



Kirstie Reynolds
Team Lead – Environmental Project Management
San Diego Gas & Electric Company
1010 Tavern Road, SD 1116
Alpine, CA 91901
(T) XXX-XXX-XXXX
(C) XXX-XXX-XXXX
(F) XXX-XXX-XXXX

December 11, 2017

Lisa Orsaba
Project Manager
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Notice to Proceed (NTP) Request #11 to Conduct Geotechnical Investigations on the Transmission Line (TL) 629C Component of the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects (Project)

Dear Ms. Orsaba:

On May 26, 2016, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) granted San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) a Permit to Construct the Project (Decision 16-05-038). The decision conditionally authorizes construction of the Project with the implementation of pre-construction mitigation measures (MMs) and applicant-proposed measures (APMs) identified in the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP). A Notice of Determination was submitted to the State Clearinghouse on May 31, 2016, indicating the CPUC's approval of the Project. In addition, the following agencies issued permits and Records of Decision (RODs) to indicate their approval of the Project:

- The United States (U.S.) Forest Service (USFS) issued a Final ROD on March 11, 2016 and Master Special Use Permit on September 19, 2016.
- The Bureau of Land Management issued a Final ROD on September 28, 2016.
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs issued a Final ROD on March 30, 2016.

Activity Summary

SDG&E is formally requesting authorization from the CPUC to conduct geotechnical investigations on the TL629C component of the Project in order to complete the final engineering design. Geotechnical borings and seismic refraction surveys for TL629C were previously approved by the CPUC and conducted between April 27 and June 6, 2016 in accordance with the CPUC concurrence letter dated April 12, 2016. To complete the final design for TL629C, additional geotechnical borings are required. SDG&E is proposing to conduct 17 geotechnical borings at select locations along TL629C.

Attachment A: NTP #11 Components Map depicts the locations of the geotechnical borings for TL629C. These geotechnical investigations are being conducted in accordance with MM PHS-7 of the Project's MMCRP in order to complete the pre-construction requirement for the reconstruction of TL629C.

The geotechnical borings will be performed within existing disturbed areas. Public roads and other existing access roads will be used to access the geotechnical investigation sites. All geotechnical investigation sites will be micro-sited in the field to ensure no impacts to sensitive resources and native vegetation will occur. Traffic control signage and other devices will be employed as required by County of San Diego-approved traffic control plans to ensure the safety of workers and motorists when working on or adjacent to public roads. Geotechnical investigations along TL629C are anticipated to take approximately one month and will begin in January/February 2018 and end in February/March 2018.

Geotechnical Borings

A total of 17 geotechnical borings are proposed along the TL629C alignment. Geotechnical borings consist of drilling a six- to eight-inch-diameter hole using a hollow-stem auger attached to a drill rig. Soil samples will be collected at regular intervals during drilling. The borings will be completed to varying depths, depending on subsurface conditions, but will generally not exceed 30 to 40 feet. Upon completion of the borings, the holes will be backfilled. Ground disturbance will be limited, and the ground surface will be restored to pre-investigation conditions to the extent possible.

The borings will be completed using a rubber-tired, truck-mounted drill rig, which is approximately eight feet wide by 30 feet long; or a rubber-tracked, limited access drill rig, which is approximately four feet wide by 17 feet long. The boom on the drill rig will extend to a maximum height of approximately 30 feet during drilling. A small pickup truck or a similar vehicle will also be on site for the environmental and cultural monitors. During drilling, approximately three to five workers will be on site, including a driller, a driller's assistant, an engineer or geologist, and biological and cultural monitors as needed. The total work area required to complete the borings will measure approximately 15 feet wide by 40 feet long. Each boring will take three to eight hours to complete, depending on subsurface conditions.

Depending on site conditions, seismic refraction surveys may be utilized in certain locations instead of borings. Seismic surveys require no ground disturbance, and sites will be left in the same condition as previously encountered.

Pre-Construction Mitigation Measures

A list of all of the pre-construction MMs identified in the MMCRP that are relevant to the geotechnical investigations is provided in Table 1: Pre-Construction Status Report. To facilitate tracking and implementation, each APM/MM has been organized by completion status with notes as applicable. No geotechnical work will occur until all of the applicable pre-construction APMs/MMs have been fulfilled.

Table 1: Pre-Construction Status Report

Completion Status	MM/APM	Status Notes
Complete	APM CUL-02	Cultural resources surveys were completed during the initial survey in 2011, as well as during 2008, 2009, and 2017 surveys.
	APM CUL-06	The Historic Properties Management Plan was finalized on August 25, 2016, and was approved by the USFS on August 25, 2016, and by the CPUC and State Historic Preservation Officer on August 26, 2016.
	MM HYD-2a	The Water Supply Plan was approved by the USFS on June 28, 2016 and by the CPUC on August 11, 2016; an updated plan without references to specific transmission lines was submitted to the CPUC and USFS on March 8, 2017 (no approval was required); and an updated plan with three additional water sources was submitted to the CPUC and USFS on April 7, 2017 (no approval was required).
	MM HYD-2b	The final Live Oak Springs Water District Groundwater Evaluation was submitted to the CPUC for approval on March 22, 2017; the CPUC approved the evaluation on March 30, 2017; and an updated Water Supply Plan that includes the Live Oak Springs Water District was submitted to the CPUC and USFS on April 7, 2017 (no approval was required).
	MM PHS-2	The Spill Response and Notification Plan was approved by the USFS on July 21, 2016 and by the CPUC on July 18, 2016.

Completion Status	MM/APM	Status Notes
Not Applicable	MM VIS-1, MM VIS-2, APM-BIO-02, APM BIO-05, APM-BIO-06, APM BIO-08, MM BIO-4, MM BIO-7, MM BIO-9, MM BIO-10, MM BIO-11, MM BIO-12, MM BIO-13, MM BIO-15, MM BIO-17, MM BIO-18, MM BIO-19, MM BIO-21, MM BIO-31, MM BIO-33, APM CUL-03, APM CUL-08, MM CUL-2, APM HYD-04, APM HYD-05, MM HYD-4, MM HYD-6, MM HYD-7, MM LU-2, MM LU-3, MM LU-4, MM PHS-3, MM PHS-4, MM PHS-7, MM PSU-1, MM REC-1, and APM TRANS-06	These measures are not applicable to the geotechnical investigations on TL629C.
Pending	MM BIO-1, MM BIO-14, and MM BIO-16	Geotechnical borings will not impact special-status plant species or special-status butterfly host species due to micro-siting in existing disturbed areas to avoid native vegetation. A CPUC- and USFS-approved biological monitor will be on site to monitor initial ground-disturbing activities. A Sensitive Resources Map depicting geotechnical investigations sites, temporary restricted access signs, special-status plant occurrences, special-status butterfly host plant occurrences, and the locations of fencing/flagging to protect plant species will be submitted to the CPUC and USFS on December 11, 2017. Fencing and/or flagging will occur immediately prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations.

Completion Status	MM/APM	Status Notes
Pending (cont.)	APM BIO-09 and MM-BIO-30	A literature review and follow-up surveys for potential bat roosts were conducted by CPUC- and USFS-approved bat biologists in 2017. Two roost sites were observed within 500 feet of geotechnical investigation sites on TL629C that could be suitable maternity sites for Townsend's big-eared bats during the maternity season (April through mid-September). No common bat maternity roosts were identified within 100 feet of geotechnical sites on TL629C. If geotechnical investigations are conducted during the maternity season, additional follow-up surveys will be conducted to determine the status of the roosts and avoidance measures will be implemented as necessary. A bat roost survey report for TL629C geotechnical investigations will be submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, CPUC, and USFS prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations.
	MM CUL-01 and MM CUL-3	A mapbook identifying all Environmentally Sensitive Areas that will be avoided during the geotechnical investigations will be provided to the CPUC and USFS prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations.
	APM GEN-06, APM-NOI-01, and MM LU-1	The Construction Notification Plan was approved by the USFS on June 16, 2016 and by the CPUC on June 17, 2016. An updated Construction Notification Plan with a list of landowners adjacent to the TL629C geotechnical investigation sites will be submitted to the CPUC prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations. The public venue notice, public mailer, and newspaper ads were submitted to the CPUC and USFS for approval on November 30, 2017. The CPUC and USFS approved the notices on December 7, 2017. The public venue notice for TL629C will be posted at various locations adjacent to the alignment 30 days prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations. Posting of the public venue notices will be documented in an email to the CPUC and the USFS prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations. The public mailer will be sent out 15 days prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations. The certification of mailing will be submitted to the CPUC and the USFS prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations. The newspaper advertisement will run in various newspapers 15 days prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations.

Completion Status	MM/APM	Status Notes
To be Implemented During Construction	MM BIO-3, MM BIO-6, MM BIO-20, MM BIO-22, MM BIO-24, MM BIO-26, MM BIO-27, MM FF-1, and MM HYD-1	These measures will be implemented during the geotechnical investigations on TL629C.
To be Implemented Immediately Prior to Construction	APM BIO-07, MM BIO-2, MM BIO-28, APM CUL-01, APM-GEN-07, and MM PHS-1	These measures will be implemented immediately prior to conducting the geotechnical investigations on TL629C.

SDG&E respectfully requests authorization of this NTP request by January 2, 2018 in order to begin geotechnical investigations along TL629C and meet the overall Project schedule. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at XXX-XXX-XXXX.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kirstie Reynolds". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kirstie Reynolds
Team Lead – Environmental Project Management
SDG&E




Attachment A: NTP #11 Components Map

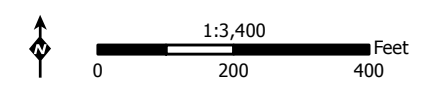
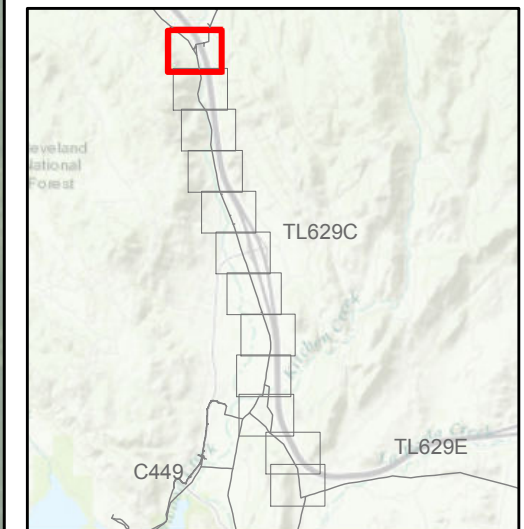
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Keith Carwana, Dudek
David Hochart, Dudek
Brad Aughinbaugh, USFS
KD Tyree, USFS
Tim Knowd, SDG&E
Edith Moreno, SDG&E
Jennifer Kaminsky, SDG&E
Heidi Waitley, SDG&E
Jim Vanlandingham, SDG&E
Rachel Ruston, SDG&E
Anne Marie McGraw, Insignia Environmental (Insignia)
Fred Bauermeister, Insignia
Jeff Coward, Insignia
Kevin Kilpatrick, Insignia
Erin Tomaras, Insignia

ATTACHMENT A: NTP #11 COMPONENTS MAP

Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 1 of 12

Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects




-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service

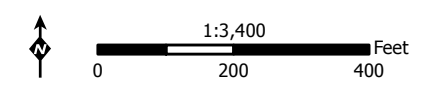
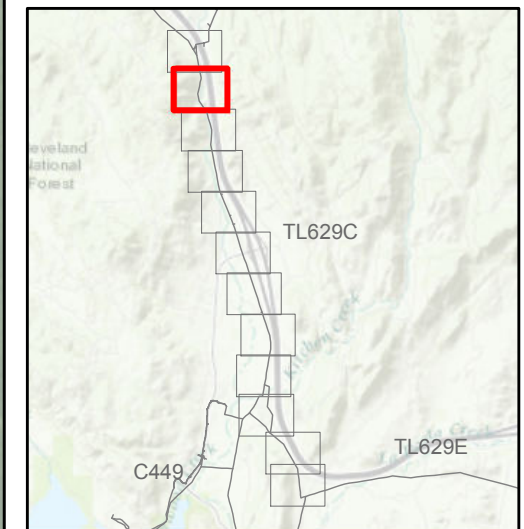


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**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 2 of 12**

**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**




-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service

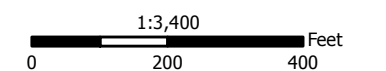
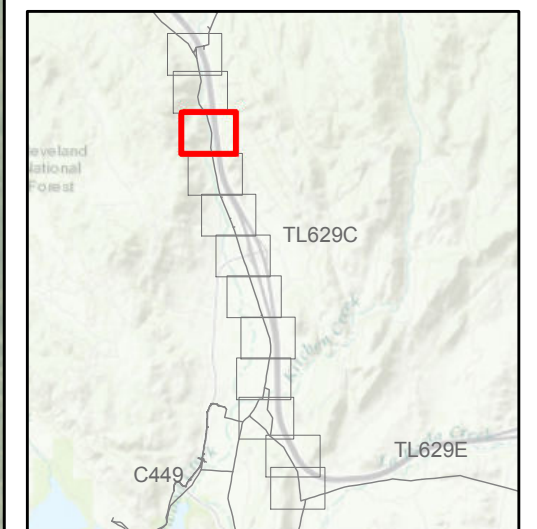


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**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 3 of 12**




**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

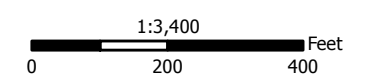
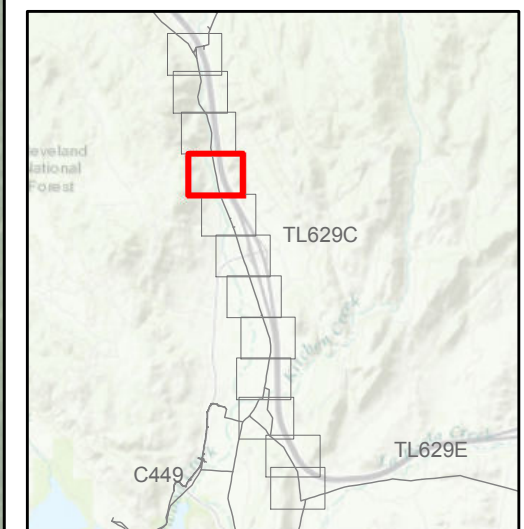
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service



**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 4 of 12**



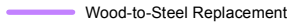

**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

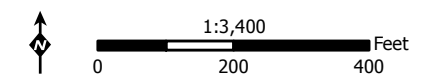
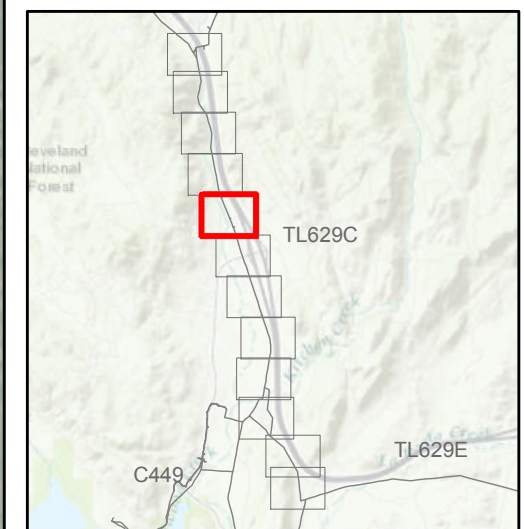
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service



**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 5 of 12**



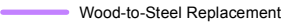

**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

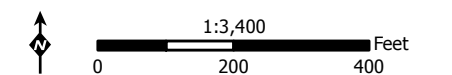
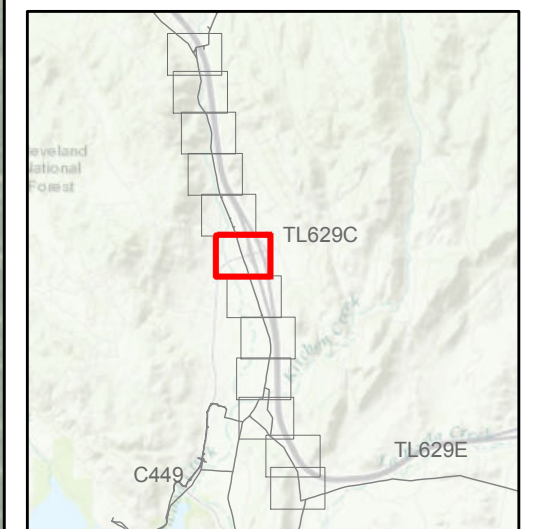
-  Boring
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service



**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 6 of 12**



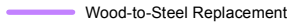

**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

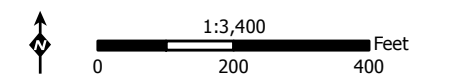
-  Boring
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service



**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 7 of 12**





**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

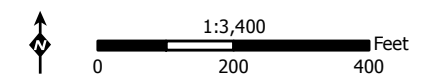
-  Boring
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service



**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 8 of 12**

**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

-  Boring
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service

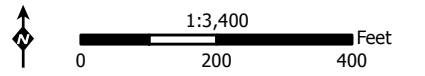
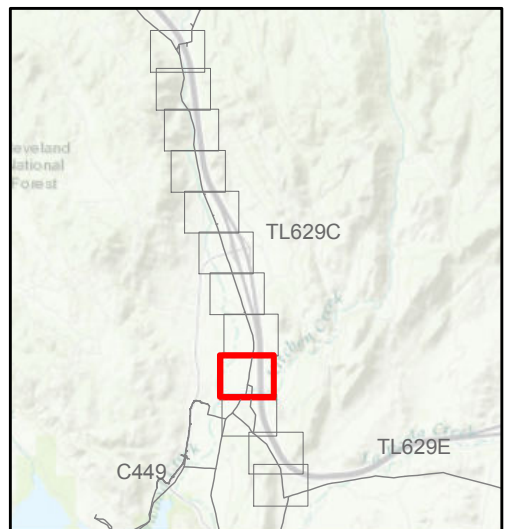


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**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 9 of 12**

**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

- New Steel
 - Removal
 - Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-
- New Steel
 - Removal
 - Wood-to-Steel Replacement

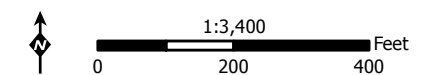
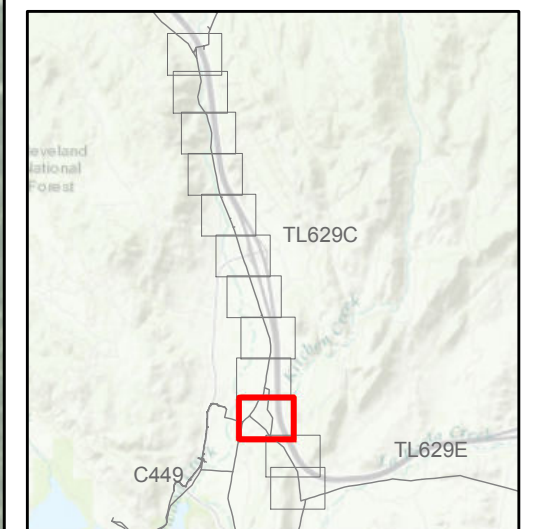


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**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 10 of 12**






**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

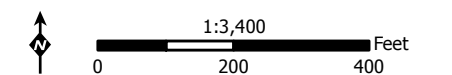
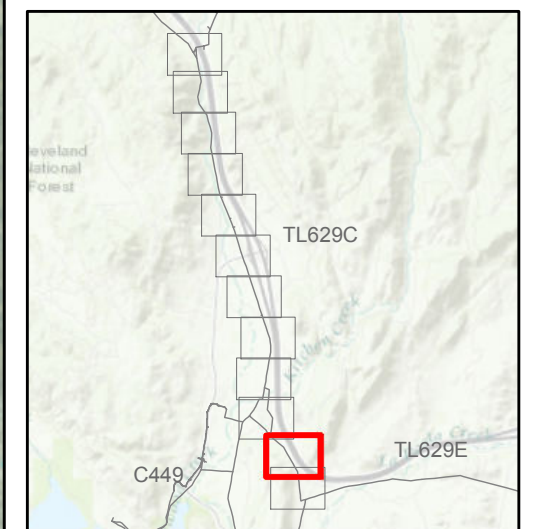
- N New Steel
- R Removal
- S Wood-to-Steel Replacement
- New Steel
- Removal
- Wood-to-Steel Replacement
- U.S. Forest Service



**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 11 of 12**




**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

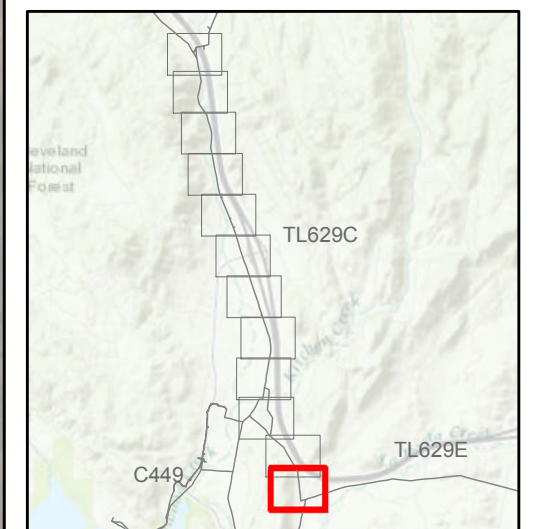
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  New Steel
-  Removal
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service



**Attachment A:
NTP #11 Components Map
TL629C Geotech Map 12 of 12**

**Cleveland National Forest
Power Line Replacement Projects**

-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  Wood-to-Steel Replacement
-  U.S. Forest Service



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