

	California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i>
	Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects Compliance Status Report: 016 April 30, 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 17 through April 30, 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, geotechnical work at TL 682, 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, CPUC ECMs observed implementation of dust control measures, including use of water trucks to control dust along access roads and workspaces (APM AIR-01). Crews were observed maintaining posted speeds (15 miles per hour) on unpaved roads in accordance with (APM

AIR-03 and MM BIO-24) (See Photo 1—Attachment A). Crews were observed sweeping sediment off paved roadways at points of ingress and egress at staging yards and at the intersection of dirt and paved roads (APM AIR-05, MM HYD-1).

Pole setting and overhead line work (transferring conductor wire from old wooden poles to new steel poles) continued along TL 625B. In accordance with MM BIO-28 and the Project's Nesting Bird Management Plan, approved avian biologists were observed conducting general nesting bird surveys, monitoring active nests, and monitoring construction activity (See Photo 2—Attachment A). Biological monitors were observed clearing sites prior to construction work, inspecting sites throughout the day, and monitoring ground disturbing activities in accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22. Construction crews were observed working within delineated workspaces in accordance with MM BIO-1, and signs notifying workers of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) for special status plants and butterfly host plant species outside the work limits (MM BIO-13, MM BIO-14, and MM BIO-16) were observed along the alignment.

Crews were observed clearing work areas of vegetation and installing Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (MM HYD-1, MM BIO-7, and APM HYD-09) best management practices (BMPs) around work areas along TL 6931 this reporting period. Prior to removing vegetation, special status plants were observed being flagged and avoided during brushing in order to ensure salvage was completed in accordance with the Habitat Restoration Plan (MM BIO-4) and the Special Status Plant Species Salvage and Relocation Plan (MM-BIO-15) (See Photo 3—Attachment A). During clearing activities and during other activities along the project alignments, crews were observed carrying the required activity-specific fire tools and equipment (a 5 gallon backpack pump, round point shovel, Pulaski, and 2A10BC fire extinguisher) in accordance with the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (CFPPP) (MM FF-1). Fire patrols were also observed monitoring activities along the project alignment and pre-wetting areas prior to vegetation trimming and geotechnical work in accordance with the CFPPP (MM FF-1) (See Photo 4—Attachment A). During geotechnical boring activities along TL 682, biological monitors were observed escorting vehicles to ensure flagged Stephen's kangaroo rat burrows were avoided in accordance with MM BIO-31 (See Photo 5—Attachment A).

Archeological and Native American monitors were observed monitoring construction activities and geotechnical activities within the vicinity of previously recorded cultural resources and in areas identified as having a high potential to contain buried deposits in accordance with MM CUL-1, MM CUL-3, and APM CUL-04. Cultural ESA fencing was observed around the perimeter of workspaces and along the boundaries of access roads in accordance with Historic Properties Management Plan (See Photo 6—Attachment A).

Construction crews were observed maintaining erosion control BMPs along project alignments, including waterbars and energy dissipation devices in accordance with the project Erosion Control Plan (ECP) and SWPPP. In accordance with MM PHS-2 and the project SWPPP, construction crews were observed implementing spill prevention BMPs including the use of drip pans beneath staged equipment, staging spill kits at work sites, and hazardous materials storage BMPs, including the use of secondary

containment beneath hazardous materials at staging yards. Rock aprons and rattle plates were continued to be observed in good condition at staging yards to ensure minimization of sediment transport onto paved roadways. Perimeter controls at pole replacement work sites and staging yards (i.e. fiber rolls and silt fencing) were observed in good condition.

During conductor line work along TL 625B, flag persons and a traffic control were observed along Japatul Road (APM TRANS-02).

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 crews maintained erosion control BMPs; conducted construction activities at the jack-and-bore crossing at Old Highway 80; and grouted and backfilled trenches at 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; cleared vegetation within delineated workspaces; mobilized foundation drilling equipment; salvaged succulents within delineated workspaces; and conducted drilling activities for micropile foundations. The estimated completion date is June 2017. Approximately 15% complete.

TL 682

Geotechnical bore drilling was performed during this reporting period. The estimated completion date is June 2017.

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: A project speed limit sign was observed at Pole Z44237. Project personnel were observed complying with the 15 mph speed limit along the project alignment in accordance with APM AIR-03 and MM BIO-24.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 2: An avian biologist observed surveying for nesting birds and checking on a previously observed Least Bell's Vireo in the wetland between Poles Z272866 and Z272865 (TL 625B) in accordance with MM BIO-28 and the NBMP.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: Crews were observed brush clearing at the P46410 Stringing Site (TL 6931). Agave species within the site were flagged and avoided during brush clearing in order to ensure salvage was completed in accordance with the Habitat Restoration Plan (MM BIO-4) and the Special Status Plant Species Salvage and Relocation Plan (MM BIO-15).

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 4: In accordance with CFPPP (MM FF-1), a fire patrol was observed pre-watering vegetation adjacent to a geotechnical drill at TL 682.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: Biological monitors were observed escorting vehicles to ensure that flagged Stephen's Kangaroo Rat burrows at TL 682 were avoided in accordance with MM BIO-31.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 6: Construction crews were observed setting a steel replacement pole at Pole Z272855 (TL 625B). Environmentally Sensitive Areas were observed roped off for avoidance in accordance with MM CUL-1.

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