

	California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting</i> <i>Program</i>
	Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects Compliance Status Report: 097 June 14, 2020

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 June 1 through June 14, 2020.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor (ECM) conducted site observations in areas under active construction, which included Transmission Lines (TL) 629A, TL 626 Conversion North (Circuit 222), TL 626 Conversion South (C 79B), and Circuit (C) 440, and the associated staging/fly 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. Applicable applicant proposed measures (APMs) and mitigation measures (MMs) were reviewed for implementation in the field.

Implementation Actions

During this reporting period along TL 629A, CPUC ECMs observed crews digging a direct-bury pole hole and framing the rack near Glenclyff Substation, framing setting poles, and conducting overhead work. Along TL 626 Conversion North (C 222), CPUC ECMs observed crews dewatering, digging direct-bury pole holes, excavating a trench for ground rod installation, backfilling for installation of new poles, removing old wooden poles, framing poles, and wrecking-out wire. Along TL 626 Conversion South (C 79B) CPUC ECMs observed crews removing vegetation and installing erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs), trimming trees, and trenching for ground rod installation. Along C440, CPUC ECMs observed crews replacing cable and splicing cable at vaults and conducting overhead work.

To prevent fugitive dust emissions during project activities, crews were observed applying water to prevent fugitive dust along unpaved access roads and in work areas in accordance with APM AIR-02 and during helicopter operations in accordance with the Aviation Safety Plan (MM PHS-5) (see Photo 1 – Attachment A). Haul trucks used for dirt export were observed utilizing load covers to prevent dust emissions in accordance with APM AIR-02, and construction personnel were observed maintaining posted speeds of 15 miles per hour on unpaved access roads in accordance with APM AIR-03 and MM BIO-24. Construction crews were observed applying water during drilling and using cuttings containment boxes to prevent dust emissions in accordance with APM AIR-05.

Approved workspaces were observed delineated with staking and flagging, and work crews were observed adhering to work space limits and staying on approved access roads in accordance with MM BIO-1. Workers were observed having completed the Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP), as shown by project hard hat stickers in accordance with MM BIO-2. Biological monitors were observed conducting full-time monitoring of initial ground-disturbing activities such as vegetation removal in accordance with MM BIO-3, and monitoring all other construction activities to ensure compliance with mitigation measures, applicant proposed measures, and permit conditions in accordance with MM BIO-22. In accordance with MM BIO-14 and MM BIO-16, Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) signs and flagging were observed installed around areas with special-status species, and ESAs were observed being avoided by crews (see Photo 2 – Attachment A). Excavations were observed covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM BIO-23, and crews were observed containing trash at work areas in accordance with MM BIO-26. Avian biologists were observed conducting nesting bird surveys and were present to monitor bird nests during construction activities in accordance with the Avian Protection Plan/Nesting Bird Management Plan (APP/NBMP) and MM BIO-28, and qualified monitors were observed present to protect roosting bat species near pole sites in accordance with MM BIO-30 (see Photo 3 – Attachment A).

CPUC ECMs observed cultural resource monitors, including archaeological and Native American monitors, monitoring construction activities that occurred within or adjacent to identified archaeological or cultural resource site boundaries in accordance with the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP),

MM CUL-1, MM CUL-3, and APM CUL-04 (see Photos 4 and 5 – Attachment A). Cultural ESAs were marked to prevent construction access to areas with cultural and/or historical resources in accordance with the HPMP, and work crews were observed respecting cultural ESA boundaries.

In accordance with the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (CFPPP) (MM FF-1), San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) and their construction contractors were observed communicating Fire Potential Index (FPI) and Project Activity Levels (PALs) to work crews at daily tailboard meetings, during which daily fire requirements and restrictions for work on private land and on National Forest System (NFS) land were discussed. All project-related vehicles and equipment were observed carrying the required set of fire tools (each set containing a 5-gallon backpack pump, round point shovel, Pulaski, and 2A10BC fire extinguisher). Construction crews were observed staging a set of fire tools within 50 feet of work activities as required by APM HAZ-04 and other tools as required by the CFPPP (see Photo 4 – Attachment A). Fire boxes were observed at staging yards and stocked with the required firefighting tools.

To prevent leaks and spills from being discharged into the soil in accordance with the Spill Response and Notification Plan (SRNP) and MM PHS-2, construction crews were observed implementing spill prevention BMPs, such as using drip pans under staged equipment and beneath equipment during mechanical work and refueling, staging spill kits at work sites, using double-walled fuel tanks or implementing secondary containment beneath staged fuel tanks, covering containment that may contain hazardous materials during rain events, and cleaning up spills and disposing of contaminated soils in the designated and properly labeled hazardous waste barrels.

To prevent impacts to hydrology and water quality, site-specific sediment and erosion control BMPs were observed being implemented and maintained along project alignments in accordance with the project Erosion Control Plan (ECP), Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP; MM HYD-01 and MM BIO-7), and APM HYD-09 (see Photo 5 – Attachment A). Other BMPs in the SWPPP, such as hydromulch application, concrete waste containment, and street sweeping, were also observed along the alignments. Hydrological resources were flagged for avoidance, and work activities occurred outside of hydrological resources in accordance with APM HYD-06.

Traffic control measures were observed being implemented in accordance with APM TRANS-01 through APM TRANS-05 during this reporting period (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 MMCRP.

Compliance Status

Seven Level 1 Minor Deviations occurred during this reporting period.

SDG&E reported that on June 2, a snake was observed in the pole hole at P259382 on TL 626 Conversion North. A two-striped garter snake (*Thamnophis hammondi*), a California Department of Fish and Wildlife species of special concern, was successfully removed from the pole hole. The hole was observed to be covered with plywood and plastic; however, there was not an adequate seal around the edges of the plastic. The incident was a violation of MM BIO-23 and resulted in a Level 1 Minor Deviation. Per SDG&E, crews were reminded at the tailboard meeting to seal all excavations

SDG&E reported that on June 4, crews worked until 8:30 p.m. on TL 629A, which was beyond the allowable construction hours. During scheduled pole-setting operations at Z293644 and Z293648, crews discovered that previously installed sleeves and wire on either side of the dead end required repair and immediate attention. The incident was a violation of MM NOI-4 and resulted in a Level 1 Minor Deviation. Per SDG&E, crews were reminded at the tailboard meeting to adhere to the allowable construction hours.

SDG&E reported that on June 5, crews working at Z972850 on TL 6923 placed an outrigger over the berm and on top of native vegetation in a culturally sensitive area. The impacted area was approximately 4 feet by 4 feet, totaling 16 square feet. The crushed vegetation included one chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) and two buckwheat (*Eriogonum* sp.) shrubs. Cultural monitors inspected the area and found no impacts. The incident was a violation of MM BIO-1 and the conditions of the HPMP Section 3.1.3.4 “Avoidance Measures for Resources with ESAs,” and resulted in a Level 1 Minor Deviation. Per SDG&E, the importance of adhering to approved work limits was stressed to crews at the tailboard meeting.

Also on June 5, SDG&E reported that crews working at Z972844 on TL 6923 drove off the northern edge of the access road, crushing a mixture of native and non-native vegetation in a culturally sensitive area. The impacted area was approximately 2 feet by 15 feet, totaling 30 square feet. The crushed vegetation was primarily non-native grasses and buckwheat. Cultural monitors inspected the area and found no impacts. The incident was a violation of MM BIO-1 and the conditions of the HPMP Section 3.1.3.4 “Avoidance Measures for Resources with ESAs,” and resulted in a Level 1 Minor Deviation. Per SDG&E, the importance of adhering to approved work limits was stressed to crews at the tailboard meeting.

SDG&E reported that on June 10, trucks in the Shrine Camp Staging and Fly Yard on Phase II of C 440 were parked within the Riparian Conservation Area (RCA) for the adjacent stream. This was not currently in compliance with the U.S. Forest Service’s (USFS’s) Notice to Proceed #27 concurrence letter. Vehicles were moved upon request, and no sensitive resources were impacted. The incident resulted in a Level 1 Minor Deviation. Per SDG&E, crews were reminded at the tailboard meeting of the importance of adhering to the USFS’s RCA protection requirements. All applicable field personnel, contractors, and consultants were educated on the USFS requirements. The boundaries of the RCA were delineated on June 11. Clarification of RCA protection measures was received from the USFS on June 11.

SDG&E reported that on June 11, a crew excavated a pole hole at P258577 on TL 626 Conversion South. The site had not been cleared of vegetation, and BMPs had not been installed. After the pole hole was excavated, the hole was backfilled. Monitors did not observe any impacts to biological or cultural resources. The incident was a violation of MM BIO-3 and resulted in a Level 1 Minor Deviation. Per SDG&E, the importance of adhering to proper construction sequence and scheduling was stressed to crews at the tailboard meeting.

SDG&E reported that on June 13, crews worked on TL 6923 until 8:28 p.m., which was beyond the allowable construction hours. Crews installed a new switch at P172096, and upon completion of the work, the crews had to verify phasing and close the switch in coordination with SDG&E. Though the installation and phasing were completed within the permitted work hours, the crew did not receive authorization from SDG&E to close the switch until 8:28 p.m. Per SDG&E, the delay was attributed to problems with SDG&E's SCADA system. The incident was a violation of MM NOI-4 and resulted in a Level 1 Minor Deviation. Per SDG&E, crews were reminded at the tailboard meeting to adhere to the allowable construction hours.

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 682, TL 6957, TL 629C, TL 625C, TL 6958, and C 449

Completion pending final inspection and punch-list items. Approximately 99% complete.

TL 629A

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs; poured concrete; excavated for and assembled, installed, and topped poles; and installed regulator banks. The estimated completion date is August 2020. Approximately 79% complete.

TL 6923

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs; removed and installed poles; and conducted overhead and wire-stringing operations. The estimated completion date is August 2020. Approximately 77% complete.

TL 626 Conversion North (C 222)

During this reporting period, construction crews installed, inspected, and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs; grouted pipes; poured concrete; excavated for, removed, and installed poles; excavated for and installed anchors and grounding rods; conducted backfill operations; and conducted overhead operations. The estimated completion date is September 2020. Approximately 35% complete.

TL 626 RFS

During this reporting period, construction crews installed and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs, removed poles and conductors, and conducted overhead operations. The estimated completion date is December 2020. Approximately 10% complete.

TL 626 Conversion South (C 79B)

During this reporting period, construction crews installed sediment and erosion control BMPs; installed signage and flagging; removed and chipped vegetation; trimmed trees; maintained access roads; excavated for, drilled, and perforated for pole holes; and excavated for and installed grounding rods. The estimated completion date is December 2020. Approximately 7% complete.

C 440 Phase I

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs, spliced cable, installed a cable adaptor, conducted compaction operations, and conducted underground cable-pulling operations. The estimated completion date is August 2020. Approximately 95% complete.

C 440 Phase II

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs, installed signage and flagging, excavated for and installed fencing, removed vegetation, trimmed trees and removed tree stumps, and developed the Shrine Camp and Air Force Staging and Fly Yards and Rec Barn Staging Yard. The estimated completion date is December 2020. Approximately 1% complete.

C 79A

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs; maintained access roads; painted vaults; mandrelled, painted, proofed, and replaced conduit; spliced, tested, and terminated cable; reframed a terminal; and conducted underground cable-pulling operations. The estimated completion date is June 2020. Approximately 92% complete.

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: A crew was observed conducting grading work at Shrine Camp Staging Yard. Water was applied to prevent dust emissions in accordance with APM AIR-02 and APM AIR-05.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 2: The SDG&E lead environmental inspector was observed monitoring a red-tailed hawk nest between P259288-P259289 to ensure no impacts during construction activities at P100897 and P259286 in accordance with the APP/NBMP (MM BIO-28).

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: A qualified biological monitor was present to monitor the common bat species roosting near P259355 (TL 626 Conversion North (C 222)) as a general bat protection measure in accordance with MM BIO-30.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 4: A Dedicated Fire Patrol was present during and 1 hour after pole framing and setting along TL 626 Conversion North (C 222) due to the poles being set between energized lines, in accordance with the CFPPP Fire Prevention Matrix for work with energized lines with a Normal FPI (MM FF-1). In addition, archaeological and cultural monitors were present in accordance with the HPMP (MM CUL-1) and APM CUL-04.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: A crew was observed drilling a direct-bury pole hole along TL 626 Conversion South (C 79B). Archaeological and cultural monitors were observed monitoring the activity, and the surrounding ESA was clearly delineated and avoided by the crew in accordance with the HPMP (MM CUL-1), APM CUL-03, and APM CUL-04.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 6: Cones, signage, and flagpersons were used to direct traffic through narrow lanes around the work area for P258402 and P776554 (TL 629A) in accordance with the Traffic Control Plan (APM TRANS-05) and APM TRANS-02.

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
CPUC-004	June 27, 2017	Construction activities associated with TL 682 Phase I: Pole Z118102 to Warners Substation	Y
CPUC-005	July 10, 2017	Geotechnical activities associated with C440 and C449	Y
CPUC-007	August 15, 2017	Construction activities associated with C78	Y
CPUC-008	November 8, 2017	Construction activities associated with C442	Y
CPUC-009	December 12, 2017	Geotechnical borings and seismic surveys along TL 629A and TL 625D	Y
CPUC-010	December 18, 2017	Construction activities associated with Phase 1 of C 440	Y
CPUC-011	January 24, 2018	Request to implement geotechnical investigation program, which includes geotechnical borings along TL629C	Y
CPUC-012	January 9, 2018	Reconstruct TL 6957 (formerly referred to as 625D)	Y
CPUC-013	April 5, 2018	Reconstruct TL 682 Phase III	Y
CPUC-014	June 26, 2018	Reconstruct/Relocate C157	Y
CPUC-015	August 30, 2018	Request to begin construction on C 449	Y
CPUC-016	July 10, 2018	Geotechnical Activities associated with TL 6923 and TL 625C	Y
CPUC-017	August 30, 2018	Request to begin construction on TL 629C	Y
CPUC-018	August 15, 2018	Request to implement a geotechnical investigation program, including geotechnical borings, along C 79A.	Y
CPUC-019	November 30, 2018	Reconstruction of TL 6958 (formerly referred to as TL629D)	Y
CPUC-020	April 19, 2019	Reconstruction of TL 629A	Y
CPUC-021	May 29, 2019	Reconstruction of C79A	Y
CPUC-022	June 18, 2019	Reconstruction of TL 625C	Y
CPUC-023	July 11, 2019	Reconstruction/Removal of C440 Phase I Overhead	Y
CPUC-024	November 22, 2019	Reconstruction of TL 6923	Y
CPUC-025	February 4, 2020	Remove TL 626 from service and convert the northern section of TL 626 from 69 kV to 12 kV	Y
CPUC-026	April 23, 2020	Convert the southern portion of TL 626 from a 69 kV transmission line to 12 kV distribution line from Johnson Creek (Pole P258599) to the Descanso Substation	Y
CPUC-027	June 5, 2020	Reconstruct Phase II of the C 440 Component	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
004	3/20/17	Use of Orchard Staging Yard and Nursery Staging and Fly Yard	Approved, with Conditions	5/16/17
005	5/9/17	Modifications to C78	Approved	8/15/17
006	6/20/17	Drainage Structure Installation at Pole Z272867 (TL 625B)	Approved	7/6/17
007	8/1/17	Love Valley Staging and Fly Yard	Approved	9/25/17
008	8/14/17	Mendenhall Fly Yard (TL 682)	Approved	9/1/17
009	10/10/17	Request for refinements for Phase I and Phase II of TL682	Approved	11/22/17
010	10/16/17	Addition of staging area and shift of pole P257776 (C78)	Approved	10/27/17
011	1/9/18	Modifications to TL 6957 (formerly TL 625D)	Approved	3/12/18
012	1/22/18	Request for an additional staging/fly yard (Creekside Ranch Staging and Fly Yard)	Approved	2/6/18
013	2/7/18	Request to move Pole P178040, per permittee request	Approved	2/9/18
014	2/15/18	Request to begin construction on Phase III of TL682. This request is combined with NTP #13.	Approved	4/5/18
015	2/22/18	Request to move a pole, per permittee request and additional pole work outside of the Rincon Substation.	Approved	3/14/18
016	3/29/18	Refinements to TL 629E	Approved	4/3/18
017	4/12/18	Refinements to C157	Approved	6/26/18
018	5/29/18	Refinements to C 449	Approved	8/30/18
019	7/2/18	Refinements to TL 629C	Approved	8/30/18
020	8/23/18	Request for road maintenance and temporary access and pole workspaces along C 157	Approved	8/29/18
021	8/23/18	Intersect Pole on TL 682	Approved	9/24/18
022	10/16/18	Refinements to TL 6958 (formerly TL 629D)	Approved	11/30/18
023	11/15/18	Expansion of the Buckman Springs Fly Yard and addition of the Old Buckman Springs Staging Yard and Rodriguez Staging Yard	Approved, with Conditions	12/4/18
024	11/26/18	Request to use the Pacific Crest Trail for access along C 449 and TL 629C	Approved	1/3/19
025	12/11/18	Bartlett Staging Yard	Approved	1/22/19
026	2/22/19	Refinements to TL 629A	Approved	4/19/19
027	3/1/19, Revised 3/8/19	Expansion of the Cameron Staging Yard	Approved	3/12/19
028	3/7/19	Underground workspaces at three existing pole locations on C 449	Approved	3/12/19

ATTACHMENT C

Minor Project Refinement Request

029	3/28/19	Refinements to C79A	Approved	5/29/19
030	3/29/19	Modify Route to Pole P45476 (C449)	Approved	4/05/19
031	4/26/19	Refinements to TL 625C	Approved	6/18/19
032	5/6/19	Refinements to C 440 Phase I Overhead	Approved	7/11/19
033	5/17/19	Convert Staging areas 2 and 2A from staging to staging and fly yards (C440)	Approved	6/04/19
034	5/17/19	Replace Stevens Ranch Staging Yard Relocation	Approved	5/29/19
035	6/06/19	Refinements to TL 629A Components	Approved	6/18/19
036	6/28/19	Addition of Paso Picacho Staging Yard	Approved	7/17/19
037	6/28/19	Expansion of the Merrigan Staging Yard	Approved	7/03/19
038	7/26/19	Refinements to TL 629A	Approved	8/14/19
039	9/5/19	Refinements to TL 625C	Approved	9/19/19
040	9/12/19	Addition of Underground Alignment to C440	Approved	10/10/19
041	10/2/19	Refinements to TL 6923	Approved	11/22/19
042	10/29/19	Addition of temporary access/entry/turnaround areas, temporary pole work areas, and footpaths at Poles Z774861, Z774862, Z774863, and Z774864	Approved	12/9/19
043	12/27/19	Replacement pole location adjustment and addition of temporary workspace at Pole Z272939	Approved	1/9/20
044	2/10/20	Refinements to TL 626 Conversion South	Approved	4/23/20
045	2/21/20	Temporary shoo-fly along TL629A	Approved	3/9/20
046	3/6/20	Additional anchor locations and access road modifications along C 440 Phase I.	Approved	3/26/20