

Environmental Minor Project Refinement Form



Project Name: West of Devers Upgrade Project Request Prepared By: Sylvia Granados

Date Approval Required: 11/26/2018 Variance Request No.: 22

Date Submitted: 11/19/2018 Location: Barton Road and Mountain View Avenue, in the City of Loma Linda; Noble Creek Park in the City of Beaumont.

Landowner: See Description of Change and Justification Section below Landowner Parcel Number: NA

Current Vegetative Cover/Land Use: Developed/Disturbed

Existing Sensitive Resource? NO YES Specify: SKR suitable habitat to the north of Noble Creek impact area

Modifying (check as many as apply):
 MITIGATION MEASURE PLAN/PROCEDURE SPECIFICATION
 DRAWING PERMIT CONDITION OTHER

Specify Source (e.g., Mitigation Measure B.5): Modification to NTP #3 and NTP #4 Mapping

Description of Change and Justification (Attach additional sheets if needed.)

Attachments:

CONSTRUCTION DRAWING ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS CORRESPONDENCE OTHER: _____

Switch Removals for the San Bernardino–Redlands–Timoteo 66-kV Subtransmission Circuit Cutover

The removal and replacement of one (1) subtransmission pole and two (2) pole mounted switches are required to facilitate the San Bernardino–Redlands–Timoteo 66-kV subtransmission line circuit cutover on Barton Road and Mountain View Avenue in the City of Loma Linda, as shown in Figure 1. The pole and one (1) pole mounted switch will be removed and replaced in the new work area on Mountain View Avenue, north of Barton Road. Grounds will be installed in the work area on Barton Road east of Mountain View, to idle the line and remove a pole mounted switch.

The total temporary work area associated with the switch removal work consists of the previously approved TEWS #10 work area and approximately .70 acre of additional paved roadway and concrete sidewalk, owned by the City of Loma Linda.

Devers-Vista OPGW connection from Tower 4S35 through Noble Creek Park to Oak Valley Parkway

Realignment of the southern portion of the Devers-Vista OPGW underground conduit connection from Structure 4S35 to the existing distribution pole on Oak View Parkway through Noble Creek Park is required, at the request of the City Parks Director. Approximately 675 feet of the trench line from Oak Valley Parkway has shifted to the west to avoid impacting the park driveway.

The temporary disturbance area associated with the realignment is approximately .30 acre of previously disturbed/developed park land, owned by the City of Beaumont.

Biological Resources

A desktop analysis of publicly available data and relevant project data was conducted to determine the potential for special-status species to occur in the new work areas. Since included in early iterations of project design, these new work locations were included in the study area for previous biological surveys.

Switch Removals for the San Bernardino–Redlands–Timoteo 66-kV Subtransmission Circuit Cutover

The switch removal locations are located in highly developed areas, far from native habitats. Except for nesting birds potentially occurring during the breeding season, no special-status species are anticipated. The new work area was covered within FRED Survey IDs 000063 and 000071.

Burrowing Owl – The work area does not include suitable habitat for this species.

Jurisdictional Waters – The work area does not intersect jurisdictional water features, therefore no impacts to jurisdictional waters will occur during the use of the new work area.

Special-status Plants – The work area is located on developed and disturbed land, isolated from native habitats, and does not support special-status plants.

Regulated Trees – No regulated trees will be impacted during the use of the new work area.

Nesting Birds – Suitable substrates for nesting birds protected by the California Fish and Game Code, including trees, shrubs, man-made structures, and the ground surface, are located within the vicinity. Nesting bird sweeps will occur prior to construction in the work area during nesting bird season.

Desert Tortoise – The work area is not located within the range of this species.

Listed Riparian Birds – The work area is not located within 500 feet of a riparian habitat, therefore impacts to listed riparian birds are not anticipated.

Stephens' Kangaroo Rat – The work area does not include suitable habitat for this species.

Special-status Bats – No suitable bat roosts were observed in the vicinity.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher – The work area does not include suitable habitat for this species.

Golden Eagle – Based on aerial habitat assessments and protocol surveys conducted for the project, no suitable nesting habitat for golden eagles is located within 2 miles of the work area.

Special-status Terrestrial Herpetofauna – The work area does not include habitat supporting special-status herpetofauna.

Special-status Small Mammals – The work area does not include habitat supporting special-status small mammals.

American Badger, Desert Kit Fox, Ringtail – The work area does not include habitat supporting these species.

Devers-Vista OPGW connection from 4S35 through Noble Creek Park to Oak Valley Parkway

The underground conduit will be installed parallel to the previously analyzed and approved route through Noble Creek Park, realigned to the west in developed/disturbed land to avoid impacts to the park driveway.

The new work area was covered in previous habitat assessments and protocol surveys. A preconstruction survey will be conducted within 10-days prior to the construction start, which is scheduled for the first quarter of 2019. The adjacent transmission towers to the west were covered within FRED Survey ID 000043.

Burrowing Owl – Burrowing owl habitat is widespread in the project area. Burrowing owls only have a moderate potential to occur in within 500 feet of work area. Burrowing owls are not expected at this location.

Jurisdictional Waters – The work area does not intersect jurisdictional waters.

Special-status Plants – The work area includes urban development and a park. No habitats supporting special-status plants are present.

Regulated Trees – No tree trimming, or tree removal is required for construction activities in the new work area.

Nesting Birds – Suitable substrates for nesting birds protected by the California Fish and Game Code, including trees, shrubs, man-made structures, and the ground surface, can be found throughout the work area. A nesting bird survey and nesting bird sweeps will occur prior to construction in the work area during nesting bird season.

Desert Tortoise – The work area is not located within the range of the species.

Listed Riparian Birds – The work area does not include habitat supporting these species.

Stephens' Kangaroo Rat – Tower 4S35 is located in mapped suitable habitat for SKR. A habitat assessment and pedestrian surveys were conducted, followed by trapping surveys in 2016, 2017, and 2018. No SKR were captured. The realignment is located outside of suitable SKR habitat in previously developed/disturbed land. Based on a lack of historic data, habitat conditions, and negative results over several years of surveys, SKR are not expected.

Special-status Bats – A bat habitat assessment conducted by bat approved biologist Ed West on May 10, 2018 indicated the area between 4X37 and 4X38 is serving both as a roosting and forage site for up to five different bat species that were identified during night surveys. The habitat consists of a large sycamore tree cottonwood trees associated with a golf

course between towers 4N37 and 4N38. The realignment is located outside of suitable bat habitat in previously developed/disturbed land and no direct impacts to bat habitat are expected.

Coastal California Gnatcatcher – No suitable breeding habitat is located within 500 feet of the proposed work areas. Therefore, no impacts to CAGN are expected.

Golden Eagle – Based on aerial habitat assessments and protocol surveys conducted for the project, no suitable nesting habitat for golden eagles is located within 2 miles of the survey area.

Special-status Terrestrial Herpetofauna – The work area does not include habitat supporting these species.

Special-status Small Mammals – Suitable habitat for Los Angeles pocket mouse is located from approximately 300 feet west of Tower 4X35. However, the telecom work area is located in compacted disturbed and developed areas, not within suitable habitat for LAPM.

American Badger, Desert Kit Fox, Ringtail – The survey area does not include habitat supporting these species.

Cultural Resources

Switch Removals for the San Bernardino–Redlands–Timoteo 66-kV Subtransmission Circuit Cutover

A portion of the new workspace and lane closure areas was not covered during previous cultural surveys for the *West of Devers: Cultural Resources Assessment and Class III Inventory* (LSA, 2013) and *Area of Potential Effects for the Engineering Refinements Survey and Recommendation of Eligibility for Cultural Resources with Southern California Edison Company's West of Devers Project* (ASM, 2015). As a result, an updated records search and archaeological survey of the new workspace and lane closure areas were conducted between November 13 and 14, 2018. No cultural resources were identified within the workspace and lane closure areas as a result of the updated records search and archaeological survey (PaleoSolutions, 2018).

Devers-Vista OPGW connection from 4S35 through Noble Creek Park to Oak Valley Parkway

The new work area associated with the telecom conduit realignment through Noble Creek Park is located within the WOD APE and was covered within the record search data that was conducted during previous WOD surveys and studies *West of Devers: Cultural Resources Assessment and Class III Inventory* (LSA, 2013) and *Area of Potential Effects for the Engineering Refinements Survey and Recommendation of Eligibility for Cultural Resources with Southern California Edison Company's West of Devers Project* (ASM, 2015). The record search and survey results for the area were negative for cultural resources.

Resources:

Biological NO SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT N/A

New Survey Report Attached: YES NO

If No, Previous Biological Survey Reference: The Switch Removal work areas for the San Bernardino–Redlands–Timoteo 66-kV Subtransmission Circuit were covered within FRED Survey Report IDs 000063 and 000071. A preconstruction survey will be conducted prior to initiating construction in Noble Park.

Cultural : NO RESOURCES PRESENT RESOURCES PRESENT WITH PROJECT APE: YES NO

If in APE, Previous Cultural Survey Reference:

The new work area associated with the telecom conduit realignment through Noble Creek Park is located within the WOD APE and was covered within the record search data that was conducted during previous WOD surveys and studies. The record search and survey results for the area were negative for cultural resources. *West of Devers: Cultural Resources Assessment and Class III Inventory* (LSA, 2013) and *Area of Potential Effects for the Engineering Refinements Survey and Recommendation of Eligibility for Cultural Resources with Southern California Edison Company's West of Devers Project* (ASM, 2015).

If not in APE, cite new survey report:

An updated records search and archaeological survey of the new workspace and lane closure areas were conducted between November 13 and 14, 2018. No cultural resources were identified within the workspace and lane closure areas

as a result of the updated records search and archaeological survey. *Cultural Resources Assessment of the San Bernardino-Redlands-Timoteo 66kV Subtransmission Circuit Cutover on Barton Road and Mountain View Avenue for the Southern California Edison Company's West of Devers Upgrade Project (WOD), San Bernardino County, California* (PaleoSolutions, 2018).

Other Potential Impacts: (Check any potential changes to permitted impacts and provide details below. Attach additional sheets if needed.)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AIR QUALITY | <input type="checkbox"/> LAND USE | <input type="checkbox"/> TRAFFIC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES | <input type="checkbox"/> NOISE | <input type="checkbox"/> VISUAL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONTAMINATED SOILS | <input type="checkbox"/> PALEO RESOURCES | <input type="checkbox"/> WATER RESOURCES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CULTURAL RESOURCES | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIOECONOMIC | <input type="checkbox"/> WETLANDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HAZARDOUS MATERIALS | <input type="checkbox"/> STORM WATER (SWPPP) | |

NA

CEQA and Permitting: (Provide details for any "Yes" answer and attach additional information if needed.)

1. Will modification involve substantial changes that will require major changes to the CEQA document?
 YES NO
2. Will modification result in new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified impacts?
 YES NO
3. Additional agency notifications and/or permit modifications required? YES NO

Conditions of Approval or Reasons for Denial: (Attach additional information if needed.)

Required Signatures: (Attached email approvals may be used in lieu of signatures.)

Chief Construction Inspector or Foreman: VARIANCE MODIFICATION IS NEEDED FOR SAFE AND EFFICIENT CONSTRUCTION
Name: Jeff Miller Signature: [Signature] Date: 11/19/2018

Environmental Inspector: FIELD REVIEW COMPLETE
Name: Lisa Amador Signature: [Signature] Date: 11/19/2018

Land Agent: CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING RIGHTS NEW RIGHTS OBTAINED
Name: James Spence Signature: [Signature] Date: 11/19/2018

Environmental Compliance Lead: APPROVED APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS (SEE CONDITIONS ABOVE) DENIED
Name: Sylvia Granados Signature: [Signature] Date: 11/19/2018



SCE, Bing Imagery

- LEGEND**
- Proposed Work Area (0.70 acres)
 - Approved TEWS #10 Work Area
 - Civil Access Road
 - Designed Road Boundary
 - Construction Areas**
 - Structure Work Area



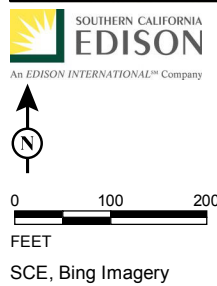
FIGURE 1

Southern California Edison
 West of Devers Upgrade Project
 Mountain View Avenue/Barton Road
 Proposed Work Areas
 MPR #22



**Proposed
General Disturbance Area Shift
(0.30 acre)**

**Previously Approved Telecom
General Disturbance Area**



LEGEND

- Previously Approved General Disturbance Area
- Major Trans Structure**
- Proposed
- Modify
- Remove

- Major Trans Line**
- Proposed
- Existing
- Telecom Point**
- Proposed
- Telecom Line**
- Existing, OH

- Proposed, OPGW
- Proposed, UG
- Remove, UG
- Civil Access Roads Lines**
- New, C/L, Non-Paved
- Existing Access Road
- Civil Access Road**
- Existing Road Edge
- Designed Road Boundary
- Potential Road Widening
- Construction Areas**
- Proposed General Disturbance Area

- O&M Tower
- Structure Work Area
- Wire Setup
- Non-wetland Waters**
- CDFW Jurisdiction
- USACE/RWQCB Jurisdiction

- Coastal California Gnatcatcher Suitable Habitat
- Los Angeles Pocket Mouse Occupied Habitat
- Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Suitable Habitat



FIGURE 2
Southern California Edison
West of Devers Upgrade Project
Devers-Vista OPGW Connection
from 4X35 to Oak Valley Parkway
Proposed Disturbance Areas
MPR #22