

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

East County (ECO) Substation Project

Compliance Status Report: 015

October 27, 2013

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 October 14 to October 27, 2013.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site, 138 kV Underground Transmission Line, ECO Substation, and Construction Yards. 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

Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site

Construction activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild site consisted of rough grading and excavation. Water trucks were observed alongside graders and scrapers to prevent fugitive dust in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-4A and the Dust Control Plan (see photo 1 –Attachment A).

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DUDEK

In accordance with Mitigation Measures BIO-4A, track out measures consisting of a rock apron and rattle plate have been installed and were observed to be maintained in good working order at the access road entrance along Old Highway 80 (see photo 2 –Attachment A).

Erosion control features consisting of silt fence and straw wattles have been placed along the perimeter of the work area and are being maintained in accordance with the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Mitigation Measure HYD-1.

Hazardous materials were observed being stored on site in accordance with Mitigation Measure HAZ-1A and the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Plan. Hazardous materials were properly labeled and stored.

138 kV Underground Transmission Line

Construction activities consisted of removing vegetation along the Underground Transmission Line alignment between the Boulevard Substation and Overhead Transmission Line, placement of BMP's along the limits of work adjacent to Old Highway 80 and cutting asphalt for vault excavations along Old Highway 80.

During vegetation removal for establishing the work limits along the Underground Transmission Line route, Archaeological, Native American, and biological monitors were observed present during all ground-disturbing activities in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-1c and CUL-1d (see Photo 3 – Attachment A). In addition, water trucks were present to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with the Dust Control Plan and Mitigation Measures BIO-4a.

Construction crews were observed installing straw wattles along Old Highway 80 adjacent to limits of work prior to construction activities (see Photo 3 – Attachment A). Straw wattles were observed being secured in place via use of wood stakes in accordance with the SWPPP (Mitigation Measures HYD-1). ESA signage identifying sensitive environmental resources was also observed to be in place prior to construction activities being completed in accordance Mitigation Measures CUL-1A.

ECO Substation

Construction activities at the ECO Substation site consisted of installing above grade substation components at the 138/230 kV pad site and completion of fine grading at the 500 kV pad site.

Crews were observed utilizing concrete washout stations at the 138/230 kV substation pad during foundation pours in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1. In addition, containment bins were observed under staged equipment, hazardous materials, and portable sanitary facilities.

In accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-1a, an environmental monitor was on site to ensure all work was completed within the approved work limits. Environmental monitors were also observed working



with construction crews to ensure large/steep excavations are being covered at the end of the work day to prevent wildlife entrapment.

Fire patrols were observed on site during construction activities 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

Applicable mitigation measures were verified during site inspections and were determined to be implemented in accordance with the MMCRP.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site

All abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site have been completed. Construction crews have completed demolishing existing structures and continue rough grading activities to establish the substation pad.

ECO Substation Site Construction

Construction crews have completed fine grading at the 138/230 kV substation pad site and continued fine grading at the 500 kV substation pad. Construction activities associated with foundation excavations, rebar placement and pouring concrete continued at the 138/230 kV substation pad during this reporting period. Construction activities associated with erecting A-frame steel structures and the control structure were also initiated during this reporting period.

138 kV Underground Construction

SDG&E has completed the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line between the ECO substation and Old Highway 80. Crews initiated vegetation removal and salvaging topsoil along the 138 KV Underground segment between the Boulevard Substation and 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line. Erosion control devices were installed along Old Highway 80 and crews began grinding asphalt and replacing with soft patch near the ECO Substation access road point of ingress/egress.



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 September 2014.

SWPL Loop-In – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the SWPL Loop-In. SDG&E is anticipated to complete construction in October 2014.

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

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line. SDG&E is anticipated to complete construction in October 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: In accordance with the Dust Control Plan (Mitigation Measure BIO-4A), water trucks are utilized to minimize fugitive dust emissions during earthwork activities at the Boulevard Substation.



Photo 2: In accordance with the Dust Control Plan (Mitigation Measure BIO-4A), rattle plates have been installed at the Boulevard Substation where the dirt access road intersects paved surfaces associated with Old Highway 80.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: Construction crews complete vegetation removal along the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line from the Boulevard Substation to the 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line. Archaeological, Native American, and biological monitors were observed present during all ground-disturbing activities in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-1c and CUL-1d



Photo 4: In accordance with the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (Mitigation Measures HYD-1), straw wattles are placed along the limits of work prior to construction activities being completed along Old Highway 80.



Photo 5: In accordance with the Dust Control Plan (Mitigation Measure BIO-4A), a mechanical sweeper cleans visible soil material along Old Highway 80 at the point of ingress/egress to the ECO substation.



Photo 6: In accordance with the Construction Fire Prevention Plan (Mitigation Measure FF-1), a fire watch oversees welding activities at the ECO substation pad to ensure required fire tools and equipment are on site and that a Hot Work Permit has been obtained as described in NFPA 51B.

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
CPUC - 001	November 30, 2012	Abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation rebuild site.	Υ
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	Υ
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	Υ
CPUC-010	October 17, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Carrizo Gorge Road to Steel Pole 91	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