



El Casco System Project

California SCH #2007071076

To: All Interested Parties
From: Juralynne Mosley, CPUC EIR Project Manager
Subject: Notice of Availability, Final Environmental Impact Report
Proposed El Casco System Project
Date: April 11, 2008

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has prepared the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for consideration of Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) Proposed El Casco System Project (Proposed Project). The Final EIR has been prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and includes responses to comments received during the Draft EIR comment period (December 12, 2007 through January 25, 2008) and any text changes resulting from the comments submitted.

As evaluated in the Draft and Final EIR, SCE proposes to construct a new 220/115/12 kV substation (the proposed El Casco Substation), upgrade the existing Zanja and Banning Substations and SCE's Mill Creek Communications Site, upgrade a total of 15.4 miles of 115 kV electric subtransmission line and associated structures, and install 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 would be located within Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

CONTENTS OF THE FINAL EIR

The Final EIR consists of four sections: (1) an introduction to the Final EIR; (2) a summary of the public involvement activities related to the environmental review process for the Proposed Project; (3) all comments received on the Draft EIR and responses to those comments. This section also includes transcripts from the January 9, 2008 Public Participation Meetings held in Banning, CA; and (4) changes made to the Draft EIR – inserted text is underlined and deleted text is shown in ~~strikeout~~.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE FINAL EIR

Printed and electronic copies of the Final EIR have been mailed to parties of the CPUC's General Proceeding; to federal, State, and local government agencies that commented on the Draft EIR; as well as to some members of the public. Electronic copies of the Final EIR on CD may be requested by phone or fax at (877) 576-8342, or by e-mail at elcasco@aspeneg.com. There are a limited number of printed copies of the Final EIR

document available upon request at the above e-mail address, or telephone number. The electronic version of the document is also available on the CPUC's project website at:

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

Table 1 lists the public information repository sites at which printed copies of the Final EIR may be reviewed.

Library Sites	Address	Phone Number	Hours
Yucaipa Branch Library	12040 5th Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399	(909) 790-3146	M-Th 10am - 8pm; Fri 10am - 6 pm; Sat 9 am - 5pm
Calimesa Branch Library	974 Calimesa Boulevard, Calimesa, CA 92320	(909) 795-9807	T, Th, Fri 10 am - 6 pm; Wed 12 pm - 8 pm; Sat 10am-6pm
Beaumont Library District	125 East 8th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223	(951) 845-1357	M, W, F, Sat 10 am - 6 pm T, Th 10 am - 8 pm
Banning Public Library	21 West Nicolet Street, Banning, CA 92220	(951) 849-3192	M, Wed 9 am - 7pm; T, Th 9am - 6 pm; Fri 9am - 5pm; Sat 9am-2pm
University of Redlands Armacost Library	1200 East Colton Avenue, Redlands, CA 92373	(951) 849-5937	M-Th 8am-midnight; Fri 8am - 9pm; Sat 10am - 9pm; Sun 1 pm - midnight (Spring 2008)

CEQA PROCESS AND CPUC GENERAL PROCEEDING

CEQA requires that the CPUC provide written responses to public agency comments at least 10 days prior to certifying the EIR (Public Resource Code 21092.5(a)). This is accomplished by sending the Final EIR to all public agencies that commented.

The CPUC will determine the adequacy of the Final EIR, and if adequate, will certify the document as compliant with CEQA. The CPUC will issue a decision on the Proposed Project, which will be announced and published. The final decision is expected by the middle of 2008. The Commission may, at its discretion, hold Evidentiary Hearings to define the scope of the proceeding in regard to issues of Project need, Project cost, and other considerations. Within 30 days after the decision is issued by the CPUC, parties can apply for rehearing. For further information on the CPUC's decision-making process, please call the CPUC Public Advisor at (866) 849-8390 or (415) 703-2074 or email public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.