

	<p><b>California Public Utilities Commission</b>  <b><i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></b></p>
	<p><b>East County (ECO) Substation Project</b></p> <p><b>Compliance Status Report: 040</b></p> <p><b>October 12, 2014</b></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/Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/EIS) for the East County (ECO) Substation Project. 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/EIS to mitigate or avoid significant 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. This compliance status report covers construction activities from September 29 through October 12, 2014.

**MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING**

***Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring***

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations along the right-of-way associated with the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line, 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line, East County Substation and Boulevard Substation Rebuild. 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. Daily observations were documented on daily site inspection forms and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

**Implementation Actions**

**138 kV Underground Transmission Line**

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of repair and maintenance of erosion and sediment control devices along the right-of-way. In Section 1 of the underground transmission line, activities included splicing within vaults; continuation of finish-grading and placement of Class II base on the roads north and south of Jewel Valley Road; and continued restoration activities.

Along Section 3 of the underground transmission line, activities included completion of splicing fiber optic cable within vaults 6B and 5B; completion of pulling underground cable into SP 91; continued road shoulder repair and paving east and west of Carrizo Creek Bridge and along Old Highway 80; and pre-drilling bore pits at Carrizo Creek Bridge.

CPUC third-party monitors observed construction crews continuing to execute road shoulder repairs and paving along Old Highway 80 (see Attachment A—Photo 1) and conducting finish-grading activities along roads north and south of Jewel Valley Road. Prior to the use of a street sweeper to clean work areas, trucks were observed applying water in order to prevent dust emissions in accordance with MM-AQ-1 and MM BIO-4a. Traffic control measures including informational signs were observed in place along Jewel Valley road during those activities in accordance with MM-TRA-1. Work limits were observed to be delineated and adhered to in accordance with MM-BIO-1a and perimeter sediment controls (i.e. straw wattles and gravel bag berms) were observed in good condition in accordance with MM-HYD-1.

CPUC third party monitors observed excavation activities associated with installation of a storm drain pipe under an access road (see Attachment A—Photo 2). All work was observed being conducted within delineated work limits in accordance with MM-BIO-1a. Erosion control devices were observed intact in accordance with MM-HYD-1 and water was observed being applied to prevent fugitive dust in accordance with MM-AQ-1. Other erosion and sediment control BMPs observed along the right-of-way included velocity dissipaters, water bars, site perimeter straw wattles, gravel bag berms, and perimeter straw wattles around stockpiles in accordance with MM-HYD-1.

Areas of ongoing habitat restoration associated with undergrounding the transmission line were observed along the right-of-way, and signage notifying construction personnel to stay out of restoration areas was observed in accordance with MM-BIO-1d. Upon completion of restoration activities, crews were observed removing erosion control straw wattles. The restoration areas will continue to be monitored and measures implemented until success criteria is reached, which includes at least 60 percent of total vegetation cover to be achieved for each plant community, relative to the adjacent reference site with similar vegetation.

### 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of installation of permanent drainage features on steel pole pads. Along Section 2 of the overhead transmission line, activities included pulling conductors from SP 38 to 63; installation of conductors between SP 90 and 91, and 63 to 64; and installation of underground cable into SP 38. Along Section 4 of the overhead transmission line, activities included pulling cable into, and beginning termination of the underground cable at SP 105; and sagging conductor between SP 105 and 108.

CPUC third party monitors observed activities associated with stringing wire from SP 64 to SP 63, beneath the Southwest Power Link transmission line during a scheduled outage. A biological monitor was observed on

site in accordance with MM-BIO-1c, and the construction crew was observed abiding by the delineated work limits MM-BIO-1a. Erosion and sediment control BMPs observed on site and along the access road included the use of hydro-mulch, perimeter straw wattles and gravel bag berms in accordance with MM-HYD-1. Previously drilled holes at a guard structure location for an underground distribution line, was observed covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM-BIO-7a, and spoil piles were covered with visqueen to prevent erosion in accordance with MM-HYD-1 (See Attachment A—Photo 3). During all activities, construction crews were observed carrying required fire safety tools in accordance with the Construction Fire Plan (MM-FF-1 and BIO-1f).

Construction crews were observed installing drainage features along the slope of an access road to SP 81. Water trucks were observed on site and applying water to prevent fugitive dust in accordance with MM-AQ-1 and MM-BIO-4. During riprap installation at SP 79, cultural and archeological monitors were observed on site in accordance with MM-CUL-1d. Crews were observed dead-ending conductors and wires at SP 38 to 64 (See Attachment A—Photo 4) and crews were observed staying within delineated work limits. Biological monitors were observed on site in accordance with MM-BIO-1c, and erosion control devices were observed intact at all sites.

### East County Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of repair and maintenance of erosion and sediment control devices; continued construction of the permanent water tank south of the 500 kilovolt (kV) substation pad; receiving and spreading soils from the Domingo Lake Construction Yard onto the southeast bench of the ECO substation; drilling the foundation for the Energia Sierra Juarez (ESJ) transmission structure within the 230kV yard; assembling the rebar cage for the ESJ structure; and continued restoration activities at the substation, including de-compacting and spreading topsoil to prepare for seeding and container plant installation.

In accordance with MM-BIO-1d, crews were observed re-distributing topsoil where temporary trailers were staged (see Attachment A—Photo 5), as well as staking locations for potted plants. During other activities, speed limits along the southern access route were observed being adhered to in accordance with MM-BIO-7b and erosion control devices throughout the site were observed in good condition in accordance with MM-HYD-1.

### Boulevard Substation Rebuild

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued installation of relay panels and equipment in the control shelter; completion of the underground cable installation; completion of the grounding of the permanent fencing; completion of the grounding rods; completion of the pavement of Class II base along the eastern access road; and beginning electrical testing within the substation.

Rattle plates have been installed at the point of ingress/egress to Old Highway and were observed in good working condition, as sediment track-out was not observed. On October 1, CPUC third-party monitors noted that the visual screening materials along the northern perimeter fence had been damaged and were in need of repair. This item was communicated to the lead Environmental Inspector, who confirmed that the material would be fixed by October 6th. The screening material was observed in good condition at the Boulevard Substation location subsequent to the notification (see Attachment A – Photo 6).

Hazardous materials stored onsite were labeled and staged in proper containment bins per MM-HAZ-1a, and spill kits were readily accessible. Construction equipment and staged materials throughout the substation were equipped with drip pan containment as stipulated by MM-HAZ-1a. As required by MM-HAZ-1c, trash storage bins were equipped with covers to avoid dispersal due to weather or wildlife.

### ***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/FEIS for the ECO Substation Project, as adopted by the CPUC on April 19, 2012 (Decision 12-04-022).

### ***Compliance***

No non-compliances or deviations occurred during this reporting period.

## **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

### ***Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site***

Construction at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild is 94% complete.

### ***ECO Substation Site Construction***

Construction at ECO Substation is 97% complete.

### ***138 kV Underground Construction***

Construction crews have completed installation of all 39 vaults, 100% of cable has been installed, and 100% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled.

### ***138 kV Overhead Construction***

53 of 53 steel pole pads/spur roads and foundations have been completed and 53 of 53 poles have been erected. 33% percent of the wire has been installed.

## CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

***ECO Substation 500 kV and 230/138 kV Yards*** – SDG&E began construction activities in March 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

***138 kV Underground Transmission Line*** – SDG&E began construction activities in October 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

***138 kV Overhead Transmission Line*** – SDG&E began construction activities in November 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

***Boulevard Substation Rebuild*** – SDG&E began construction in December 2012 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos

---



**Photo 1:** During road improvements along Section 3 of the underground transmission line, crews were observed staying within the work limits and erosion control devices were observed intact in accordance with MM-HYD-1.



**Photo 2:** Along Section 1 of the underground transmission line, excavation in preparation for the storm drain pipe installation was observed being conducted within delineated work limits. Erosion control devices were observed intact in accordance with MM-HYD-1 and water was

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)

observed being applied to prevent fugitive dust in accordance with MM-AQ-1.



**Photo 3:** Previously drilled holes at a guard structure location for an underground distribution line were observed covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM-BIO-7a. Additionally, spoil piles were observed covered with visqueen to prevent erosion in accordance with MM-HYD-1.



**Photo 4:** Work limits were observed delineated and intact during fiber optic stringing activity at SP 38. Biological monitors were observed monitoring activities in accordance with MM-BIO-

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)

1c.



**Photo 5:** Topsoil was observed being distributed where temporary trailers were staged at the ECO substation in accordance with MM-BIO-1d.



**Photo 6:** At the Boulevard Substation rebuild site, the point of ingress and egress connecting to Old Highway was observed free of sediment track-out in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1. Additionally, in accordance with MM-VIS-3a, the perimeter security fence's screening material was observed intact upon repair.



## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

---

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
BLM-001	February 11, 2013	A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on lands administered by the BLM	Y
CPU -001	November 30, 2012	Abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site	Y
CPUC-002	February 1, 2013	Construction of a new substation (a 500 kV yard and a 230/138 kV yard)	Y
CPUC-003	February 1, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Y
CPUC-004	March 4, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Y
CPUC-005	May 21, 2013	Construction Yards	Y
CPUC-006	July 2, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line along Southern Access Road	Y
CPUC-007	July 30, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line within Old Highway 80 and Carrizo Gorge Road	Y
CPUC-008	August 2, 2013	Construction activities associated with the Boulevard Substation Rebuild	Y
CPUC-009	September 25, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Boulevard Substation to 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Y
CPUC-010	October 17, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Carrizo Gorge Road to Steel Pole 91	Y
CPUC-011	November 5, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Y
CPUC-012	November 19, 2013	Fault Investigations at the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-In	Y
CPUC-013	December 4, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line Steel Pole- 105B and Steel Pole-108A	Y
CPUC-014	March 18, 2014	Construction of Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) loop-in to connect the existing 500 kV SWPL transmission line to the ECO Substation site	Y

## ATTACHMENT C

### Minor Project Refinement Requests

---

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	January 25, 2013	Temporary Retention Basin	Approved	February 7, 2013
002	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Domingo Lake and Jewel Valley Construction Yards	Approved	May 20, 2013
003	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard	Approved	May 20, 2013
004	May 17, 2013	Adjustments to the Southern Access Road and 138 kV Overhead and Underground Transmission Line	Approved	June 26, 2013
005	June 27, 2013	Adjustments to the Boulevard Substation Rebuild	Approved	July 26, 2013
006	July 30, 2013	Adjustments to the 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Approved	September 23, 2013
007	August 16, 2013	Relocation of Temporary Retention Basin	Approved	August 22, 2013
008	August 20, 2013	Construction Water Use	Approved	October 1, 2013
009	November 22, 2013	Additional Temporary Work Space for Fence Replacement	Approved	November 26, 2013
010	December 19, 2013	Access Road and Work Space Refinements at Steel Pole 63 & 64	Approved	January 14, 2014
011	January 16, 2014	Temporary Meeting Location for Material & Equipment	Approved	January 22, 2014
012	February 27, 2014	Work Space Refinements to the Southwest Powerlink	Approved	March 11, 2014
013	April 4, 2014	Additional Temporary Work Space at 138kV Overhead Transmission Line	Approved	April 17, 2014