

California Public Utilities Commission Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program

East County (ECO) Substation Project

**Compliance Status Report: 045** 

December 21, 2014

### 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 December 8 through December 21, 2014.

## MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

### Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations along the rightof-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 hydroseeding work areas and installation of water bars and other drainage features along the right-of-way.

Traffic safety measures observed being implemented included the use of traffic cones to direct motorists along Carrizo Gorge Road in accordance with MM-TRA-1 (see Attachment A – Photo 1). Hydroseeding crews were observed applying hydroseed along the right-of-way between the Boulevard Rebuild Substation and the 138 kV overhead alignment (see Attachment A – Photo 2). The temporary work areas were decompacted prior to the seed application in accordance with MM-BIO-1D. Restoration activities were also observed being performed under the direction of a habitat restoration specialist in accordance with MM-BIO-1D.

Work limits were observed being clearly delineated with flagging in accordance with MM-BIO-1A and a biological monitor was present per MM-BIO-1C. Sediment control BMP's, including straw wattles and gravel bag berms, were observed in good condition along the perimeter of the work limits (MM-HYD-1). Crews were also observed installing permanent sediment erosion control measures consisting of water bars and energy dissipaters in accordance with MM-HYD-4.

### 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of installation of grounding at metal objects throughout the right-of-way, restoration activities at temporary work areas, hydroseeding pad slopes and temporary work areas and installation and/or repair of gates.

A biological monitor was present at the time of the site visits in accordance with MM-BIO-1C. Fire safety tools were also observed being staged on-site and a fire patrol/inspector was present on-site in accordance with MM-FF-1.

FAA marker balls have been installed at locations along the 138 kV overhead transmission alignment in accordance with FAA regulations and MM-TRA-3 (see Attachment A – Photo 3). In accordance with MM-HAZ-1A, spill prevention countermeasures were observed in place, consisting of containment bins below temporary generators (see Attachment A – Photo 4). Temporary impact areas along access roads and adjacent to pad sites are undergoing restoration efforts in accordance with MM-BIO-1D.

### East County Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued work on punch list items, installation of the security system and implementation of the Landscaping Plan (ECO-AES-1). All activities were observed being completed within the approved work limits and no issues/concerns were observed.

#### Boulevard Substation Rebuild

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of installation of electrical testing, cleanup of materials and equipment from the temporary work areas, removal of the temporary construction fencing, and preparation for landscape installation and seeding activities.

Erosion control devices were observed being maintained along the perimeter and within the substation boundaries in accordance with MM-HYD-1. Containment bins were also observed beneath staged equipment in accordance with MM-HAZ-1 and the associated spill countermeasures.

Crews were observed preparing the site for installation of landscaping materials in accordance with the Landscaping Plan (APM-ECO-AES-2). All work was observed being completed within the approved work limits under the supervision of a biological monitor in accordance with MM-BIO-1C. Crews recently completed the construction of a detention basin that will be utilized to dissipate stormwater flows during a storm event (see Attachment A – Photo 5).

Dust control measures consisting of watering down areas of active construction and sweeping the adjacent roadway (Old Highway 80) at the point of ingress/egress to minimize trac-out were being implemented (MM-BIO-4A) (see Attachment A – Photo 6).

Fire patrols were observed on-site to ensure construction equipment and vehicles had the required fire safety equipment and provided ongoing fire patrols in accordance with MM-FF-1.

### 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 98% complete. Work associated with landscaping and demolishing the existing Boulevard Substation remains outstanding.

#### ECO Substation Site Construction

Construction at ECO Substation is 98% complete. Work associated with landscaping remains outstanding.

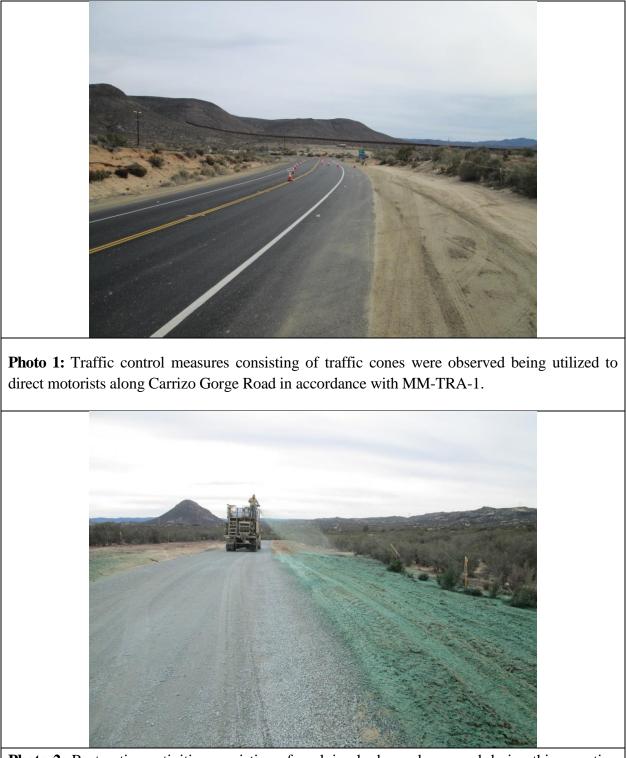
## 138 kV Underground Construction

Construction crews have completed installation of all 39 vaults, 100% of cable has been installed, and 100% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled. Work associated with restoration remains outstanding.

#### 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. 100% of the wire has been installed. Work associated with restoration remains outstanding.

# ATTACHMENT A Photos



**Photo 2:** Restoration activities consisting of applying hydroseed occurred during this reporting period along the 138 kV underground alignment between the Boulevard Substation Rebuild and 138 kV overhead transmission line.



**Photo 3:** FAA marker balls were observed being attached to the 138 kV line at select locations to meet FAA requirements and MM-TRA-3.



**Photo 4:** In accordance with MM-HAZ-1a, spill prevention countermeasures were observed in place, consisting of containment bins below temporary generators.



**Photo 5**: A detention basin has been constructed at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild to dissipate stormwater flows during a rain event.



**Photo 6:** Old Highway 80 was observed being swept on a regular basis in accordance with MM-BIO-4a.

# 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
CPUC-015	November 3, 2014	Realignment of the 69 Kilovolt (kV) Distribution Line to the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site	Y

# ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Requests

Minor Project Refinement	Out witted	Description	Otatus	A
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