



**Notice of Availability**  
**for the Southern California Edison Company's**  
**El Casco System Project**  
**Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report**  
California SCH #2007071076

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**To:** Readers of the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report  
**From:** Juralynne Mosley, CPUC – EIR Project Manager  
**Subject:** **Notice of Availability**, Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed El Casco System Project  
**Date:** November 30, 2011

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in response to Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) Petition to Modify (August 29, 2011) on the approved El Casco System Project (Project).

The approved Project includes construction of a new 220/115/12 kV substation (the El Casco Substation), upgrading of the existing Zanja and Banning Substations and SCE's Mill Creek Communications Site, upgrading a total of 15.4 miles of 115 kV electric subtransmission line and associated structures, and installation of fiber optic communication cables within existing conduits in public streets and on existing SCE structures between the Cities of Redlands and Banning. The entire project is located within Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

The Supplemental Draft EIR for the Project has been prepared to inform the public of changes to the approved Project and the associated environmental impacts resulting from new design information provided by Southern California Edison (SCE) for the 115 kV subtransmission line. SCE provided this information subsequent to the CPUC certifying the Final EIR and approving the Project on December 18, 2008.

The Supplemental Draft EIR contains a new Executive Summary and Introduction (Section A) which summarize the environmental review process completed thus far for the El Casco System Project, summarize the approved Project and the proposed changes to the approved Project, explain why a Supplemental Draft EIR is being prepared, and summarize the results of the environmental analysis of the proposed changes. An updated Visual Resources analysis (Section C.1 – Visual Resources) is provided, which analyzes the visual impacts of the new design of the 115 kV subtransmission line. A discussion of those issue areas where the proposed changes to the approved Project would not result in a substantial change in the impacts previously analyzed for the approved Project is also provided (Section C.2 - Issue Areas Where Modifications Result In No Substantial Change). The CPUC has chosen to circulate the Supplemental Draft EIR by itself without recirculating the previous Draft and Final EIR, per CEQA Guidelines §15163(d).

The Supplemental Draft EIR is officially released for public review as of November 30, 2011 and will be available for review at several area libraries and on the project website, as listed on page two of this notice. The original Draft EIR is also available in its entirety on the Project website. Copies of the Supplemental Draft EIR on CD-ROM may be requested by phone or fax at (888) 222-5783, or by e-mail at [elcasco@aspenerg.com](mailto:elcasco@aspenerg.com).

***The public is invited to provide written comment on those portions of the document that have been revised and included in the Supplemental Draft EIR. Written comments on the Supplemental Draft EIR must be postmarked or received by fax or e-mail no later than January 13, 2012 [45-days]. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number.***

Written comments on the Supplemental Draft EIR should be sent to:

**Juralynne B. Mosley**  
**California Public Utilities Commission**  
 c/o Aspen Environmental Group  
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**Significant Unavoidable Impacts**

Based on the proposed changes to the approved Project, the Supplemental Draft EIR has concluded that the revised design of the 115 kV subtransmission line would result in a substantial degradation of the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surrounding landscape resulting in new significant and unavoidable impacts (Class I) along Segments 2 and 4 of the approved alignment, including: Impact V-19 (Increased structure contrast, industrial character, view blockage, and skylining when viewed from Key Viewpoint 1 on South Sunset Avenue) and Impact V-20 (Increased structure contrast, industrial character, view blockage, and skylining when viewed from Key Viewpoint 2 on Faircliff). The proposed changes to the Project would also result in a significant and unavoidable cumulative impact resulting from a perceived increase in the industrialization of the landscape. No additional new significant and unavoidable impacts would result from the proposed changes to the approved Project.

**Sources of Project Information**

For additional information or to read the Supplemental Draft EIR online, please check the Project internet website at:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/elcasco/elcasco.htm>

Table 1 lists the public repository sites where the Supplemental Draft EIR may be reviewed.

<b>Table 1. Repository Sites</b>			
<b>Library Sites</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Yucaipa Branch Library	12040 5th Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399	(909) 790-3146	M-W 11am - 7pm; Th- F 10am - 6 pm; Sat 9am - 5pm
Calimesa Branch Library	974 Calimesa Boulevard, Calimesa, CA 92320	(909) 795-9807	T, Th, F 10am - 6pm; W 12pm - 8pm; Sat 9am - 5pm
Beaumont Library District	125 East 8th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223	(951) 845-1357	M, W, F, Sat 10am - 6pm; T, Th 10am - 8pm; Sun 1pm - 6pm
Banning Public Library	21 W Nicolet Street, Banning, CA 92220	(951) 849-3192	M-Th 9am - 7pm; F, Sat 9am - 5pm
University of Redlands Armacost Library	1200 East Colton Avenue, Redlands, CA 92373	(951) 849-5937	M-Th 8am - midnight; F 8am - 7pm; Sat 10am - 7pm; Sun 1pm - midnight (Aug. 29 to Jan. 2, 2012)