

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

**East County (ECO) Substation Project** 

**Compliance Status Report: 006** 

June 24, 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 June 10, to June 23, 2013.

#### MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

#### Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations at the ECO Substation site, along the Southern Access Road, at the temporary retention basin site, and at Carrizo Gorge Construction Yards 1 and 2. Site observations were completed from June 10 through June 14 and from June 17 through June 21. 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

#### **Grading ECO Substation**

Constructions crews began grading the western portion of the ECO Substation during this reporting period. The ECO Substation site was previously cleared and all vegetation was mulched and removed during March 2013. Water truckers were observed alongside graders to prevent fugitive dust in

DUDEK 1 Report 006 June 24, 2013

accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-4a and the Dust Control Plan (see Photo 1 – Attachment A). In addition, archaeological and Native American monitors were present during grading activities to minimize the potential for impacts to sensitive resources and in an effort to identify any unknown resources (see Photo 2 – Attachment A).

Minor oil leaks were identified during this reporting period during grading activities. In accordance with Mitigation Measure HAZ-5a and the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan, the leaks were observed to be properly cleaned and disposed of by SDG&E using spill kits stored on-site (see Photo 3 – Attachment A). In an effort to prevent leaks and spills, secondary containment was observed to be properly installed under staged equipment, hazardous materials, and portable sanitary facilities in accordance with Mitigation Measure HYD-1 and the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (see Photo 4 – Attachment A).

In accordance with Mitigation Measure FF-1, all construction crew vehicles were observed to be equipped with the appropriate fire suppression equipment. In addition, SDG&E was observed providing ongoing fire patrols during construction hours and for 1 hour after the end of daily construction activities (see Photo 5 – Attachment A).

SDG&E continued to construct the temporary retention basin within the approved boundaries of the ECO Substation. Water trucks were observed delivering water to fill the retention basin (see Photo 6 – Attachment A) and construction crews were observed applying soil stabilizers to the graded portions of the retention basin to minimize the potential for fugitive dust from being generated during periods of inactivity in accordance with Mitigation Measure AQ-1 (see Photo 7 – Attachment A).

#### Clearing, Grubbing, and Fencing of Carrizo Gorge Fly Yard

In accordance with the approved Minor Project Refinement Request 003, SDG&E began to clear and grub Carrizo Gorge Fly Yards 1 and 2. Carrizo Gorge Construction Yards 1 and 2 are to be used during construction activities for staging and storage of materials including but not limited to storage of construction equipment, staging of materials, staging field office locations, and for helicopter operations, maintenance, storage, and refueling. Activities observed during this reporting period consisted of mulching vegetation and removing vegetation with haul trucks (see Photo 8 – Attachment A). Fencing was also installed along the perimeter of Carrizo Gorge Construction Yards 1 and 2 to prevent unauthorized access.

#### 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**

Pre-construction mitigation measures have been completed as indicated in CPUC NTP No. 001, No. 002, No. 003, No. 004, No. 005 and BLM NTP No. 001 (see Attachment B). Applicable mitigation measures were verified during site inspections and were determined to be implemented in accordance with the MMCRP.

#### CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

#### Abatement Activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site

All abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site as authorized by CPUC NTP No. 001 have been completed.

#### ECO Substation Site Construction

SDG&E began clearing, grubbing, and grading activities associated with the ECO Substation site on March 11, 2013 and completed site clearing activities on March 29.

#### Geotechnical Investigations

All geotechnical investigations authorized by CPUC NTP No. 003, No. 004, and BLM NTP No. 001 to conduct 24 geotechnical borings were completed as of March 14, 2013.

#### Southern Access Road

SDG&E continued with grading activities associated with the construction of the Southern Access Road during this reporting period. Construction activities associated with the Southern Access Road are anticipated to continue into the next reporting period.

#### CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

*ECO Substation 500 kV and 230/138 kV Yards* – SDG&E began construction activities on March 11, 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in April 2014.

**SWPL Loop-In** – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the SWPL Loop-In.

138 kV Transmission Line – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the 138 kV Transmission Line.

**Boulevard Substation Rebuild** – SDG&E began abatement activities on December 31, 2012 and is anticipated to complete construction in June 2014.



## ATTACHMENT A Photos



**Photo 1:** Water trucks are utilized during grading activities at the western portion of the ECO Substation to minimize fugitive dust in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-4a and the Dust Control Plan.



**Photo 2:** Archaeological and Native American monitors observe grading activities in accordance with Mitigation Measure CUL-1a.

## **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 3:** Construction crews clean an oil leak in accordance with Mitigation Measure HAZ-5a and the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan.



**Photo 4:** Secondary containment is observed under a generator to prevent leaks and spills in accordance with Mitigation Measure HYD-1 and the SWPPP.

## **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 5:** In accordance with Mitigation Measure FF-1, fire patrols are onsite during construction hours and for 1 hour after the end of daily construction.



**Photo 6:** SDG&E continued to fill the temporary retention basin with water for the site-development phase of the ECO Substation.

## **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 7:** Soil stabilizer is placed along the temporary retention basin to minimize the potential for fugitive dust in accordance with Mitigation Measure AQ-1.



**Photo 8:** Construction crews are observed clearing and grubbing portions of Carrizo Gorge Fly Yards 1 and 2.

# **ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed**

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)	
CPUC - 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-kilovolt (kV) yard and a 230/138 kV yard) and rebuilding and paving of an existing access road to provide main access to the substation.	Y	
CPUC - 003	February 1, 2013	Twenty-two geotechnical borings to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on private lands.	Y	
CPUC - 004	March 4, 2013	A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on private lands.	Υ	
CPUC - 005	May 21, 2013	To begin use of the Domingo Lake Construction Yard, Jewel Valley Construction Yard, Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard 1, and Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard 2 in order to begin staging, assembling, and storing equipment and materials.		
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	

## ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Requests

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	January 25, 2013	The addition of a temporary, polyvinyl chloride (PVC)-lined retention basin with the 500 kV yard to be used for water storage during initial mass grading activities.	Approved	February 7, 2013
002	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Domingo Lake and Jewel Valley Construction Yards including:	Approved	May 20, 2013
		Shift of approximately 550 feet to the northwest     Jewel Valley Construction Yard		
003	March 22, 2013	To use Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard 2 for general construction activities, such as staging and storage of materials in addition to helicopter takeoffs, landings, and refueling as approved in the Project's Final EIR/EIS.	Approved	May 20, 2013
004	May 17, 2013	Adjustments to the Southern Access Road	Pending	Pending