



TIE-LINE 637 WOOD-TO-STEEL PROJECT
MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT
REQUEST FORM

Date Requested:	May 6, 2014	Report #:	007
Date Approved:	May 12, 2014	Approval Agency:	No other agency approval required.
Property Owner(s):	Varies along alignment	Location/Milepost:	Potentially applicable to the entire alignment.
Land Use/ Vegetative Cover:	Paved, unpaved (bare ground), or gravel access roads	Sensitive Resources:	Potential for presence of cultural or aquatic resources within existing roadways
Refinement / Modification From (check all that apply):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan/Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Specification	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Measure (MM)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Utilization of existing access roads			
SDG&E is requesting to utilize existing access roads for project construction that may not have been identified within the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA), Final Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), or Permit to Construct (PTC).			
Description of Refinement			
SDG&E proposes to utilize additional existing access roads for Project-related activities where the access roads meet the following criteria:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Access road is an existing feature (creation of new access roads is not included) and utilization would not affect any existing resources; and 2. SDG&E has rights to utilize the road (e.g. the road is within SDG&E ROW or SDG&E has obtained approval from the property owner). 			
This MPR would only expand the Project's utilization of the existing access road network and would not include any proposed work activities or site preparation. No vegetation trimming/mowing or ground disturbance activities are proposed. Utilization of the road will remain within the existing roadbed and will not encroach outside of the existing road.			
Original Condition:			
Existing access roads.			
Justification for Change:			
Expand approved access to include all existing access roads that SDG&E has rights to utilize. This expansion of approved access roads would eliminate potential Level 1 minor deviations that do not result in any impacts to sensitive resources.			
Maps and Figures			
Not applicable. Specific locations of proposed access roads occur along the entire alignment.			

Environmental Impact:			
No new impacts would occur as this would only apply to the utilization of existing, established access roads. where no sensitive resources would be impacted While potential resources (such as aquatic or cultural) could be present, utilization of the existing access roads would not result in any impacts to any such resource as project activities would be limited to previously disturbed areas.			
Concurrence:			
Utilization of existing access roads that would be covered under this MPR would not require new permits or other agency approval. These access roads are existing features in areas where SDG&E currently has (or would obtain prior to using) rights to utilize the land (such as existing ROW or land owner approval). New outside approval is not anticipated. Therefore, no concurrence would be required.			
Resources:			
Biological	<input type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Previous Biological Survey Report Reference:			
No significant impacts to biological resources are expected to occur as a result of the utilization of additional existing access roads. The existing access roads are existing features that are primarily bare ground devoid of sensitive biological resources. In addition, the Project's IS/MND includes Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) and mitigation measures to ensure that the construction and operation of the Project does not result in significant impacts to biological resources. Utilization of the additional access roads would be compliant with all biological resource APMs and mitigation measures, and would not require any new or expanded mitigation measures in order to ensure that any impacts would be less than significant as disclosed within the CEQA review process.			
Aquatic Resources:			
As noted in the TL 637 MND, Aquatic resources do occur along the Project alignment. Prior to utilizing additional existing access roads, a survey will be performed to identify Federal and State jurisdictional waters and other drainage features present within the roadbed. Pursuant to APM BIO-1, when an access road crosses through a jurisdictional or other drainage feature, driving through the drainage feature will be allowed as long the existing roadbed is not altered. Conducting work activities, parking of vehicles, staging of equipment, and/or the placement of fill of any sort, including steel plates, would not be allowed within any existing drainage features. Aquatic resource monitors will provide guidance to the work crew to ensure impacts to drainage crossings are avoided and no new permits are required.			
Cultural	<input type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Within Project Component
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A (unpaved/graveled area or no ground disturbance)		
Previous Cultural Survey Report Reference:			
No significant impacts to cultural resources are expected to occur as a result of the utilization of additional access roads as these are existing features established by others independent of the Project and that no ground-disturbing or maintenance activities are proposed to use these roads. In addition, the Project's IS/MND includes APMs and mitigation measures to ensure that the construction and operation of the Project does not result in significant impacts to cultural and paleontological resources. Utilization of additional existing access roads would be compliant with all cultural and paleontological resource APMs and mitigation measures, and would not require any new or expanded mitigation measures to be implemented to ensure that impacts would remain less than significant as disclosed within the CEQA review process.			
Disturbance Acreage Changes?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Original Disturbance Acreage:			
The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads was not included as approved temporary workspace areas within the PTC application and PEA or the Final IS/MND for the TL 637 Project. Therefore, there is no original disturbance acreage that would be applicable.			

New Disturbance Acreage:

All proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would occur within established non-Project approved access roads. Thus, the proposed utilization of existing access roads would not lead to an increase in the total Project disturbance area or impacts to sensitive resources not analyzed and disclosed within the CEQA review process.

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Geology, Soils, and Seismicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not affect any of the CEQA criterion relating to geology, soils, or seismicity. No ground disturbance work or site preparation would be required in order to utilize the existing access roads. Applicable design standards and applicable APMs relating to geology, soils, and seismicity would be applied during the utilization of existing access roads and would not be required to be altered, expanded, or otherwise changed in order to ensure that no impacts would result.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to geology, soils, or seismicity.
Hazardous Materials and Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require any new potentially hazardous materials to be used, would not create any new hazardous waste not disclosed within the CEQA review process, would not expose any sensitive receptors not previously identified, and would not create any new hazard not previously disclosed. Applicable design standards, applicable APMs, and mitigation measures relating to hazards and hazardous materials would be applicable to all instances of utilization of existing access roads and would not be required to be altered, expanded, or otherwise changed in order to ensure that no impacts would result.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to hazards or hazardous materials.
Hydrology	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not adversely affect hydrology or water quality in a manner different from the impacts assessed and disclosed as part of the CEQA review process. Appropriate stormwater Best Management Practices (BMPs) are installed and maintained throughout the proposed construction activities, and would also apply during the utilization of the additional existing access roads, as appropriate.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to hydrology or water quality.

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	<p>No significant impacts to cultural resources are expected to occur as a result of the proposed utilization of additional existing access roads due to the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proposed access roads are existing roads that have been established independent of the project. 2. No vegetation trimming, grading or refreshing during the utilization of the existing roads is proposed. 3. Utilization of the road will remain within the existing roadbed and will not encroach outside of the existing road. <p>As such, a cultural monitor will not be required for utilizing additional existing access roads. Similarly, impacts to paleontological resources are not anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed activities due to the absence of ground-disturbing activities.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Existing APMs and mitigation measures would adequately reduce the potential for impacts to cultural resources to a level less than significant. No agency or tribal consultation would be required.
Traffic and Circulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not affect traffic and circulation in a manner different from the impacts assessed as part of the CEQA review. Construction-related traffic would not be increased and no new work would occur within public roadways such that new or revised traffic control plans or encroachment permits would be required.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to traffic and circulation.
Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require different equipment or an alteration in the amount of equipment used during construction such that impacts to air quality would be different from what was analyzed and disclosed within the CEQA review process. The utilization of additional access roads would not lengthen the duration of construction activities, nor would they increase the intensity of construction activities. No site preparation would be required; therefore no new equipment usage would result. Any required additional stormwater BMPs would be installed by existing crews utilizing equipment already operating on the Project. Therefore, any new emissions would be minimal and would not result in additional or substantially more severe impacts.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to air quality.

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Noise and Vibration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not result in the generation of noise that would be anticipated to exceed local noise standards. Utilization of additional existing access roads would not result in an expansion of construction activities and additional potential noise impacts to noise sensitive areas would not increase from what was disclosed within the CEQA review process. No new or altered APMs or mitigation measures would be required and no new or more severe impacts are anticipated.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to noise and vibration.
Visual Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	No temporary or permanent change in impacts to visual resources would result from the utilization of additional existing access roads. Any possible resulting visual affect would not differ from those analyzed and disclosed within the CEQA review process.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to visual resources.
Vegetation and Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	<p>No significant impacts to biological resources are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed utilization of additional existing access roads. The existing access roads are existing features that are primarily bare ground devoid of sensitive biological resources. No vegetation trimming or groundbreaking activities are proposed. In addition, the Project's IS/MND includes APMs and mitigation measures to ensure that the construction and operation of the Project does not result in significant impacts to biological resources. Utilization of the additional access roads would be compliant with all biological resource APMs and mitigation measures, and would not require any new or expanded mitigation measures in order to ensure that any impacts would be less than significant as disclosed within the CEQA review process.</p> <p>Therefore, impacts to vegetation and wildlife would be similar to those analyzed within the CEQA review process and would remain less than significant through implementation of the previously disclosed APM and mitigation measures, without change.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The proposed utilization of additional existing access roads would not require agency consultation relating to vegetation, wildlife, or other biological resources.

Resource Agency Coordination / Approvals

Resource Agency	Date	Name (print)	Signature	
N/A				<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
CPUC Project Manager				<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved with Conditions (see below) <input type="checkbox"/> Denied

For CPUC Compliance Manager Use Only

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refinement Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Refinement Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Beyond Authority
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Conditions of Approval or Reason for Denial

Prepared by: _____ **Date:** _____

Minor Project Refinement Definitions

Project refinements are strictly limited to minor changes that will not trigger less restrictive or new discretionary permit requirements, that do not increase or create impacts, and that comply with the intent of the mitigation measures.

Project Change Level	Description	Example
Level 1 (Minor Change)	Temporary actions that will not affect biological or cultural resources or deviate from APMs, MMs, or permit requirements; use of existing private resources (i.e., private road, well) with permission	Temporary use of an existing access road, storage yard, well, hydrant, etc. not associated with current project
Level 2 (Major Change)	Changes to established mitigation protocols or project activities due to new information or improved techniques that result in temporary, insignificant impacts on resources	Installing additional disposal sites; road widening or additional grading; changes to seed mix for restoration if does not significantly alter final targeted vegetation composition
Petition for Modification	Significant, long-term changes to construction plan or mitigation protocol that require additional biological or cultural surveys or verification; discovery of omissions or errors in project documents (permits, MMs, APMs) that jeopardize biological or cultural resources; discovery of new and significant biological or cultural resources that require new avoidance measures	Construction of a new access road or bridge; discovery of new sensitive species or habitat not initially described in project documents; changes to seed mix for restoration that significantly alter final targeted vegetation composition