



Notice of Availability
for the Southern California Edison Company's
El Casco System Project
Recirculated (Revised) Draft Environmental Impact Report
California SCH #2007071076

To: Readers of the Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report
From: Juralynne Mosley, CPUC – EIR Project Manager
Subject: **Notice of Availability**, Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed El Casco System Project
Date: July 8, 2008

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for consideration of Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) application to build and operate the El Casco System Project (Proposed Project).

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.

The recirculated Draft EIR for the Proposed Project has been prepared to inform the public of changes to the original document resulting from new information provided by SCE regarding the ambient noise levels adjacent to the existing single-circuit 115 kV subtransmission line. This information was received subsequent to the publication of the Final EIR on April 11, 2008.

The recirculated Draft EIR contains an updated noise analysis (Section D.9 – Noise) reflecting the new information received from SCE; an updated cumulative noise effects analysis (also in Section D.9); an updated Comparison of Alternatives analysis (Section E) that includes a revised discussion of the Environmentally Superior Alternative; and an updated Executive Summary summarizing the changes to the above mentioned sections. Only those sections that have changed from the original Draft EIR published in December 2007 are included in this recirculated EIR, per CEQA Guidelines §15088.5(c).

The recirculated Draft EIR is officially released for public review as of July 9, 2008 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 recirculated and/or original Draft EIR on CD-ROM may be requested by phone or fax at (877) 576-8342, or by e-mail at elcasco@aspeneg.com.

The public is invited to submit written comment on those portions of the document that have been revised and included in the recirculated Draft EIR; i.e. the revised Executive Summary, Introduction, Noise Analysis, and Comparison of Alternatives (CEQA Guidelines §15088.5(f)(2)). Written comments on the recirculated Draft EIR must be postmarked or received by fax or e-mail no later than August 22, 2008. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number.

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

Juralynne B. Mosley
California Public Utilities Commission
 c/o Aspen Environmental Group
 30423 Canwood Street, Suite 215
 Agoura Hills, CA 91301
 Fax: (877) 576-8342
 E-mail: elcasco@aspeneg.com.

Significant Unavoidable Impacts

Based on new information, the significant and unavoidable (Class I) impacts associated with noise for the Proposed Project and alternatives, specifically Impact N-3 (Noise from operation of the overhead subtransmission line), have been reduced to less than significant (Class III). Class I impacts that remain for the Proposed Project are AQ-1 (Construction emissions exceed regional significance criteria), AQ-2 (Construction emissions exceed localized significance criteria), and AQ-3 (Emissions contribute to climate change). In addition to these Class I impacts, the CPUC's Northerly Route Alternative Option 3 also has the following Class I impacts: CR-4 (Pole replacement has the potential to indirectly impact historic resources), V-13 (Increased structure contrast, industrial character, view blockage, and skylining when viewed from Key Viewpoint 11 on westbound Summit Drive). In addition to the Class I impacts of the Proposed Project, the Partial Underground Alternative also has the following Class I impacts: LU-2 (Construction would temporarily disturb the land uses it traverses or adjacent land uses) and LU-8 (Construction or operation would disrupt recreational activities such that recreational values would be reduced). In addition, there are a number of Class I cumulative impacts associated with the Proposed Project and alternatives that are discussed in the recirculated Draft EIR.

Sources of Project Information

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

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

Table 1, below, lists the public repository sites where the recirculated Draft EIR may be reviewed.

Table 1. Repository Sites			
Library Sites	Address	Phone Number	Hours
Yucaipa Branch Library	12040 5th Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399	(909) 790-3146	M-Th 10am - 8pm; F 10am - 6 pm; Sat 9 am - 5pm
Calimesa Branch Library	974 Calimesa Boulevard, Calimesa, CA 92320	(909) 795-9807	T, Th, F 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 W Nicolet Street, Banning, CA 92220	(951) 849-3192	M, W 9 am - 7pm; T, Th 9am - 6 pm; F 9am - 5pm; Sat 9am-2pm
University of Redlands Armacost Library	1200 East Colton Avenue, Redlands, CA 92373	(951) 849-5937	T-Th 1pm - 7 pm; Sun 1 pm - 5 pm (Summer 2008)