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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE EL CASCO SYSTEM PROJECT**

To: Lynne Mosley, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: July 20, 2009
Subject: Report #3: June 28, 2009 –July 18, 2009

CPUC ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR (EM): Lynn Stafford

CPUC EM, Lynn Stafford, was on site June 30th and July 1st, 2nd, 16th, and 17th, 2009.

The SCE El Casco Project includes the following components:

- Construction of the new El Casco 220/115/12-kilovolt (kV) substation within the Norton Younglove Reserve, Riverside County, California;
- Replacement of approximately 15.4 miles of existing single-circuit 115 kV subtransmission lines with new, higher capacity single-circuit 115 kV subtransmission lines and replacement of support structures within existing SCE ROWs in the Cities of Banning and Beaumont and unincorporated Riverside County;
- Rebuilding 115 kV switchracks within Zanja and Banning Substations in the Cities of Yucaipa and Banning, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, respectively;
- Installation of telecommunications equipment at the El Casco Substation and at SCE's existing Mill Creek Communication Site, San Bernardino County; and
- Installation of fiber optic cables within public streets and on existing SCE structures between the Cities of Redlands and Banning in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, respectively.

The following compliance and construction activities occurred during the subject time period:

EL CASCO SUBSTATION

Summary of Activity:

The entire vegetation removal activity at El Casco Substation site was completed during the week of February 23rd through 27, and was reported in Report #1.

No additional construction activity has occurred at the El Casco Substation site since the vegetation removal and mowing at the substation site and adjoining temporary work space and access road during Report Period #1. Compliance activities related to vegetation clearing are discussed below.

On May 8, 2009, SCE submitted the Notice to Proceed (NTP) request for the construction of the El Casco Substation and associated HDD bore work and conduit installation under San Timoteo Creek, and construction of three adjacent towers. The pre-construction compliance process is currently underway. Pending pre-construction compliance submittals for the El Casco Substation NTP request include: public facility coordination, biological surveys, regulatory permit submittals, Frac-out Plan, outstanding hydrology submittals, finalized Traffic Control Plan and associated coordination and permit acquisitions, as well as visual mitigation submittals.



115 kV SUB-TRANSMISSION LINE REPLACEMENT

Summary of Activity:

The NTP request for the 115 kV sub-transmission work was submitted to CPUC by SCE on March 3, 2009. The pre-construction compliance process is currently underway. Pending pre-construction compliance submittals for the sub-transmission element include: public facility coordination, biological surveys, regulatory permit submittals, outstanding hydrology submittals, geotechnical investigation submittals, finalized Traffic Control Plan and associated coordination and permit acquisitions, as well as visual mitigation submittals.

BANNING SUBSTATION

Summary of Activity:

The NTP request was submitted to CPUC by SCE on April 10, 2009 for the Banning Substation work. The pre-construction compliance processes are currently underway. Pending pre-construction compliance submittals for the Banning Substation include: public facility coordination, regulatory permit submittals, outstanding hydrology submittals, geotechnical investigation submittals, finalized Traffic Control Plan and associated coordination and permit acquisitions, as well as visual mitigation submittals.

ZANJA SUBSTATION

Summary of Activity:

The NTP request was submitted to CPUC by SCE on June 19, 2009 for the Zanja Substation work. The pre-construction compliance processes are currently underway. Pending pre-construction compliance submittals for Zanja Substation include: public facility coordination, biological surveys, regulatory permit submittals, outstanding hydrology submittals, geotechnical investigation submittals, finalized Traffic Control Plan and associated coordination and permit acquisitions, as well as visual mitigation submittals. Potential EIR Addendum materials for work not previously analyzed in the EIR are also outstanding.

On April 23, a Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) was issued by the CPUC EM for storage of fiber optic materials within the existing Zanja Substation, Yucaipa, San Bernardino County. SCE has been notified that if they wish to continue to use the Zanja Substation for material storage beyond 60 days that a variance request needs to be approved by CPUC. The approved TEWS area has not been used to date; however, SCE has requested permanent use of the subject area during construction as part of their NTP request for the Zanja Substation.

MILL CREEK COMMUNICATION SITE

Summary of Activity:

The NTP request for the Mill Creek Communication Site was submitted to CPUC by SCE on June 19, 2009. The pre-construction compliance process is currently underway. Pending pre-construction compliance submittals for the Mill Creek element include: public facility coordination, biological surveys, regulatory permit submittals, outstanding hydrology submittals, geotechnical investigation submittals, finalized Traffic Control Plan and associated coordination and permit acquisitions, as well as visual mitigation submittals. Potential EIR Addendum materials for work not previously analyzed in the EIR are also outstanding.

FIBER OPTIC CABLE INSTALLATION

Summary of Activity:

The NTP request for the entirety of the fiber optic work (not including the HDD bore) was submitted to CPUC by SCE on March 5, 2009. However, on May 15, SCE requested authorization from the CPUC to commence with construction of the underground fiber optic elements in the Cities of Banning and Beaumont. This separate NTP request was due to pending pavement rehabilitation work in this area by the City of Beaumont. The request was granted by CPUC on May 22, 2009. The pre-construction compliance process is currently underway for the remaining fiber optic work. Pending pre-construction compliance submittals

for the fiber element (HDD work not included) include: public facility coordination, regulatory permit submittals, Cultural Resources Report for areas along the fiber line not previously investigated, finalized Traffic Control Plan and associated coordination and permit acquisitions, as well as visual mitigation submittals.

A Biological survey report for the remainder of the fiber optic circuit was submitted on June 23rd. This report included maps indicating the location and type (on existing poles, in existing underground conduits, or in to-be trenched conduits), and location of some of the sensitive biological resources (see Figures #1 and #2). The report also included a table of sensitive resources and text. The submittal has been reviewed and field validation by the CPUC EM was conducted on June 26th and 30th, and July 1st, 2nd, and 16th. The CPUC EM submitted documentation that there were several discrepancies between the Biological Resources Survey Map and the on site conditions in terms of existing utility pole locations, and one biological resource special feature omission.

- Two and one half miles of existing poles on San Timoteo Road has recently been placed underground in connection with road improvement (Figure #3),
- 2,700 feet of existing poles crossing Highway 60 as depicted by the map is not in existence,
- Some of the existing poles between Banning and Tower M17T2 are indicated by the map as being on the wrong side of two of the streets within that section, and
- A large raptor nest 300 feet from the FOC route west of Yucaipa Substation was omitted from the map (see Figure 4).
- A section of the Zanja Shoofly temporary FOC route is shown on the Biological Resources Map #3 as proceeding along Bryant Street on existing poles. In actuality, the line of poles proceeds east of that road due north across a field to Mill Creek Road (see Figure 5).

SCE has verified that the San Timoteo Road underground section of utility line has space for the FOC. The crossing of Highway 60 will be by a combination of underground cable using existing conduits from Fourth Street in western Beaumont to the south side of Highway 60, and then utilizing existing overhead poles to cross the highway. These route and resource changes will be shown on corrected map, table, and text.

Construction within the cities of Banning and Beaumont began on June 16 at the western end of the 5000-foot conduit system. The construction activity consists of installation of two 5-inch conduits within a thirty-six-inch deep trench excavated into First Street in Beaumont and Sun Lakes Boulevard (contiguous roadways) in Banning. Seven manholes, for cable pulling purposes, also will be installed in five-foot deep excavations.

Installation began at the west end of the segment on First Street and proceeded eastward 850 feet to the Beaumont/Banning city boundary where First Street becomes Sun Lakes Boulevard. Trenching and installation then moved to the east end of Sun Lakes Boulevard and proceeded westward (see Figure 6). Manhole construction also has occurred. The work sites were well marked for traffic control (see Figure 7). The CPUC EM observed no traffic problems. Construction activity is occurring close to some young trees planted in the median strip, but it does not appear the disturbance to any roosting birds would be significantly greater than normal traffic. More than half of the segment had been completed by the end of this reporting period. A staging area has been developed in a vacant lot north of First Street and west of Highland Springs Road (see Figure 8). A TEWS is being processing for the subject staging area.

CONSTRUCTION YARDS & OTHER WORKSPACE NEEDS

Variance Request #1 for a laydown yard immediately south of SCE's existing Maraschino Substation in the City of Beaumont, Riverside County, was requested on April 1 and approved by CPUC on April 16, 2009. Construction of the laydown yard began on May 28 and was completed by June 12, 2009. The yard is currently being used for the storage of materials, including transmission towers.

No requests for additional construction yards or other workspace needs have been submitted to date.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

- The Sun Lakes Fiber Optic Cable underground installation is proceeding within one of the westbound lanes of Sun Lake Boulevard. Proper signage, demarcation of the work limits, and traffic control is occurring. Steel plates are used to protect the road surface from equipment damage, and to cover open trench.
- A staging yard has been set up at the west end of the Sun Lakes FOC installation segment. It is within a vacant lot north of First Street and west of Highland Springs Road. Shaker plates are present at the track entrance. No evidence of chemical spills, trash build-up, and fugitive dust problems are in evidence.

Table 1 provides a summary of the Non-Compliance Reports (NCRs) and Project Memorandum (PM), and other incidents (i.e., spills, etc.) for the SCE El Casco System Project.

TABLE 1
NCRS, PROJECT MEMORANDUM, & OTHER INCIDENTS
 (Updated 07-20-09)

Type	Date Issued	Description
PM #1	03/16/09	Failure to comply with Mitigation Measure B-18 before, during and after vegetation clearing at the El Casco Substation site. Construction equipment went outside of approved Project boundaries.

NOTICE TO PROCEED (NTP) SUMMARY

Table 2 summarizes the NTPs submitted, reviewed, and issued to date for the SCE El Casco System Project.

TABLE 2
NOTICES TO PROCEED
 (Updated 07-20-09)

NTP #	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
#1	02/20/09	02/23/09	Vegetation clearing activities at the future El Casco Substation Site located in the Norton Younglove Reserve Area in Riverside County.
#2	05/15/09	05/22/09	Construction of the underground fiber optic elements of the El Casco System Project in the Cities of Banning and Beaumont.
	03/03/09	Under Review ¹	115 kV Sub-transmission lines replacement.
	03/05/09	Under Review ¹	Fiber optic cable installation, remaining (see NTP #2).
	04/10/09	Under Review ¹	Banning Substation
	05/08/09	Under Review ¹	El Casco Substation construction.
	06/19/09	Under Review ¹	Zanja Substation
	06/19/09	Under Review ¹	Mill Creek Communication Site

1. Compliance submittals pending.

VARIANCE & TEWS REQUEST SUMMARY

Tables 3 and 4 summarize the Variance and Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) Requests submitted, reviewed, and issued to date for the SCE El Casco System Project, respectively.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUESTS
(Updated 07-20-09)

Variance #	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
#1	04/01/09	04/16/09	Usage of an empty fenced lot immediately south of SCE's existing Maraschino Substation, Beaumont, Riverside County, as a laydown yard to support Project construction.

TABLE 4
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORK SPACE REQUESTS
(Updated 07-20-09)

TEWS #	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
#1	04/17/09	04/23/09	Fiber Optic material storage at the pre-existing Zanja Substation, Yucaipa, San Bernardino County
#2	07/20/09		Staging area in a vacant lot north of First Street and west of Highland Springs Road.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: This field immediately west of the Zanja Substation is within a designated Semi-natural Area. It will be monitored during construction, and may be subject to avoidance or flagging depending on pre-construction surveys. Access during construction will be by foot through a flagged route. The photograph faces westward.



Figure 2: The existing utility line passes over this live oak tree within the Zanja-to-Yucaipa segment. A woodrat nest located within the tree will be avoided during stringing of the fiber optic cable.



Figure 3: On San Timoteo Road, the existing utility line was placed underground (past the second pole visible) as part of road improvement connected with the new development on the right. The fiber optic cable will be placed within conduit in place. The photograph faces westward.



Figure 4: A large raptor nest 300 feet from the FOC route west of Yucaipa Substation was omitted from the biological resources survey map for the FOC installation. No activity has been noticed at the nest, but it is in good repair. The photograph, taken from Avenue H, faces southwestward.



Figure 5: A section of the Zanja Shoofly temporary FOC route is shown on the Biological Resources Map #3 as proceeding along Bryant Street on existing poles. In actuality, the line of poles proceeds east of that road due north across a field to Mill Creek Road. The photograph was taken from Mill Creek Road and faces southward. Bryant Street is in the middleground.



Figure 6: The fiber optic cable is being placed within the roadway at the Sun Lakes development in Banning. The photograph was taken on Sun Lakes Boulevard, and faces westward.



Figure 7: Proper signage, demarcation of the work limits, and traffic control is occurring at the Sun Lakes Boulevard fiber optic cable installation. Steel plates are used to protect the road surface from equipment damage, and to cover open trench. The photograph was taken on Sun Lakes Boulevard and faces westward.



Figure 8: A staging area has been developed for the Sun Lakes fiber optic cable installation in a vacant lot north of First Street and west of Highland Springs Road. The photograph faces southwestward.