

	<p>California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></p>
	<p>Tie Line (TL) 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project</p>
	<p>Compliance Status Report: 002 March 16, 2014</p>

SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the TL 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement 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 MND to mitigate or avoid 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 3 through 16, 2014.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations along the TL 637 project where construction activities were occurring. Site observations were completed in areas of active construction during the reporting period. Observations were documented using site inspection forms, and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

Implementation Actions

Staging Yards

Construction activities associated with establishing the Warnock staging yard were completed during the previous reporting period.

Crews were observed initiating set-up activities at the Santa Ysabel Staging Yard (see Photo1— Attachment A), which consisted of installing perimeter chain-link fence and opaque green mesh for visual screening purposes in accordance with Applicant Proposed Measure (APM) AES-1. Crews were also observed installing Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices

(BMPs) consisting of straw wattles along the perimeter of the staging yard. Water trucks were observed applying water to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with APM BIO-1. Portable equipment and temporary structures were also observed staged on secondary containment as required by the SWPPP (APM HYD-1).

Wood Pole Replacement

Construction activities initiated during this reporting period primarily consisted of establishing pad sites for direct-bury and micro-pile pole replacement activities.

Traffic control measures were observed being implemented at locations where crews were accessing pole locations from public roadways in accordance with the Traffic Control Plan (APM TRA-1). Traffic control measures included placement of cones to direct motorists, traffic signage alerting motorists of construction traffic in the area, and flaggers directing construction crews and motorists travelling along public roads (see Photo 2—Attachment A).

CPUC-approved biological monitors were observed monitoring construction activities and conducting nesting bird surveys in accordance with Mitigation Measure (MM) BIO-4. Nest buffers were delineated with wooden stakes that were painted green and had the words “do not enter without bio.” Additionally, biological monitors were observed on site monitoring nests for potential disturbance from construction activity taking place near 100-foot nest buffers, and noise barriers were placed near nests as determined necessary to mitigate potential auditory and visual impacts from adjacent construction activity. Construction personnel were directed to walk along opposite sides of roads adjacent to nests to prevent any disturbance from foot-traffic to nests (see Photo 3—Attachment A).

Paleontological monitors were observed inspecting excavated soils for the presence of fossils in accordance with APM CUL-6 during excavations at direct-bury pole locations. Excavated soil was contained by a silt fence in accordance with the Project SWPPP and APM HYD-1 (see Photo 4—Attachment A).

Activities associated with micro-pile drilling pole replacements were also observed along the sides of existing access roads (paved and unpaved). Crews were observed staging preventative fire equipment per the Project Fire Plan (APM HAZ-2), which included both water tenders and construction equipment that contained shovels, Pulaskis, and backpack water pumps (see Photo 5—Attachment A).

Crews were observed installing noise monitoring devices and noise barriers adjacent to sensitive receptors to reduce construction-related noise at sensitive receptor locations to below required noise thresholds in accordance with MM NOI-2 (see Photo 6—Attachment A).

Following the installation of poles adjacent to roadways, crews were observed sweeping and clearing roads of any remnant soils/dirt in accordance with SWPPP BMPs (APM HYD-1). Additionally, crews were observed excavating at pole locations and implementing SWPPP BMPs, such as placing visqueen

below and on excavated dirt spoils (see Photo 7—Attachment A). An aquatic resource monitor was observed on site during work activities being completed adjacent to jurisdictional waters in accordance with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) Clean Water Act 401 Certification and MM HYD-4. Silt fencing and straw wattles were observed installed around the perimeter of the work area.

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 MND for the Tie-Line 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project, as adopted by the CPUC on February 5, 2014 (Decision D.14-02-04).

Compliance Status

Two Level 1 Minor Deviations were reported by SDG&E to document activities that deviated from implementation requirements included in APM HAZ-2. SDG&E monitors observed crews working in absence of a water tender being present. In accordance with APM HAZ-2 and the Fire Plan, a water tender is to be present during any construction activity. SDG&E's Fire Coordinator clarified the requirements for use of water tenders during construction activities. Additional reinforcement of the issue will occur at weekly compliance and construction meetings as well as at daily morning tailboard meetings to ensure compliance with the Project Fire Plan.

A third Level 1 Minor Deviation was reported by SDG&E when a crew member was observed parking on an access road that was not designated for the project. Additional reinforcement of this issue will occur at weekly compliance and construction meetings as well as at daily morning tailboard meetings to ensure compliance. A no access sign has also been installed at road junctions to ensure crews continue to use designated access roads for the project and that unintentional use of other existing access roads does not occur in the future (see Photo 8—Attachment A).

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Staging Yards

During the first two weeks of construction activities, approximately 80 percent of the staging yards have been set up and mobilized. Set up of the Warnock Staging Yard is complete.

Wood Pole Replacement

Approximately 3 percent of micro-pile foundations drilling and grouting have been completed.

Approximately 13 percent of hole excavations (for directly embedded poles) have been completed.

Best Management Practices

Approximately 3 percent of SWPPP BMPs have been installed along the project right-of-way.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Tie-Line 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project (CPUC NTP No. 001) – SDG&E began clearing activities at the project site on February 19, 2014. All project activities are scheduled to be completed by September 2014.

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: Opaque mesh screening material has been placed along the perimeter chain-link fence at the Santa Ysabel Staging Yard in accordance with APM AES-1. Straw Wattles have also been installed along the perimeter of the staging yard in accordance with the SWPPP and MM HYD-1. A water truck was observed applying water and preventing fugitive dust in accordance with APM BIO-1 during application of Class II road base.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 2: Crews were observed staging traffic control equipment (cones) and a flagger (left) during excavation work along Creelman Lane in accordance with APM TRA-1.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: CPUC–approved biological monitors were observed on site monitoring nest buffers. Buffers were delineated with wooden stakes (photo, left) that were painted green and had the words “do not enter without bio.”

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 4: Paleontological monitors were observed inspecting excavated soils for the presence of fossils in accordance with APM CUL-6 during conventional pole hole digging. Excavated soil was contained by erosion- control silt fence in accordance with the Project SWPPP and APM HYD-1.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: Crews were observed excavating at pole locations with fire watch/water tenders present within 50 feet of construction activity in accordance with the Project Fire Plan and APM HAZ-2.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 6: Noise Monitoring Equipment and sound walls were observed in place adjacent to micro pile drilling to ensure that noise levels during construction activities did not exceed thresholds at the nearest property line or adjacent to noise sensitive areas in accordance with MM NOI-1.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo7: Crews were observed placing visqueen in over spoil staged on site adjacent to a jurisdictional waterway in accordance with the project SWPPP and APM HYD-1. An aquatic resource monitor was on-site in accordance with the RWQCB Clean Water Act 401 Certification and MM HYD-4.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 8: A “No Project Access” sign (photo, right) was installed at the junction of two existing access roads in order to ensure crews utilized approved exiting access roads.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC - 001	February 14, 2014	Construction of the Tie Line 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project	Y

ATTACHMENT C
Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A