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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM  
SCE DPV2 TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

**To:** Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** January 23, 2012  
**Subject:** Weekly Report 24, December 26 2011 to January 1, 2012

## **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):** Rosina Gallego was on site December 26 through December 29.

## **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. During the subject period, minor activities associated with the temporary power source at the Devers #1 Construction Yard occurred, including rotating the in-ground concrete transformer pad inside the yard boundaries and electrical conduit work outside the yard.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. SCE General and Biological Monitors conducted spot checks and biological sweeps, respectively, throughout the subject period at each of the yards covered under NTP #1.
2. The SCE General Monitor reported that the yard fencing along the western boundary of the Desert Center #1 Construction Yard is still in need of repairs on January 1.
3. A 5-inch gap between the fence and the ground along the north side of the Beaumont #1 Construction Yard was repaired on December 29 with a piece of wood and sandbags.

### **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. However, minor repairs were made to the fencing at Tower #2132 and #2133 on December 23 (prior to the subject period).

**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 General Monitor conducted spot checks of the Indio #1 Construction Yard on December 26 and December 30. The SCE Biological Monitor was onsite on December 27 to perform a biological sweep. No compliance issues or special-status species were observed or reported 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. The majority of construction associated with the CRS distribution line was completed prior to the subject period, with the exception of the installation of poles at, or near, the current water well location. However, no activities were conducted during the subject period.

## **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. Perimeter fencing and privacy screening installation were completed during the subject period at the Devers #2 Construction Yard (see Figure 1). Additionally, the ingress/egress driveway was constructed. Construction activities were completed for the yard during the subject period (see Figure 2).
2. Construction activities at the Indio #2 Construction Yard were limited to pouring concrete for the driveway (see Figure 3). Cleanup of the site was also initiated and construction was completed during the subject period.

### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. SCE General and Biological Monitors were onsite during all construction activities associated with the development of the Devers #2 and Indio #2 Construction Yards. No compliance issues were observed or reported.
2. The burrowing owl that was previously identified utilizing a burrow located adjacent to a manmade utility box near the Indio #2 Construction Yard returned to the site during the subject period. Upon observing the individual, crews were instructed by the SCE Biological Monitor to implement cautionary measures, including parking restriction to minimize disturbance.

### **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. The CRS access road was surveyed during the subject period to prepare for initial grading activities scheduled for the following week.
2. Southwest Pump and Drilling crews were onsite during the subject period to extend and relocate the above-ground well water pipeline for surface dispersals. Construction crews had moved well cuttings around to create check dams in anticipation of surface releases from the well.

### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. SCE General and Biological Monitors were onsite during all construction activities throughout the subject period. No compliance issues and/or special-status species were observed or reported.
2. New project personnel from Southwest Pump and Drilling and ULM were WEAP trained by the SCE General Monitor on December 27.
3. SCE Biological Monitors inspected the desert tortoise fencing throughout the subject period to ensure that the fencing was intact.
4. The remaining kit fox burrows on the CRS site were collapsed by SCE Biological Monitors on December 30.

#### **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. No construction activities occurred at the Red Bluff Substation site during the subject period.

**Environmental Compliance:**

1. SCE Biological Monitor conducted a weekly check of the desert tortoise fencing during the subject period.

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 1/23/12)

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment	Description
<b>CPUC NTPs</b>				
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 #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.
NTP #12	01/16/12	Under review	Yards	Construction of the Desert Center 3 Construction Yard.
<b>BLM NTPs</b>				
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 1/23/12)

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.
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.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
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	01/19/12	T/L	Request for the use of offsite water hydrants located in the Cabazon area for dust suppression.
VR #21	01/20/12	Under Review	T/L	Request for the use of offsite water hydrant located in the Lake Tamarisk area for dust suppression.
<b>BLM</b>				
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.
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	To BLM	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 1/23/12)

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 1/23/12)

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



## PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



**Figure 1:** Completion of fence installation at the Devers #2 Construction Yard.



**Figure 2:** Concrete work being performed at the driveway for the Devers #2 Construction Yard.



**Figure 3:** Completion of the driveway at the Indio #2 Construction Yard.