

	<p>California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></p>
	<p>Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects</p> <p>Compliance Status Report: 002</p> <p>October 16, 2016</p>

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 October 3 through October 16, 2016.

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 the Kitchen Creek Staging Yard and Transmission Lines (TL) 625B and 629E. Areas of active and inactive construction within the project limits 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

TL 625B

Activities occurring along TL 625B this reporting period included staking approved work areas (See Photo 3— Attachment A) in accordance with MM BIO-1, clearing sites, and conducting plant salvage in accordance with Habitat Restoration Plan (HRP) (MM BIO-4) and the Special Status Plant Salvage and Relocation Plan (SSPSRP) (MM BIO-15). Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs) including straw wattles/fiber rolls were observed installed at temporary work sites in accordance with APM HYD-05, MM BIO-7, and MM HYD-1. CPUC monitors also observed ESAs delineated and marked for avoidance in accordance with APM CUL-03 and MM CUL-1/CUL-3.

TL 629E

Activities occurring along TL 629E included staking approved work areas in accordance with MM BIO-1 and BIO-22, vegetation and brush clearing, SWPPP BMP installation, installing switches on existing poles, and overhead work on existing poles such as wire spreading, hardware installation and guy wire removal. Activities supporting micropile foundations occurred and included setting up the drills and platforms, drilling, capping and testing foundations, and conducting grouting operations. Installation of poles also occurred. Prior to commencing activities at pole sites, the CPUC monitor observed environmental monitors verifying approved work spaces with construction crews.

For work spaces that required brush and vegetation clearing, which involved manual removal and on-site chipping equipment, crews were observed staging fire tools within 50 feet of work areas (APM HAZ-04) and areas were watered down in accordance with the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (CFPPP) (MM FF-1) (See Photo 2—Attachment A). Vehicles adjacent to work spaces were also observed containing required fire tools for the day and were being checked by fire personnel/patrols in accordance with the CFPPP. Plant salvage was observed during vegetation clearing in accordance with the HRP (MM BIO-4) and the SSPSRP (MM BIO-15).

Biological monitors were observed present during initial vegetation removal in undeveloped areas and during micropile foundation drilling activities in accordance with MM BIO-3 and BIO-22 (See Photo 3— Attachment A). Cultural resources monitors were also observed during these activities to ensure protective measures were adhered to in accordance with APM CUL-04, MM CUL-1 and MM CUL-3. Subsequent to drilling, crews were observed grouting foundations. Spill kits (MM PHS-2) were observed staged around drilling/grouting operations (See Photo 4—Attachment A), delineated work limits were adhered to, and vehicles were observed carrying fire response tools in accordance with the CFPPP. A fire box containing required fire equipment was also observed staged adjacent to work areas in accordance with the CFPPP (MM FF-1).

CPUC monitors continued to observe project access roads being signed in accordance with MM BIO-22 to ensure crews stayed on approved access routes and that project speed limits were adhered to per APM AIR-1 and MM BIO-24 (See Photo 5—Attachment A). Crews were observed avoiding areas marked as ESAs and biological crews were observed marking ESAs to protect sensitive habitat or species present in accordance with permit conditions (See Photo 6—Attachment A).

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 monitors observed overall compliance with mitigation measures throughout the reporting period. No project memoranda/ non-compliances were issued by CPUC this reporting period. On October 10, one concern was addressed directly in the field regarding a vehicle being parked outside the approved work limits in disturbed habitat. The concern was discussed with SDG&E and it was determined the area was an approved work area; however work limits staking needed to be placed in this area to more clearly delineate the work areas. SDG&E followed-up the next day by placing additional staking to delineate the work areas at this location.

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, surveying and delineating work limits, installing signage and flagging, installing switches and grounding lines, spreading existing conductors, and plant salvage occurred. The estimated completion date is April 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

TL 629E

During this reporting period, vegetation clearing, plant salvage, delineating work limits, installing signage and flagging, installing fencing, installing SWPPP BMPs, installing switches on existing poles, and overhead work on existing poles such as wire spreading, hardware installation and guy wire removal occurred. Activities supporting micropile foundations occurred and included setting up the drills and platforms, drilling, and conducting grouting operations. Steel poles were staged at work areas and initial installation occurred. The estimated completion date is March 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

Other Work Areas

Kitchen Creek Staging Yard:

Established (See Compliance Status Report #1).

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: ESAs were observed marked for avoidance along TL 625B in accordance with APM CUL-03 and MM CUL-1/CUL-3.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 2: Prior to vegetation clearing, crews were observed watering adjacent areas. Vehicles were observed carrying required fire equipment (5-gallon backpack pump, shovel, Pulaski, and fire extinguisher) and fire equipment was observed staged adjacent to the immediate work areas in accordance with the CFPPP and APM HAZ-04.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: During applicable micropile activities, biological, cultural, and Native American Monitors were approved present in accordance with MM BIO-3 and APM CUL-4 and MM CUL-3. Staking of approved work areas was observed in accordance with MM BIO-22.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 4: Crews were observed grouting micropile foundations subsequent to foundation drilling. Work was observed being conducted within staked work limits and spill kits were observed present in accordance with MM PHS-2.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: Speed limits were posted on unpaved access roads in in order to ensure compliance with APM AIR-03 and MM BIO-24 and approved roads were staked in accordance with MM BIO-22.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 6: Protective fencing for arroyo toad in accordance with the Streambed Alteration Agreement measures for TL 629E was observed and areas were marked as ESAs for avoidance.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC - 001	September 21, 2016	Construction activities associated with TL 625B and TL 629E	Y

ATTACHMENT C

Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	10/5/16	Request for Modifications to the Anderson, Merrigan and Japatul Spur Staging Yards	Pending	-