



West of Devers Upgrade Project Update

**Coachella Valley Conservation Commission
(CVCC)**

May 22, 2013

Source: BLM/CPUC/BIA & Morongo Tribe Presentation on February 5, 2013

Discussion Items

- Introductions
- West of Devers (WOD) Upgrade Project overview
 - Purpose & need summary
 - Scope
 - Overview map(s)
 - Development timeline and key milestones
 - Biological survey status
 - Archeological / cultural survey status
 - Public involvement activities
- Next steps



WOD Upgrade Project: Purpose and Need

- Purpose:

- Integrate Planned Generation Resources (i.e., increase power transfer capability of the WOD transmission corridor to enable the delivery of power from generation resources being developed within the Blythe and Desert Center areas)
- Comply with Large Generator Interconnection Agreements and Power Purchase Agreements
- Comply with NERC and WECC transmission reliability planning criteria
- Facilitate compliance with California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS)
- Support California's Greenhouse Gas Reduction program, Federal energy renewable goals, and CA Energy Commission Integrated Energy Policy Report goals



WOD Upgrade: Key Project Scope Elements

- Transmission Lines:

- Tear down and rebuild ~181 circuit miles of existing 220 kV T/L facilities (~ 48 corridor miles), including five 220 kV lines:

- ▶ Devers-Vista #1 and #2;
- ▶ Devers-San Bernardino
- ▶ Devers-El Casco and El Casco-San Bernardino

- Install new "2B-1590 lapwing" conductor, using double-circuit lattice steel tower (LST) construction

- Utilize existing WOD corridor, except for ~3 mile section within Morongo Indian Reservation to be relocated pursuant to SCE-Morongo agreement

- Substations:

- Upgrade substation terminal equipment (circuit breakers, disconnect switches) inside existing Devers, El Casco, Vista, and San Bernardino Substations

- Telecommunications:

- Remove existing and install new telecommunication line (OPGW) on 220 kV structures within WOD corridor between Devers and Vista Substations

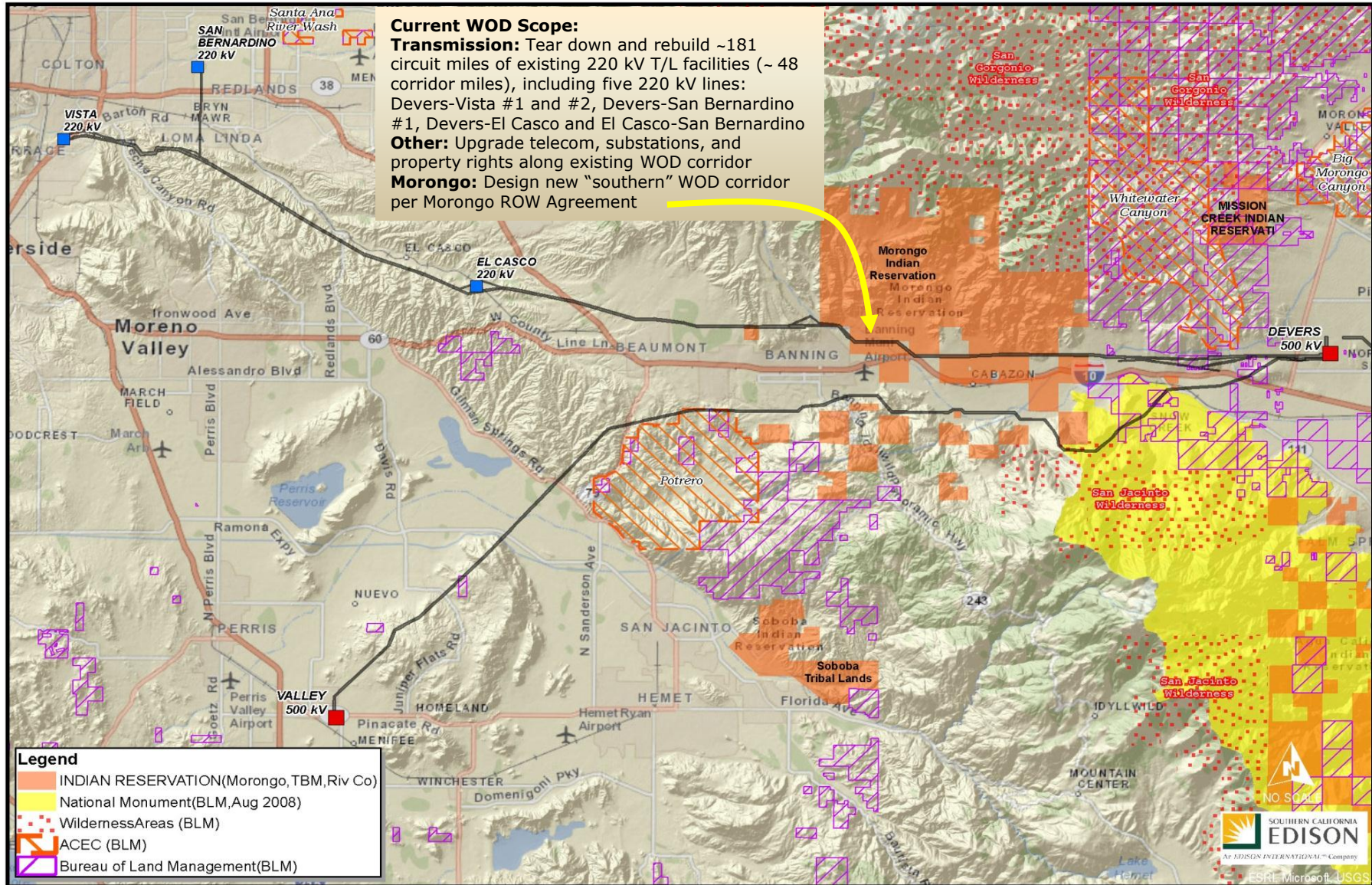
- Provide necessary telecommunication facilities to enable continued operations during construction (outside of existing corridor)

- Subtransmission

- Remove and relocate 2 existing 66 kV circuits from the existing 220 kV corridor between San Bernardino Substation and the San Bernardino "Junction"



West of Devers Upgrade – Project Area



Existing WOD Corridor



Near Devers Substation
(looking east)



Whitewater River Span
(looking west)

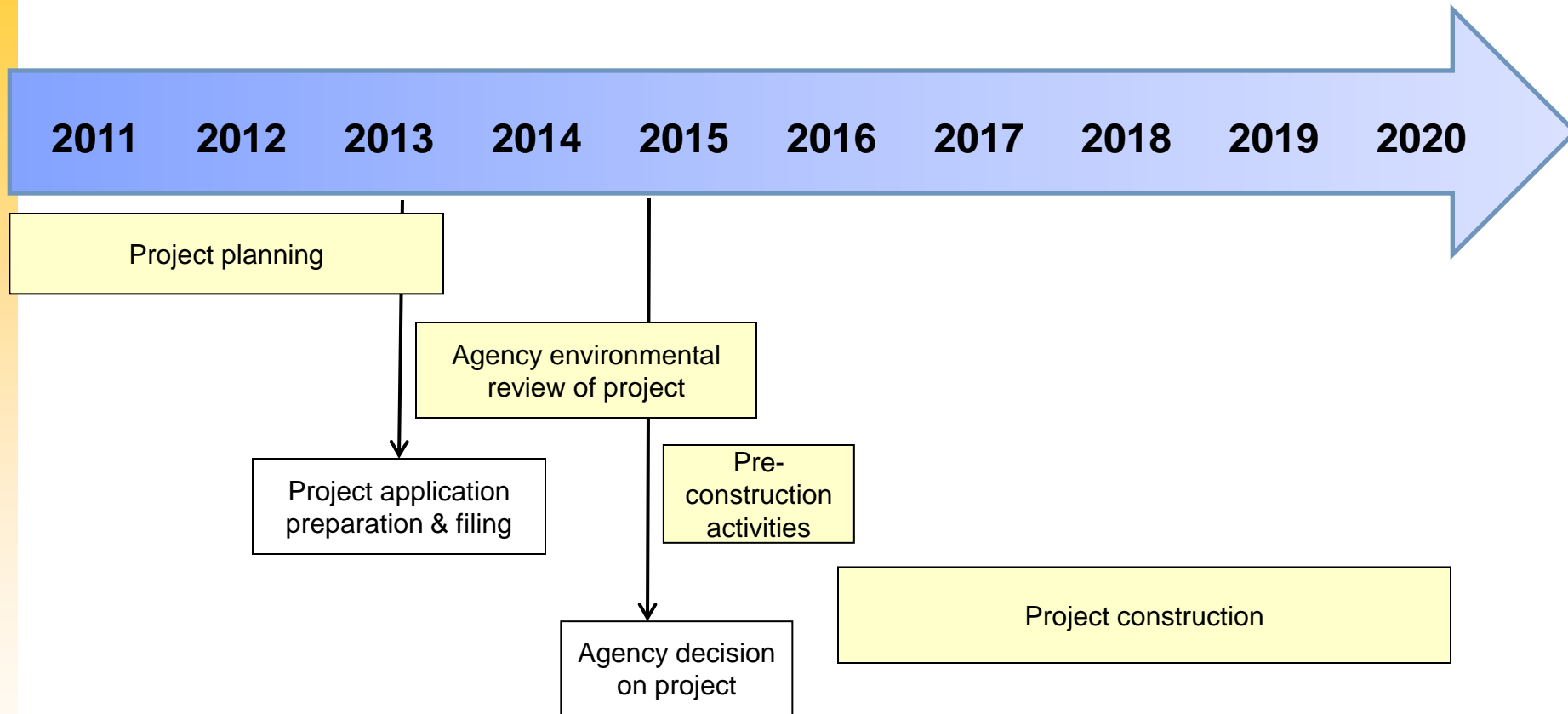


SB Sub to SB Junction
(looking north)



El Casco to SB Junction
(looking west)

Project Approval Process



** Timeframes shown above are approximate and subject to change.*

WOD: Current Biological Survey Status

- **BIOLOGICAL STUDIES CONDUCTED**

- General Habitat Assessment and Vegetation Mapping
- Special Status Plants and Exotic Plant Populations
- Jurisdictional Drainage Assessment

- **SPECIAL STATUS WILDLIFE SURVEYS**

- Invertebrates – Coachella Valley Jerusalem Cricket, Coachella Valley Sand Treader Cricket
- Fairy Shrimp – Wet Season and Dry Season
- Reptiles & Amphibians – rosy boa, red diamond rattlesnake, patchnose snake, silvery legless lizard, horned lizard
- Desert Tortoise
- Raptors (Birds of Prey)
- Burrowing Owl
- California Gnatcatcher
- Least Bell's Vireo & Southwestern Willow Flycatcher
- Small Mammal Trapping – Stephens' Kangaroo Rat, Palm Springs Pocket Mouse, Los Angeles Pocket Mouse

- **BIOLOGICAL STUDIES PLANNED IN 2013**

- Desert Tortoise – Morongo Lands Only
- Golden Eagle
- California gnatcatcher – San Bernardino County Only
- Supplemental Surveys for Ancillary Project Elements - Access Roads, Telecom Lines, Sub-Transmission



WOD: Archeological / Cultural Survey Status a/o 2/2013

- **CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL WORK COMPLETED**

- Cultural resources records searches, surveys, and draft technical report for the original proposed route
- Paleontological resources records searches, surveys, and draft technical report for the original proposed route

- **CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES TECHNICAL WORK PLANNED IN 2013**

- Cultural resources records searches (as needed) and surveys of new corridor to be developed within Morongo (Segment 5), access roads, telecom lines, and subtransmission lines with technical report updates
- Paleontological resources records searches (as needed) and surveys of of new corridor to be developed within Morongo (Segment 5), access roads, telecom lines, and subtransmission lines with technical report updates

WOD: Public Involvement Activity

- Public outreach and communications are critical elements of SCE's planning process
- SCE will provide opportunities for the public and stakeholders to learn about the West of Devers Project and provide input

Type	Description	Timing
Local government outreach	Update cities and counties along project route on the project status	1 st Quarter 2013
Major stakeholder outreach	Inform homeowners associations, municipal advisory councils, major developers, business, community, and environmental groups about the project	1 st – 2 nd Quarter 2013
Public open houses	Provide interested and affected parties with an opportunity to learn more about the project	2 nd – 3 rd Quarter 2013
Currently Scheduled Open Houses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beaumont – June 10 Loma Linda – June 13 Cabazon – June 17 		

WOD: Public Involvement (continued)

- SCE has also set up a website, a hotline, and an email address for the West of Devers Project for additional information or questions:

Project Website:

www.sce.com/westofdevers

Project Hotline:

(888) 226-9916

Email:

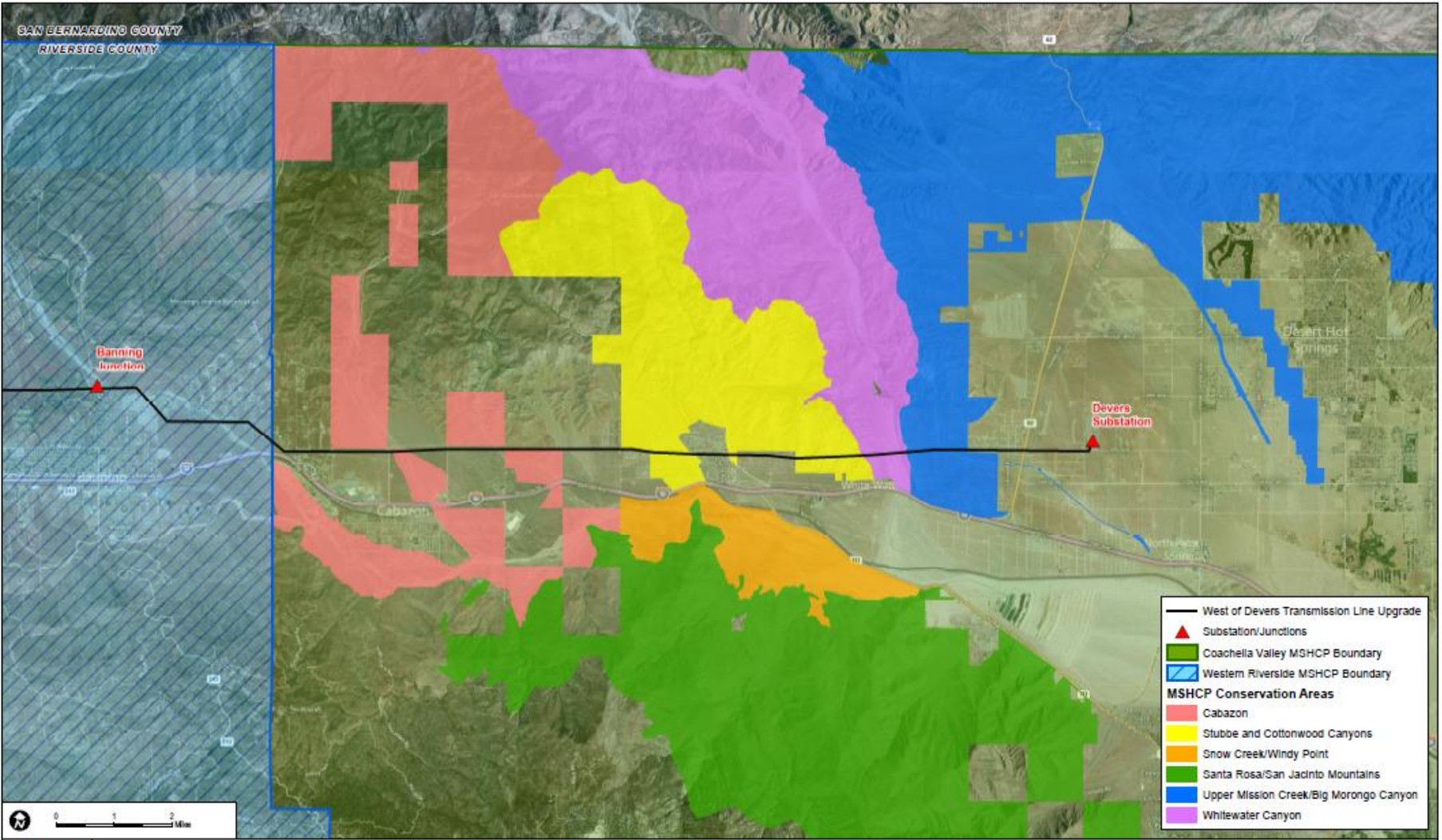
transmissionprojects@sce.com

(Please indicate "West of Devers" in subject line)

Next Steps

- Discuss Participating Special Entity (PSE) application process and requirements

Questions?



- West of Devers Transmission Line Upgrade
- ▲ Substation/Junctions
- Coachella Valley MSHCP Boundary
- Western Riverside MSHCP Boundary
- MSHCP Conservation Areas**
- Cabazon
- Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons
- Snow Creek/Windy Point
- Santa Rosa/San Jacinto Mountains
- Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon
- Whitewater Canyon

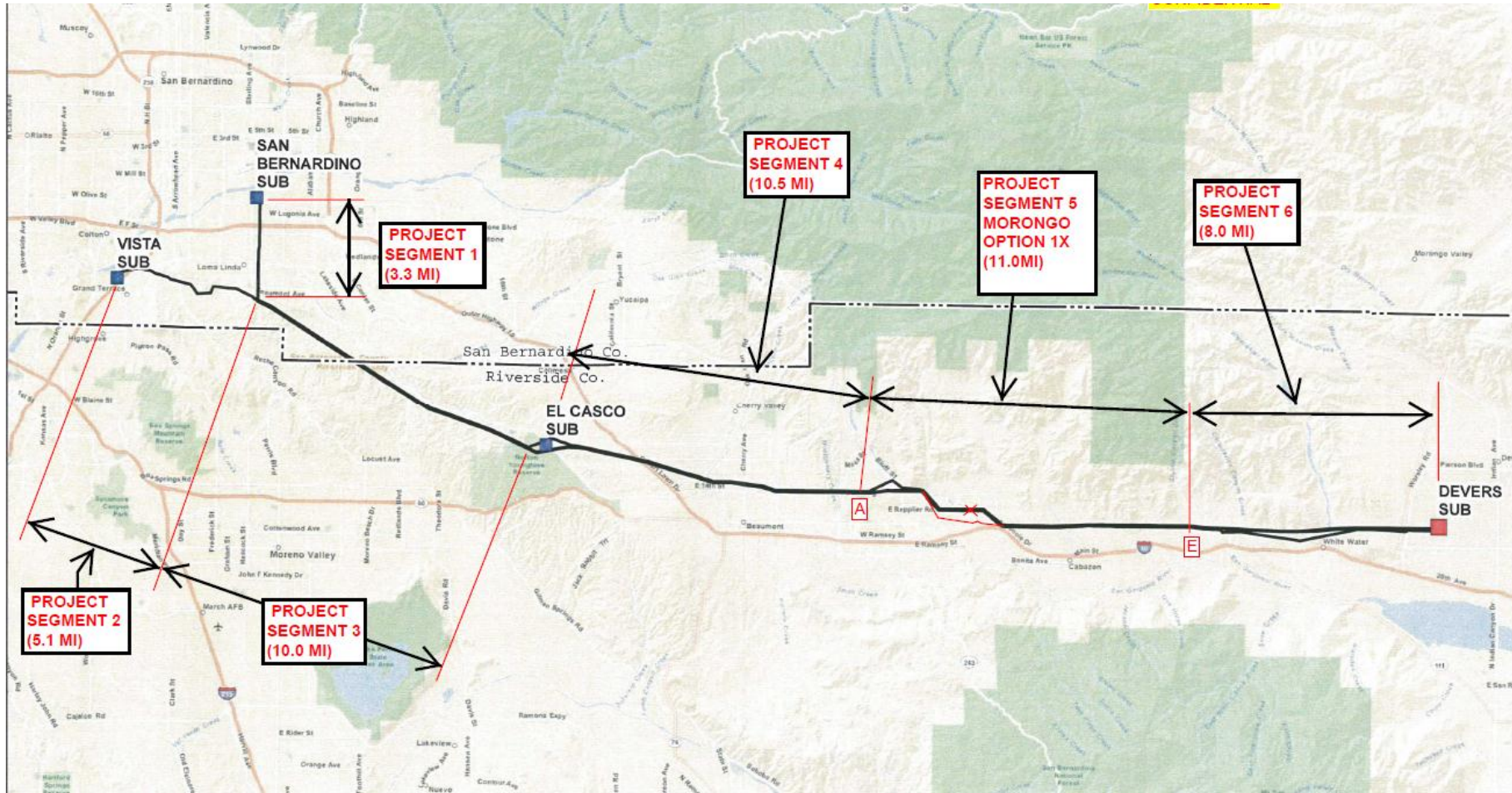
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SOURCE: LBA, Jan. 2010; County of Riverside MSHCP 2010; OAG 2010, 2011; BingMaps

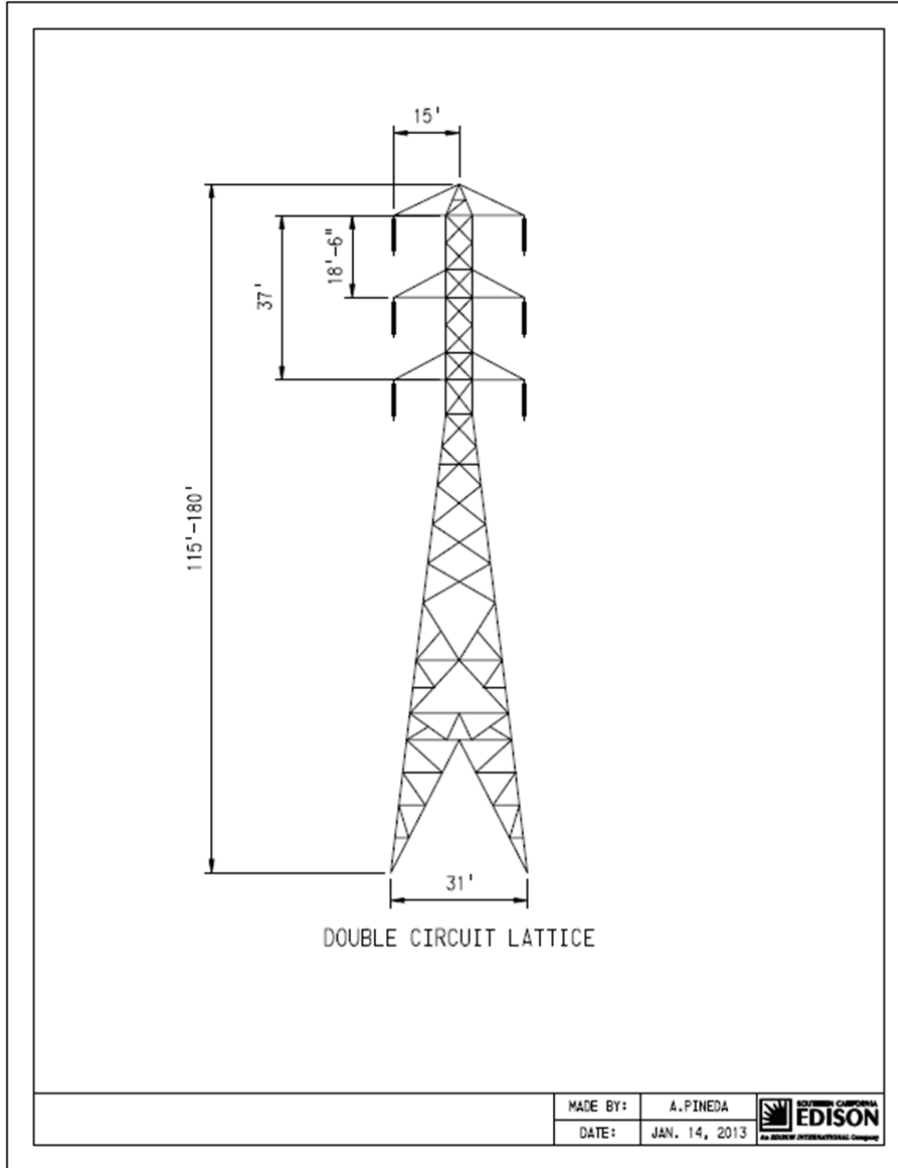
©CE WEST OF DEVERS TRANSMISSION PROJECT

FIGURE 3
Conservation Areas within the Coachella Valley MSHCP

WOD Transmission Design Segments



PREFERRED TOWER: Double-Circuit Lattice Steel Tower (LST)



NOTES: This option would require two (2) structures per location (typically). FAA markers or lights, if required, not shown.