

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

TO: All Interested Parties

Pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) General Order 131-D, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) has filed an application (Application No. A.14-05-021) with the CPUC for a Permit to Construct the Vine Substation Project.

Project Background: A Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) was released on September 21, 2015. Following the close of the review period (October 20, 2015), SDG&E informed the CPUC of a potential conflict with a planned sewer pipeline project, which includes replacement, rehabilitation, and realignment of sewer mains within Columbia Street, from West Quince Street to Laurel Street, and within portions of Quince, Palm, Olive, Union, and State Streets. Due to the presence of existing underground utilities, the potential exists that a portion of Columbia Street would be too constrained to allow for installation of both the sewer line and the proposed distribution line. As such, SDG&E has proposed an approximately 1,030-foot realignment option which would instead route the 12-kV duct banks along India Street between West Redwood Street and West Palm Street, and then along West Palm Street to Columbia Street to avoid the segment of Columbia Street between West Redwood Street and West Palm Street. The MND and supporting Initial Study (IS/MND) has been revised to address this alignment option, as well as comments received on the original Draft IS/MND.

Proposed Project: SDG&E proposes to construct a new 69/12-kilovolt (kV) substation in the City of San Diego, near the San Diego International Airport, at the southwestern corner of the intersection of Vine Street and Kettner Boulevard, just west of Interstate 5. Approximately nine existing 12-kV distribution circuits would be relocated within existing and new underground conduit. The relocated distribution circuits would generally be placed within the franchise portion of City of San Diego public streets (public rights-of-way) in the Project area, including Columbia Street, India Street, Kettner Boulevard, Pacific Highway, Sassafras Street, State Street, Vine Street, West Laurel Street, West Hawthorn Street, West Palm Street, and West Redwood Street. The proposed alignment option for the 12-kV distribution line would utilize India Street between West Redwood Street and West Palm Street, and then West Palm Street to Columbia Street.

An existing 69-kV power line would be looped in to the proposed Vine Substation. To connect the proposed Vine Substation and existing Kettner Substation to SDG&E's telecommunication system, fiber optic cable would be installed, generally within the underground 12-kV distribution duct banks and would require a 100-foot overhead connection into the Vine Substation. The Project is proposed to meet existing and anticipated customer-driven electrical load growth, and to improve distribution equipment reliability to prevent potential long outages or disruption of service to existing SDG&E customers in downtown and the surrounding area. Construction is anticipated March 2016-July 2017 (17 months), depending on CPUC approval.

Information Available: The CPUC Energy Division has prepared a Revised IS/MND describing the revised Project and its potential environmental effects. Based on this document, it has been determined that the Project, as mitigated, would not have any significant effects on the environment. The IS/MND is available on the CPUC's website (provided below) or at various repositories in the Project area, including the Mission Hills Branch Library (925 Washington Street, San Diego). Additional repository locations are listed on the CPUC's website:

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

Time for Review: This Revised IS/MND will undergo a public review period from December 4, 2015 to January 4, 2016. **Comments must be received in writing by 5:00 p.m. on January 4, 2016.**

Comment Submittal: Comments may be submitted by email (Vine-Substation-Project@aspeneg.com) or U.S. Mail, at the following address: CPUC Vine Substation Project, c/o Aspen Environmental Group, 5020 Chesebro Road, Suite 200, Agoura Hills, CA 91301.

To request additional information, please call the Project Voicemail at (888) 463-0002.