07/06/11	07/21/11	Menifee Yard	Expansion of Menifee Construction Yard, which would include approximately 5 acres of additional disturbance within the western portion of the parcel, for material storage and other activities.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
VR #5	04/22/11	07/28/11	CRS Devers and Valley Substations, Series Capacitor Site	Modification of APM A-7 regarding carpooling for construction at substations.
VR #6	07/07/11	08/01/11	Menifee, Beaumont, Perris Yards	Request to remove Mitigation Measures B-13a and B-13b, and to modify B-1a, B-1a (revised), and B-7e pertaining to Western Riverside County MSHCP compliance.
VR #7	08/11/11	08/22/11	Perris, Beaumont, Menifee, Blythe Yards	Request to utilize offsite water hydrants at Perris, Beaumont, Menifee, and Blythe Construction Yards.
VR #8	08/26/11	08/27/11	Beaumont Yard	Request to install seeded jute netting along the property frontage at Beaumont Construction Yard.
VR #9	08/24/11	09/01/11	DC 2 Yard	Request for installation of temporary power poles outside of Desert Center 2 Construction Yard.
VR #10	08/26/11	09/01/11	Devers & Summit Yards	Utilize offsite water locations needed for dust suppression at Devers and Summit Construction Yards.
—	09/21/11	Retracted	Perris Yard	Request for additional workspace involving vegetation clearing, installation of BMPs, and temporary driveway installation at Perris Construction Yard.
VR #11	09/26/11	09/28/11	T/L	Two water sources for exclusionary fencing work.
VR #12	10/13/11	10/18/11	T/L	Request for parking/temporary staging of vehicles along existing access road within the Coachella Valley Preserve during exclusionary fencing activities.
VR #13	10/26/11	11/10/11	Devers Yard	Request for temporary power supply to provide power to construction trailer at the Devers #1 Construction Yard.
VR #14	11/10/11	11/28/11	Substation	Request for increased well pumping to support civil work, including access road improvements, at Colorado River Substation.
VR #15	12/13/11	12/14/11	Summit Yard	Request for temporary power outside yard boundaries required to power office trailers.
VR #16	12/22/11	01/04/12	Project wide	Request to approve alternate/extended work hours project-wide.
VR #17	01/04/12	01/09/12	Project wide	Request to utilize existing approved construction yard and/or exclusionary fencing water sources for transmission line construction needs.
VR #18	10/25/12 10/26/12	Denied 01/13/12	Substation	Request to formalize changes to the Red Bluff MMCRP Mitigation Measure BIO-4 and Applicant Measure BIO-5.
VR #19	01/06/12	01/18/12	T/L	Helicopter landing zone
VR #20	01/13/12	To CPUC	T/L	Request for the use of offsite water hydrants located in the Cabazon area for dust suppression.
BLM				
BLM #1	10/18/11	10/27/11	Substation	Request to install a temporary guard structure along the entrance of the existing transmission line access road for Colorado River Substation.
BLM #2	10/19/11	10/27/11	Substation	Request to approve 24-hour drilling operations at the CRS site.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
DNA #1	10/27/11	12/07/11	Series Capacitor	Request for a slight expansion of the Series Capacitor site due to engineering conflicts.
DNA #2	12/21/11	Under review	Red Bluff	Secondary well
DNA #3	12/22/11	Under review	Series Capacitor	Imperial Irrigation District distribution line relocation

TABLE 3
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS
(Updated 1/18/12)

TEWS Request	Date Requested	Date Approved	Segment #	Description
#1	07/20/11	07/27/11	Blythe Yard	Use of offsite hydrant and installation of water tank at location adjacent to Blythe Construction Yard
#2	07/28/11	08/04/11	Menifee Yard	Use of offsite hydrant, located along the frontage of the Menifee Construction Yard, and a flexible hose to supply water to a 4,000 gallon water truck.
#3	08/16/11	08/16/11	Menifee Yard	Revised use of offsite hydrant, located along the frontage of the Menifee Construction Yard, approximately 200 yards north of previously approved location.
—	09/06/11	Retracted	Devers Yard	Revised use of offsite hydrant, including installation of above ground pipeline and water towers.
#4	09/29/11	09/29/11	T/L	Use of parking areas along primary access road within 400-ft total distance exclusionary fencing locations with exception of sites within the Coachella Valley Preserve.

NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS

Table 4 provides a summary of reported non-compliance incidents.

TABLE 4
CPUC NON-COMPLIANCE REPORTS & PROJECT MEMORANDA
(Updated 1/18/12)

Type	Date Issued	Location	Description
CPUC Project Memoranda (PM)			
PM #1	10/28/11	CRS Dist. Line	Construction vehicles leaving marked disturbance limits at two locations along Red Bluff distribution line.
CPUC Non-Compliance Reports (NCR)			
NCR #1	01/13/12	Project wide	Unauthorized removal of stick nests from DPV1 Transmission Line towers.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Underground trenching for temporary power at the Devers #1 Construction Yard had reached the yard boundaries by December 20.



Figure 2: Location along access road at Devers #1 Construction Yard that had been cleaned after underground trenching activities were completed.



Figure 3: Damaged exclusionary fencing at Tower #2132 that had not yet been repaired by the subject period.



Figure 4: Damaged exclusionary fencing at Tower #2133 that had not yet been repaired by the subject period.



Figure 5: BMPs installed and grubbing activities occurring at the Devers #2 Construction Yard.



Figure 6: Heavy equipment stage on plastic sheeting at the Devers #2 Construction Yard.



Figure 7: Surface water release activities and potential for pooling water at the CRS site documented by CPUC EM on December 19.



Figure 8: Containment of water leak using sandbags at the Red Bluff Substation drill site.