

## **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**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:** 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. An existing 69-kV power line would be looped in to the proposed Vine Substation, which involves removing two existing wood poles near the corner of California Street and Vine Street and installation of three new self-supported tubular steel poles adjacent to Pacific Highway. 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 to begin in January 2016 and would last through July 2017 (19 months), depending on CPUC approval.

**Information Available:** The CPUC Energy Division has prepared a Mitigated Negative Declaration and supporting Initial Study (IS/MND) describing the Project and its potential environmental effects. Based on this document, it has been determined that the Proposed 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.

For electronic access to the IS/MND and other project information/reports, check the CPUC's website at:

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

**Public Meeting:** The CPUC will hold a public meeting on **Wednesday October 7, 2015 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina, located at 1380 Harbor Island Drive. Parking validation will be provided.** The public meeting is an opportunity to learn about the Proposed Project, ask questions about the content of the Draft IS/MND, and provide comments. Written comments will be accepted during the meeting; there will be no facilities to record oral comments.

**Time for Review:** This IS/MND will undergo a public review period from September 21 to October 20, 2015. Comments must be received in writing by 5:00 p.m. on October 20, 2015.

**Comment Submittal:** Comments may be submitted by email (Vine-Substation-Project@aspeneq.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.