

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 6, 2014

Chairman Robert Martin
The Morongo Band of Mission Indians
12700 Pumarra Road
Banning, CA 92220

Re: SCE West of Devers Upgrade Project – SCE Application No. A.13-10-020

Dear Chairman Martin:

As you are aware, the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) are preparing an Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for Southern California Edison's (SCE's) proposed West of Devers Upgrade Project. We are starting the public outreach process for the project, and we will be in the project area during the CPUC scoping meetings on May 19, 20, and 21, 2014. We would be happy to meet with you on May 20th or May 21st, to discuss the issues described below or any other questions or concerns related to the EIR/EIS that we are preparing.

In order to clarify the potential impacts of the Proposed Project through the Morongo Band of Mission Indians ("Morongo") tribal lands, we have the following questions for the Morongo Band.

Data Requests: Given the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) determination and based on the letter from SCE to you dated April 7, 2014 (attached), it appears that SCE and the Morongo Tribe have come to an agreement on your preferred route through the Morongo Tribal Land.

- a. With this route agreement in place, would the Morongo Tribe prefer that the CPUC and BLM eliminate all other route options across tribal land from full consideration in the EIR/EIS? Or would you like alternative routes through the tribal land to be evaluated in the EIR/EIS?
- b. It is our understanding that marker balls and tower lighting would be required by the FAA so that the Proposed Project would not create an aviation hazard, because the route segment north of the Banning Airport is within the distance where those markers are required. We want to be sure that the Tribe is aware of the FAA hazard marking requirements for the preferred route (Revised Route Option 1).
- c. It is our understanding that use of tubular steel poles (TSPs) has been requested by the Tribe for a segment of the western portion of the proposed West of Devers Upgrade route across tribal land. Please confirm that use of tubular steel poles is preferred by the Tribe for this segment of the project. Would you like lattice towers to be evaluated in the EIR/EIS as an alternative tower design?

Please let me know if you have any questions and/or would like to meet to discuss any of the items in this data request or related to the project itself. Any questions on this data request should be directed to me at Billie.Blanchard@cpuc.ca.gov or (415) 703-2068.

Morongo Data Request
SCE West of Devers Upgrade Project

Sincerely,

Billie Blanchard

Billie Blanchard
Project Manager for West of Devers Upgrade Project
Energy Division CEQA Unit

Attachment

cc: Mary Jo Borak, CPUC Supervisor CEQA Unit
John Kalish, Bureau of Land Management
Brian Paul, Bureau of Land Management
Holly Roberts, Bureau of Land Management
Lynette Elser, Bureau of Land Management
Susan Lee & Hedy Koczwara, Aspen Environmental Group
Nicholas Sher, CPUC Legal Division
Roger Meyer, CEO, Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Karen Woodard, Realty Administrator, Morongo Band of Mission Indians
George Forman, Forman & Associates
Ryan Stevenson, SCE