

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

East County (ECO) Substation Project

Compliance Status Report: 049

**February 15, 2015** 

#### **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 February 2 through February 15 2015.

#### 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, Boulevard Substation Rebuild, and Existing Boulevard Substation Demolition. 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 completed excavation of the bore and receiving pits at the Carrizo Creek Bridge; completion of drilling under the bridge; backfilling the receiving pit; installation of conduit; removal or replacement of erosion and sediment control devices

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along the right-of-way (ROW); completion of punch list item work; completion of road maintenance along the ROW; completion of Jewel Valley Construction Yard demobilization; completion of carsonite marker installation; continued restoration of the Jewel Valley Construction Yard; and continued curb/grade work.

Equipment being staged onsite was observed to have containment beneath the equipment and spill kits were easily accessible in accordance as required by MM-HAZ-1a (See Attachment A- Photo 1). Traffic control was being implemented along Old Highway 80 as required by MM-TRA-1.

A cultural monitor was present during curb grade work in accordance with MM-CUL1-D. In accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1, crews were active in spraying down curb grade areas with water to minimize dust emission (See Attachment A- Photo 2), and haul trucks were observed covering spoil loads before accessing Jewel Valley Road.

#### 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of removing or replacing the erosion and sediment control devices throughout all steel pole sites; continued curb/grade work; completed installation of carsonite markers; and completed punch list item work.

Drainages and erosion control devices along the ROW were in good condition according to the Project SWPPP and MM-HYD-1. Right-of-way was free of debris in accordance with MM-BIO-7d and MM-HAZ-1c.

#### **East County Substation**

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued work on punch list items; continued installation of the security system; continued installation of the permanent water tank; and watering and maintenance of installed landscaping.

Speed limits along access roads were posted and maintained in compliance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1. Drainages and erosion control devices along the ROW were in good condition according to the Project SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.

#### **Boulevard Substation Rebuild**

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued work on punchlist items; continued work associated with the 69 kilovolt (kV) transmission line realignment; demobilization of the construction trailers and associated debris; restoration of temporary work areas; installation of the container plants in accordance with the Boulevard Substation Landscape Screening Plan; and completion of the permanent drainage system.



Temporary work areas were restored and hydro-seeded in accordance with MM-BIO-1d and the Habitat Restoration Plan (See Attachment A - Photo 3). Portable facilities left on site during restoration were equipped with containment as required by MM-HAZ-1a.

#### **Existing Boulevard Substation Demolition**

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of soil sample collection and removal of oil from equipment in preparation of demolition activities, and decommissioning and disassembly of the existing substation.

In accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1, crews were active in spraying down the work area with water to minimize dust emission and reduce fire hazard during substation demolition.

Fire tools and fire watch were on site as stipulated by MM-FF-1 (See Attachment A - Photo 4), and a biological monitor was present during substation demolition per MM-BIO-1C. Spill kits were stationed onsite and easily accessible in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a.

#### 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 99% complete. Work associated with landscaping remains outstanding.

#### **Existing Boulevard Substation Demolition**

Demolition of the Existing Boulevard Substation is 95% complete.

#### ECO Substation Site Construction

Construction at ECO Substation is 98% complete. Minimal 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 on non-federal land. 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 1:** Staged crane at Section 3 bore pit was observed to have a containment bin placed beneath the equipment and spill kits were easily accessible in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a.



**Photo 2:** In accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1, crews were active in spraying down curb grade work along the underground alignment with water to minimize dust emissions.

### **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 3:** Temporary work areas within Boulevard Substation were restored and hydro-seeded in accordance with MM-BIO-1d and the Habitat Restoration Plan.



**Photo 4:** Fire tools and fire watch were on site during existing Boulevard Substation Demolition as stipulated by MM-FF-1.

# **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)	Υ
CPUC-003	February 1, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Υ
CPUC-004	March 4, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Υ
CPUC-005	May 21, 2013	Construction Yards	Υ
CPUC-006	July 2, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line along Southern Access Road	Υ
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	Υ
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	Υ
CPUC-011	November 5, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Υ
CPUC-012	November 19, 2013	Fault Investigations at the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-In	Υ
CPUC-013	December 4, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line Steel Pole- 105B and Steel Pole- 108A	Υ
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 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
800	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