

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

East County (ECO) Substation Project

Compliance Status Report: 051

March 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 March 2 through March 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, and the 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 completion of punch list item work; removal and replacing of erosion and sediment control devices along the right-of-way (ROW); continued curb/grade work; installation and completed repair of culverts; completed backfilling the

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receiving pit; completed the installation of conduit to tie-in the bore pit; completed cleaning and mandrelling of conduit; and continued placement of asphalt along completed portions of the ROW.

In accordance with MM-TRA-1, traffic control was being implemented along Old Highway 80 during placement of asphalt (See Attachment A - Photo 1). Drainages and erosion control devices along the ROW were in good condition according to the Project SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.

#### 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; and completed punch list item work.

Water trucks were present to suppress dust emissions during final grading at SP-88 in compliance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1 (See Attachment A - Photo 2). High wind conditions were in affect during grading activities at SP-88. The biological monitor was observed working with crews to minimize dust emissions in accordance with MM-BIO-1c.

Fire tools were observed present on equipment and fire watch was on site at Carrizo Gorge Yard restoration activities as stipulated by MM-FF-1 (See Attachment A - Photo 3).

Crews cleaned up a spill from a portable restroom facility at the Carrizo Gorge Yard in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a and MM-HAZ-1c (See Attachment A - Photo 4). Portable facilities were tied down subsequent to this event to ensure high wind conditions would not topple portable restroom facilities and produce a subsequent spill.

#### **East County Substation**

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of watering and maintenance of landscaping and completion of work on the security system. Work limits were clearly delineated in accordance with MM-BIO-1a, and 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 slope stabilization along the southern slope. Water trucks were on site during slope stabilization in compliance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1. The project site was observed to be free of debris in accordance with MM-BIO7d and MM-HAZ-1c. Work limits were clearly delineated in accordance with MM-BIO-1a. All activities were observed being completed within the approved work limits and no issues/concerns were observed.



#### 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 Incident

At approximately 1100 on March 10, 2015, a biological monitor observed two Caltrans load trucks hauling rock along a Project access road without the use of cover or at least two feet of freeboard in accordance with MM-BIO-4a. The biological monitor informed the operators of the project requirements and covers were observed being applied to the haul trucks in response to the biological monitor direction. Upon entering the Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard, the biological monitor observed a Caltrans operator loading three-inch rock onto a truck without the application of water for fugitive dust control, as required by MM-BIO-4a. The biological monitor inquired as to whether the operator had received Safe Worker and Environmental Awareness Program (SWEAP) training as required by MM-BIO1-b, and they responded that no training had been completed. The biological monitor also observed Caltrans equipment being operated within the Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard that had not been inspected for vegetative debris and/or soil or for fluid leaks, as required by MM-BIO-3a and MM-HAZ-1c, respectively. Furthermore, information regarding the California Emission Standards tier rating for the front-end loader had not been submitted to SDG&E to verify Tier 2 or better status as required by MM-AQ-02. As corrective action in response to the compliance incidents described above, all Caltrans operations were halted and all personnel were informed that they must attend the SWEAP training. No biological or cultural resources were impacted during the compliance incidents. SDG&E filed Non-Compliance Report #6 to the CPUC on March 12, 2015.

#### **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

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

Construction at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild is 100% complete.

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

Demolition of the Existing Boulevard Substation is 100% complete.

#### ECO Substation Site Construction

Construction at ECO Substation is 100% 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 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:** In accordance with MM-TRA-1, traffic control was in effect along Old Highway 80 during placement of asphalt and final punch list item work at the Carrizo Gorge Bridge.



**Photo 2:** Water trucks were on site to suppress dust emissions during final grading at SP-88 in accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1.

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



**Photo 3:** Fire tools were observed present on equipment and fire watch was on site at Carrizo Gorge Yard as stipulated by MM-FF-1.



**Photo 4:** Crews cleaned up a spill from a portable restroom facility at the Carrizo Gorge Yard in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a and MM-HAZ-1c.

# **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	Υ
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 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