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# **San Diego Gas & Electric Company Master Special Use Permit and Permit to Construct Power Line Replacement Projects**



**California Public Utilities Commission  
United States Forest Service  
EIR/EIS**



**Public Scoping Meetings  
October 22 and 23, 2013**

# Purpose of Meeting

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- **To inform the public and responsible agencies about the project**
- **To inform the public about the environmental review process**
- **To solicit input on the scope of issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EIR/EIS**

# Overview for SDG&E Master Special Use Permit and Permit to Construct Power Line Replacement Projects

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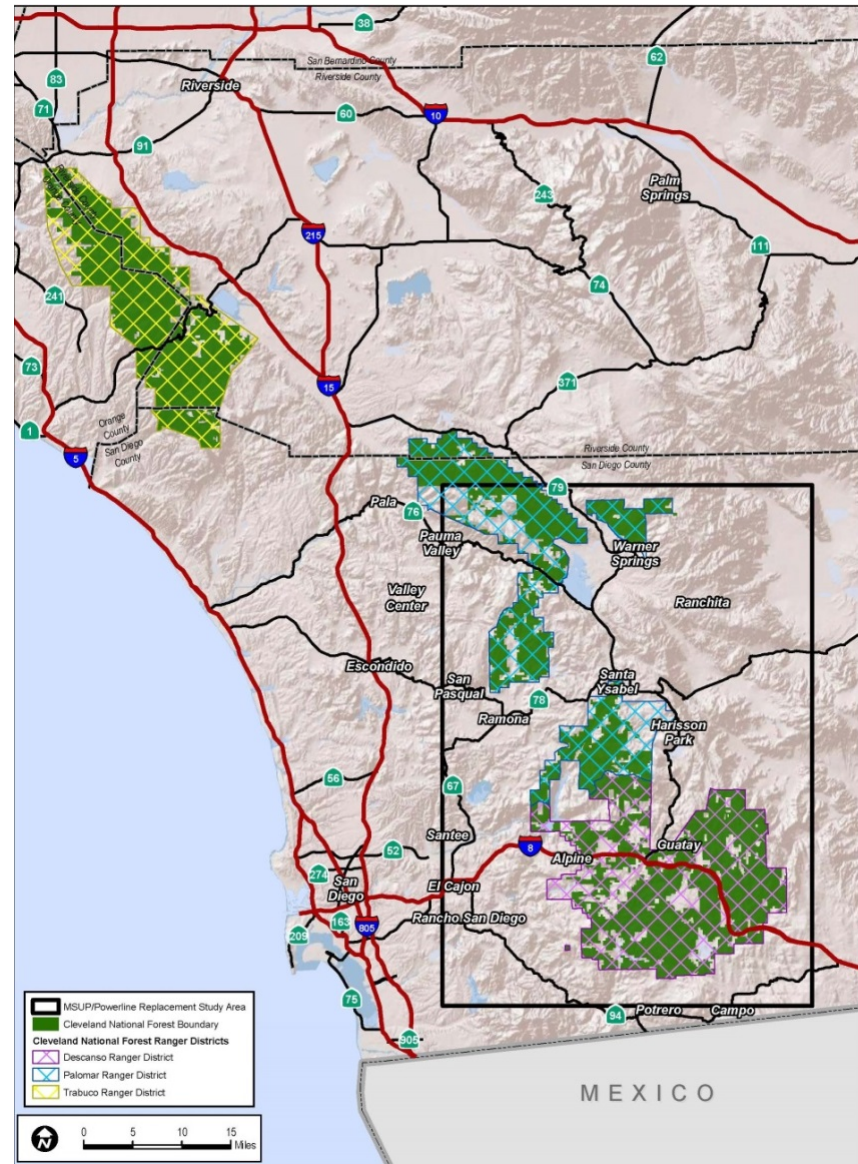
- **Background**
- **Master Special Use Permit (MSUP)**
  - Consolidate into one MSUP previously-issued permits for the continued operation of SDG&E's 69 kV and 12 kV electric lines and other ancillary facilities with the Cleveland National Forest
- **SDG&E's Power Line Replacement Projects**
  - Replace (5) existing 69 kV and (6) 12 kV electric lines by:
    - Fire hardening (wood-to-steel pole replacement)
    - Removal, relocation, undergrounding, and single to double circuit conversion along some segments
- **Forest Service Proposed Action**
  - TL626 – Relocate section out of Cedar Creek
  - C157 – Relocate section out of wilderness

# Typical Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement – 69kV



# Where is the Master Special Use Permit Study Area?

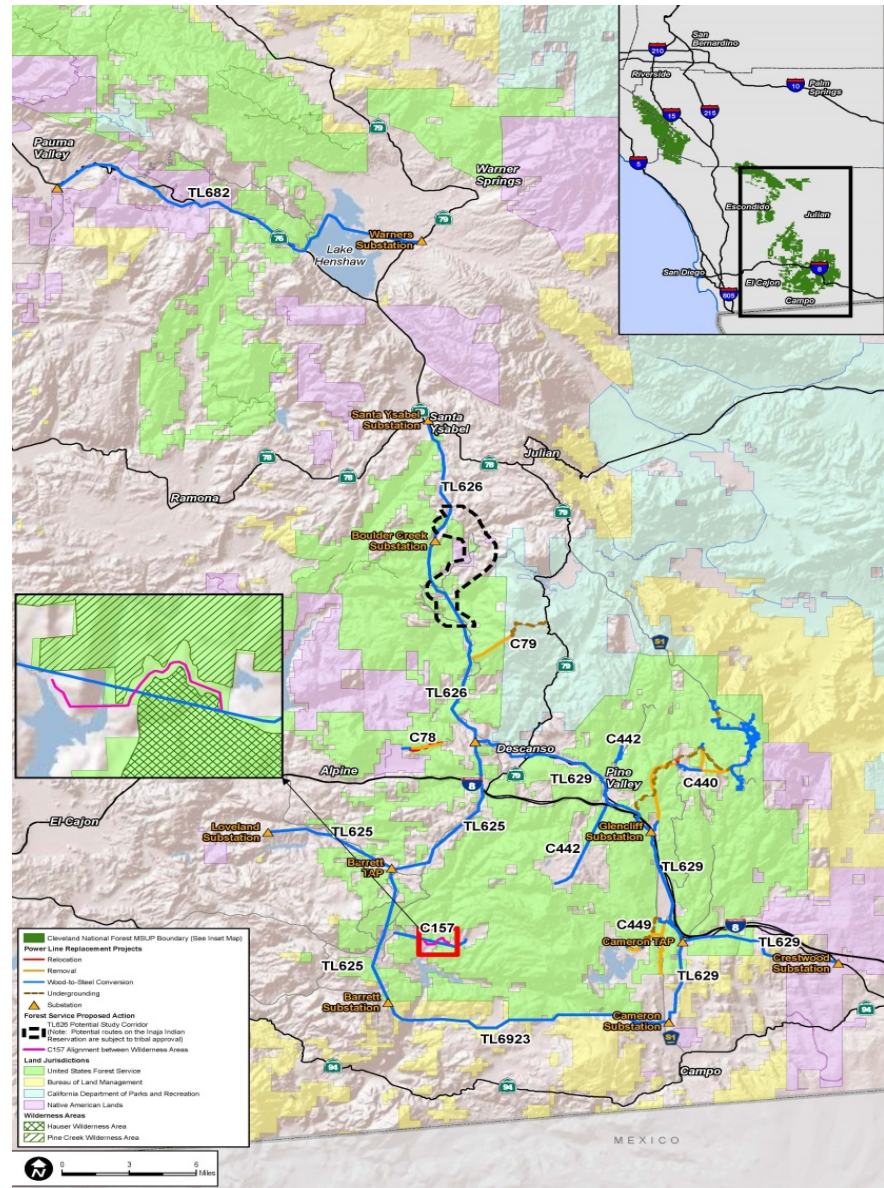
- **Orange County**
  - **Trabuco Ranger District**
- **Central San Diego County**
  - **Palomar and Descanso Ranger Districts**
  - **Unincorporated communities**
    - **Warner Springs**
    - **Santa Ysabel**
    - **Pauma Valley**
    - **Descanso**
    - **Campo**





# Where are the Proposed Power Line Replacement Projects?

- TL625
- TL626
- TL629
- TL682
- TL6923
- C78
- C79
- C157
- C440
- C442
- C449



# USGS Topographic Overview Map

- Forest Service Proposed Action - Relocate TL626



# **Applicants' Project Objectives**

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- **Secure Forest Service authorization to continue to operate and maintain existing SDG&E facilities within the CNF**
- **Increase fire safety and service reliability by replacing 5 existing 69kV power lines and 6 existing 12 kV distribution circuits**



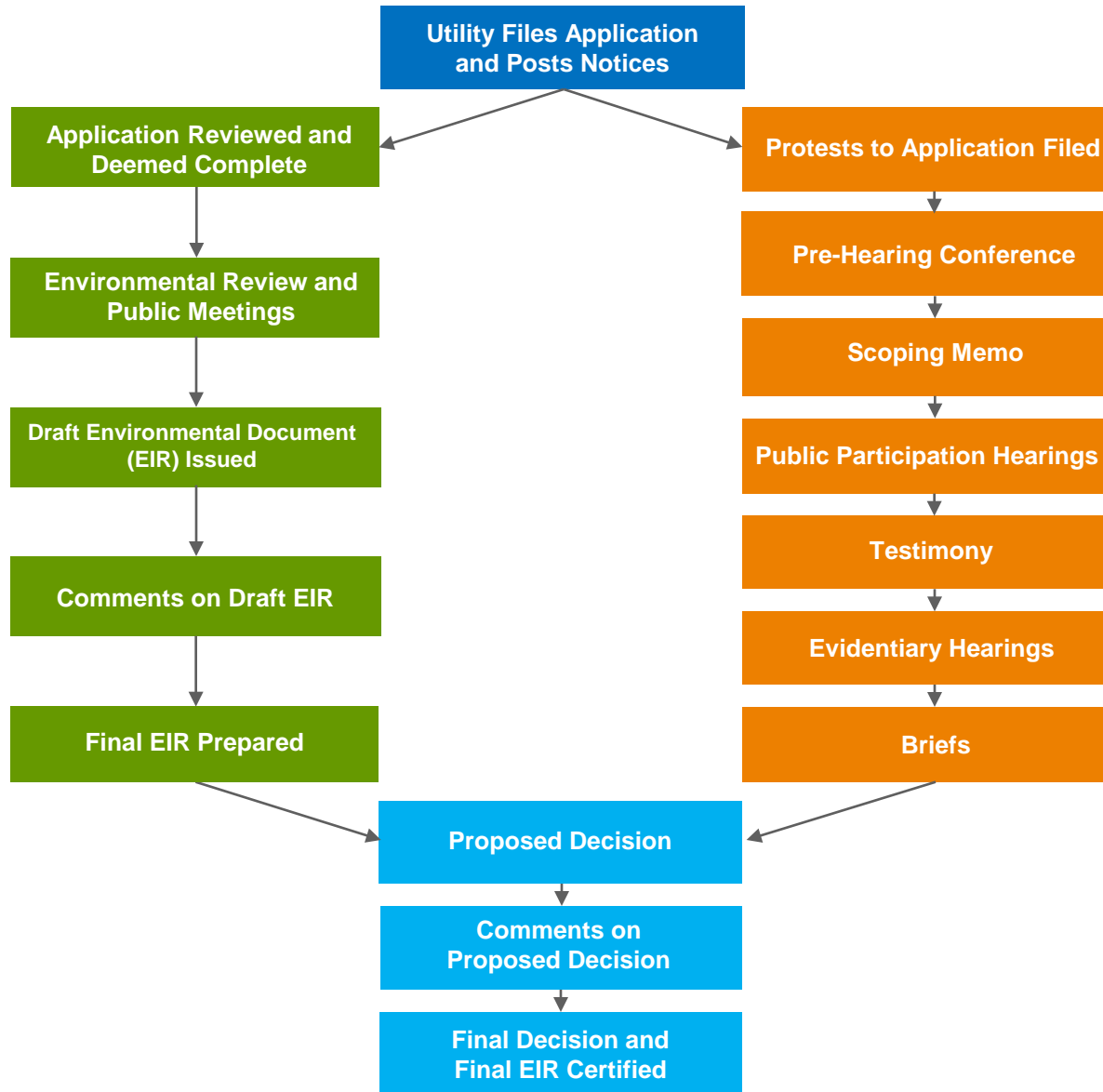
# Environmental Review

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- **United States Forest Service: Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – MSUP authorizing SDG&E facilities within the administrative boundary of the Cleveland National Forest (CNF)**
- **Federal Cooperating Agencies under NEPA**
  - Bureau of Land Management (BLM): Power Line Replacement Projects on lands administered by the BLM
  - Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA): Power Line Replacement Projects on tribal lands
- **California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC): Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) – Permit to construct Power Line Replacement Projects within and outside the CNF**
- **Responsible Agencies under CEQA**
  - California State Parks (CSP): Power Line Replacement Projects within lands administered by CSP

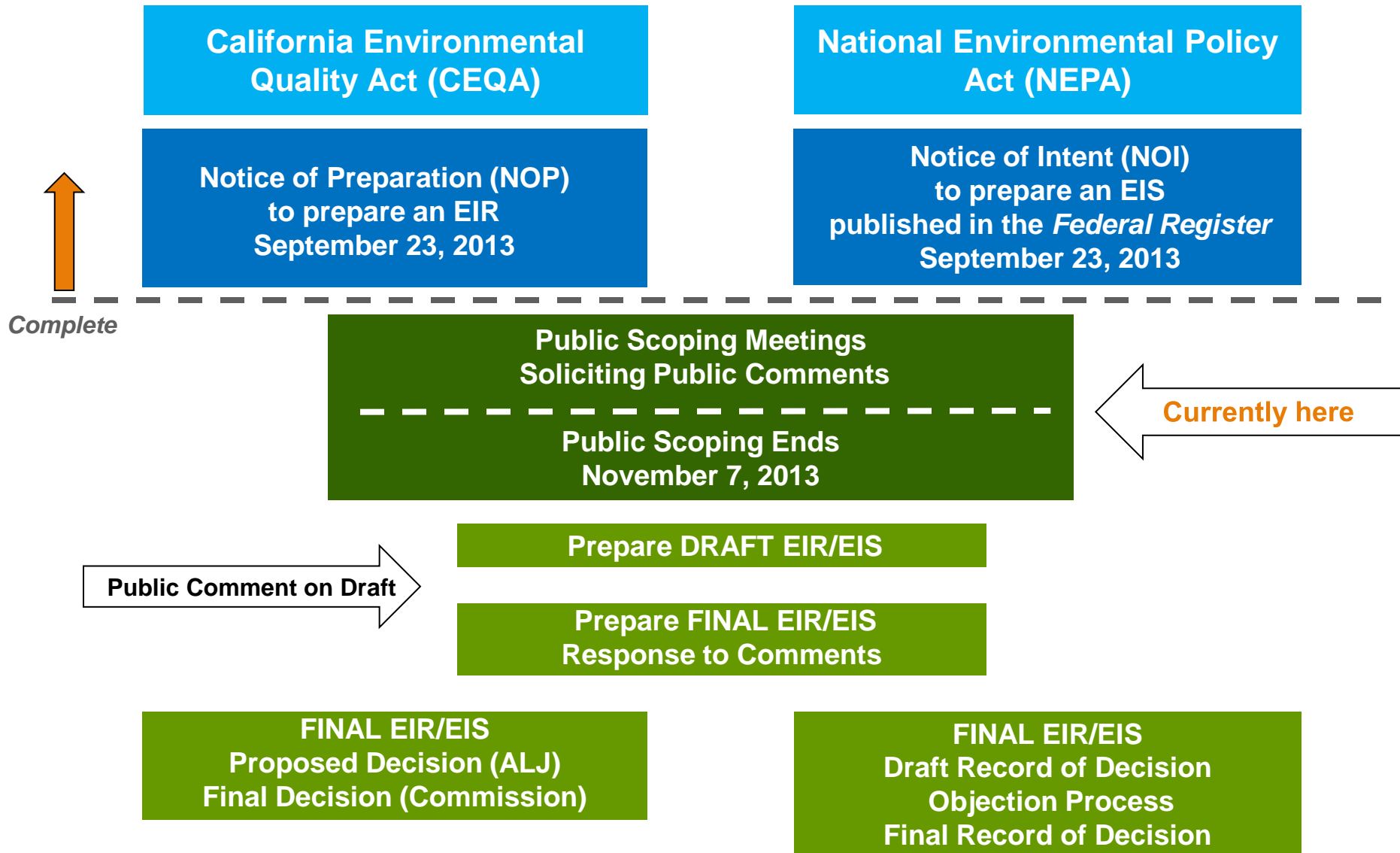
# CPUC Review Process

Process per Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. seq.,  
the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines



Process per Public Utilities Code and CPUC Rules of Practice and Procedure

# Environmental Review Process – Opportunities for Public Input



# Purpose of the EIR/EIS

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- **Disclose the effects of the proposed action and alternatives, and identify measures to reduce, avoid, and minimize those effects**
- **Consider a reasonable range of alternatives**
- **Provide opportunity for public participation in the planning and decision-making process**
- **Ensure that decision makers have a solid basis to make a decision**



# **Environmental Topics Identified in the NOP to be Included in the EIR/EIS**

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- **Aesthetics/Visual Resources**
- **Air Quality**
- **Biological Resources**
- **Cultural and Paleontological Resources**
- **Greenhouse Gas Emissions**
- **Public Health and Safety**
- **Fire and Fuels Management**
- **Hydrology and Water Quality**
- **Land Use and Planning**
- **Noise**
- **Public Services and Utilities**
- **Wilderness and Recreation**
- **Transportation and Traffic**
- **Cumulative Impacts**

# Alternatives Analysis

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- **No project/no action alternative**
- **Reasonable range of alternatives determined by:**
  - **Consistency with most project objectives**
    - Meeting all objectives is not required
    - Must meet the agency purpose and need
  - **Ability to reduce or avoid impacts of project**
    - Scoping comments will help to identify impacts
  - **Feasibility**
    - Technical concerns (Can it be built?)
    - Regulatory feasibility (Could it be permitted?)
    - Legal issues (Would it be allowed under law?)

# Public Input in Defining the EIR/EIS Scope

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- **The most useful scoping comments:**
  - 1. Identify the location and extent of environmental impacts of the proposed project.**
  - 2. Identify measures that would reduce environmental impacts.**
  - 3. Recommend alternatives that would avoid or reduce impacts of the proposed project.**

# Written Comments

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Please send comments to:

**California Public Utilities Commission/U.S. Forest Service**

**Attn: Lisa Orsaba, CPUC Project Manager**

**Will Metz, Forest Supervisor, Cleveland National Forest**

**c/o Dudek**

**605 Third Street**

**Encinitas, California 92024**

**Email: [cnfmsup@dudek.com](mailto:cnfmsup@dudek.com)**

**Public Scoping Ends:  
November 7, 2013**

Please be sure to include your name, address, and phone number on all comments.



# For More Information

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- **Check CPUC internet websites:**

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/dudek/CNF/CNF.htm>

- **Information Repositories: 7 area libraries have project information**

**Alpine Branch Library**  
2130 Arnold Way  
Alpine, California 91901

**Campo-Morena Village  
Branch Library**  
31356 Highway 94  
Campo, California 91906

**Descanso Branch Library**  
9545 River Drive  
Descanso, California 91916

**Pine Valley Branch Library**  
28804 Old Highway 80  
Pine Valley, California 91962

**Julian Branch Library**  
1850 Highway 78  
Julian, California 92036

**Ramona Branch Library**  
1275 Main Street  
Ramona, California 92065

**San Diego Public Library**  
330 Park Boulevard  
San Diego, California 92101