

	California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i>
	Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects Compliance Status Report: 015 April 16, 2017

SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects. The CPUC has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIR/FEIS to mitigate or avoid impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the CPUC's third-party monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the MMCRP, and anticipated construction activities. Photos of site observations are included in Attachment A of this report. A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTP) and Minor Project Refinement Requests (MPRRs) are provided in Attachments B and C, respectively.

This compliance status report covers construction activities from April 3 through April 16, 2017.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations in areas under active construction, which included Transmission Lines (TL) 625B, 629E, 6931, and Staging Yards. Areas of active and inactive construction were observed to verify implementation of the mitigation measures stipulated in the project's MMCRP. Observations were documented using site inspection forms, and applicable applicant proposed measures (APMs) and mitigation measures (MMs) were reviewed in the field.

Implementation Actions

During this reporting period, construction crews along TL6931 were observed clearing vegetation within delineated workspaces (See Photo 1—Attachment A), installing erosion control best management practices (BMPs), setting up to drill and drilling (See Photo 2—Attachment A), setting foundation bar,

proof-testing, and capping for micropile foundations, utilizing helicopters to support drilling activities, and spreading and transferring wire. At TL629E, a crew was observed trenching and laying conduit encasement piping at the Old Highway 80 jack-and-bore crossing (See Photo 3—Attachment A). Along TL625B, crews were observed framing and preparing to set replacement poles (See Photo 4—Attachment A), and installing grounding wire.

During project work along the alignments, crews were observed implementing measures to minimize fugitive dust, such as complying with the marked project speed limit of 15 MPH on unpaved roads in accordance with APM AIR-03 and MM BIO-24, using water trucks to wet down access roads and work areas during drilling activities in accordance with APM AIR-02, and cleaning dirt trackout from paved roads in accordance with APM AIR-05.

Biological monitors were observed surveying delineated workspaces for sensitive plant and animal species prior to construction in accordance with APM BIO-02, and monitoring vegetation clearing and initial ground disturbing activities in accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22. Construction crews were observed working only within delineated workspaces and approved access roads in accordance with MM BIO-1 (See Photo 2—Attachment A). Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) signage was observed along the limits of construction to prevent impacts to sensitive plant species in accordance with MM BIO-13. To avoid or mitigate impacts to nesting birds, construction crews were observed respecting the signed limits of nesting bird buffers, and allowable bird deterrent netting was observed over staged equipment in accordance with the Nesting Bird Management Plan and MM BIO-28.

To prevent impacts to cultural resources, cultural resource ESA fencing was observed along delineated workspaces and along access roads in accordance with the Historic Properties Management Plan, and ‘no road grading’ signs were posted along access roads in areas with a high potential for cultural resources to occur. Cultural resource monitors were observed monitoring work activities taking place within the vicinity of previously recorded cultural resources in accordance with MM CUL-1, MM CUL-3, and APM CUL-04.

Construction activities and patrols were observed being conducted in accordance with the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (CFPPP), MM FF-1, and APM HAZ-01. A construction crew was observed pre-watering the work area prior to vegetation clearing in accordance with the CFPPP Fire Prevention Matrix (off CNF land) (See Photo 1—Attachment A), and prescribed fire tools were observed within 50 feet of work activities in accordance with APM HAZ-04.

To prevent spill/leaks from being discharged into the soil, construction crews carried spill kits to work sites, and were observed using drip pans beneath staged equipment and during refueling operations in accordance with MM PHS-02 and the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

To avoid or limit impacts to hydrological resources, site-specific erosion control BMPs such as fiber rolls and silt fencing were observed being installed and maintained in accordance with the Erosion Control Plan, and SWPPP (MM HYD-1, APM HYD-09, and MM BIO-7). Crews were observed

cleaning up and disposing of concrete waste in accordance with APM HYD-1 (See Photo 5—Attachment A).

Helicopter utilization in support of construction activities were in conducted in accordance with MM PHS-05, the Aviation Safety Plan, and Helicopter Lift Plan, and included the use of designated landing areas, and the designation of ground personnel responsible for the safety of helicopter operations was observed at established staging yards and implemented at the Live Oak Staging Yard this reporting period (See Photo 6—Attachment A) .

In accordance with MM REC-2, gates along exclusive-use Forest Service- managed land were observed being kept locked or locked at the end of the day to prevent unauthorized access to project related access roads and work areas.

In accordance with APM TRANS-02, traffic control professionals were observed implementing controlled traffic setups along public roadways to ensure safe public passage during adjacent construction activities and helicopter operations that crossed over public roads.

Mitigation Measure Tracking

Mitigation measures applicable to the construction activities were verified in the field and documented in the CPUC's mitigation measure tracking database. A complete list of mitigation measures and applicant proposed measures is included in the FEIR/EIS in the Decision for the Power Line Replacement Projects, as adopted by the CPUC on May 26, 2016 (Decision D.16-05-038) and the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP).

Compliance Status

CPUC third-party environmental monitors observed overall compliance with mitigation measures throughout the reporting period.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS

SDG&E began construction activities associated with NTP-1 on September 23, 2016. All project activities are scheduled to be complete by 2020.

TL 625B

During this reporting period, construction crews installed and maintained erosion control BMPs; staged, assembled, and set poles; utilized helicopters in support of pole setting operations; installed grounding wire; and grounded and spread wire. The estimated completion date is July 2017. Approximately 40% complete.

TL 629E

During this reporting period, construction crew installed and maintained erosion control BMPs; conducted overhead line work, which included sagging conductors, clipping-in wire, dead-ending, removing travelers, and installing insulators; utilized helicopters in support of overhead line work; continued construction activities at the Old Highway 80 jack-and-bore crossing; and set concrete vaults and the Crestwood Substation underground site. The estimated completion date is July 2017. Approximately 90% complete.

TL 6931

During this reporting period, construction crews installed and maintained erosion control BMPs; delineated workspaces and installed signage; cleared vegetation within delineated workspaces; mobilized foundation drilling equipment; salvaged succulents within delineated workspaces; developed the Live Oak Springs Staging Yard; and conducted drilling activities for micropile foundations. The estimated completion date is June 2017. Approximately 15% complete.

TL 682

No geotechnical work was performed during this reporting period. The estimated completion date is June 2017.

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: During vegetation clearing at the Pole Z44253 Stringing Site (TL6931), the construction crew pre-watered the work area and staged the prescribed fire tools were within 50 feet in accordance with the CFPPP, MM FF-1, APM HAZ-01, and APM HAZ-04.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 2: A construction crew observed drilling for a micropile foundation at Pole Z44248 (TL6931). The work activity was restricted to the delineated workspace (marked with green painted stakes) in accordance with MM BIO-1.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: A construction crew observed trenching and laying conduit encasement piping at the Old Highway 80 jack-and-bore crossing (TL629E) near Crestwood Substation.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 4: A construction crew observed framing steel replacement poles and preparing to set them at Pole Z272852 (TL625B).

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: In accordance with APM HYD-1, concrete waste generated during micropile foundation construction at Pole Z44271 (TL6931) was cleaned up and disposed of in accordance with approved procedures.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 6: Designated landing areas were observed at the Live Oak Staging Yard (MM PHS-05).

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC - 001	September 21, 2016, updated October 31, 2016	Construction activities associated with TL 625B and TL 629E	Y
CPUC-002	March 15, 2017	Construction activities associated with TL 6931	Y
CPUC-003	March 24, 2017	Geotechnical activities associated with TL 682	Y

ATTACHMENT C

Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	10/5/16, Revised 10/18/16	Request for Modifications to the Anderson, Merrigan and Japatul Spur Staging Yards	Approved	10/21/16
002	2/21/16	Modifications to TL 625B and TL 629E	Approved, with Conditions	2/10/17
003	1/18/17	Use of Additional Water Source	Approved, with Conditions	4/4/17