

	<p><b>California Public Utilities Commission</b> <b><i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></b></p>
	<p><b>East County (ECO) Substation Project</b></p> <p><b>Compliance Status Report: 029</b></p> <p><b>May 11, 2014</b></p>

**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 April 28 2014 through May 11 2014.

**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 Boulevard Substation Rebuild. On April 30, construction activities on the Section 1 138 kV Underground Line and Section 2 138 kV Overhead Line ended early for the day due to sustained wind speeds over 25 miles per hour. 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.

138 kV Underground Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of repair and maintenance of erosion control devices along the right-of-way; excavation, conduit placement, backfilling and paving; installation of duct

bank; jack-and-bore drilling activities; vault installation and in-and-out conduit installation; and continued horizontal directional drilling.

Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles, silt fence and gravel bags are being maintained along the right-of-way in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1. Staged and active stationary equipment featured containment as required by MM-HAZ-1a. Jurisdictional waterways were marked off with blue flagging to highlight their location for avoidance. Environmentally Sensitive Areas throughout the right-of-way were marked, including special species flagging for plants as stipulated by BIO-5b.

Biological monitors were onsite throughout construction activities to ensure work remained within the approved work limits and to monitor for sensitive wildlife species (MM-BIO-1a and MM-BIO-1c). All excavations were inspected daily prior to construction activities and throughout the day to ensure that no wildlife species had become entrapped in accordance with MM-BIO-7e. Any wildlife found entrapped was removed safely from the right of way and relocated by the biological monitor (see Photo 1 – Attachment A).

Per the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan, SDG&E was observed inspecting equipment to ensure fire suppression equipment was present. Routine patrols were completed by the fire inspection team throughout the construction activities and fire tools were observed at all construction sites as required by MM-FF-1.

Dust control measures in accordance with MM-AQ-1 and MM-BIO-4a, were observed being implemented including watering during rough grading and access road maintenance activities (see Photo 2 – Attachment A). Track-out measures consisting of rumble plates and rock aprons were in place and maintained, and traffic control crews were observed manually sweeping project related track-out throughout and at the end of the day.

### 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued rough-grading and rock and spoil removal at pole pad sites and access roads; continued drilling and placing concrete for foundations; track-footing of pad site slopes; geotechnical boring at multiple sites; and continued maintenance of access roads and repair of sediment and erosion control devices throughout all active pole sites.

Archaeological and Native American observers were onsite monitoring ground disturbance and construction activities in proximity to Environmentally Sensitive Areas in accordance with MM-CUL-1d. Additionally, the limits of work and Environmentally Sensitive Areas were clearly marked in the field per MM-CUL-1a (see Photo 3 – Attachment A).

Trenches and excavations were observed being covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in compliance with MM-BIO-7a. Nesting bird surveys and monitoring were conducted throughout the reporting period in accordance with the Nesting Bird Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan and MM-BIO-7j. In an

attempt to reduce the risk of nesting bird settlement, staged equipment in areas of high bird activity were covered with thin netting so as to avoid bird or wildlife settlement or entrapment.

In accordance with MM-BIO-1c, biological monitors were onsite to survey areas of active construction for compliance with biological mitigation measures. Topsoil was observed staged along the limits of work that will be utilized for restoration activities in accordance with MM-BIO-1d. Drip pan containment bins were observed beneath equipment staged along the right-of-way in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a and spill kits were accessible in case of hazardous materials leak (see Photo 4 – Attachment A).

Water trucks were being utilized during excavation and backfilling activities and along commonly used access roads to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with the Dust Control Plan and MM-BIO-4a. Trucks used during spoil removal associated with excavation were observed covering loads prior to entering publicly accessed roads in accordance with the Project SWPPP and MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1.

### East County Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued delivery of spoil for rough-grading of the southeast corner of the 500 kV pad; continued topsoil spreading; continued concrete form building and substation structures and buildings construction; continued installation of ground grid and electrical systems; installation and wiring of circuit breakers; continued wiring within the control shelter and other buildings; continued pouring of Class II base within the 230/138 kV substation pad; continued installation of security fencing around the 230/138 kV substation pad; continued final grading of the western portion of the 500 kV substation pad; paving roads within the 230 kV pad; continued electrical testing; continued pulling control cable; continued the installation of conduit and conductor; and continued repair and maintenance of installed sediment and erosion control devices throughout the site.

Water trucks were being utilized to water down areas of active construction and along access roads to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with MM-BIO-4 and MM-AQ-1. Topsoil salvaged during initial grading was stockpiled along slopes of the substation, set aside to be used during restoration efforts in accordance with MM-BIO-1d and the Habitat Restoration Plan.

A fire patrol was on site and actively checking all entering personnel for WEAP training stickers and required Pulaski's, shovel, and 5-gallon water supply in accordance with MM-FF-1. Throughout the substation, fire tools were set out at individual areas of work for easy access in case of an emergency and in accordance with the Construction Fire Plan and MM-FF-1.

In accordance with MM-BIO-1a the limits of work were clearly delineated and respected by construction crews during ongoing construction activities along access road and within the substation. Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles and silt fencing were observed installed and being maintained in accordance with MM-HYD-1 and the Project SWPPP. Hazardous

materials staged onsite were placed within proper containment and labeled in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a. No smoking signs were clearly marked and adjacent to the hazardous waste areas.

### Boulevard Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of concrete form and foundation construction; continued installation of circuit breakers and wiring; continued construction of the drainage system; and backfilling around the headwall at the northern side of the box culvert under Old Highway 80. Trenching, vault excavation, laying conduit, and slurry pouring associated with the 138kv Underground took place within the Boulevard Substation work limits.

In accordance with MM-BIO4-A and MM-AQ-1, water trucks were used to control dust along access roads, work areas, and commonly used routes within the substation boundaries (see Photo 5 – Attachment A). A rock apron and rattle plate was also observed being maintained at the primary point of ingress/egress along Old Highway 80 to minimize the potential for track-out and associated fugitive dust emissions.

In accordance with MM-VIS-3c, opaque visual screening fence was routinely maintained to ensure areas of public visibility were screened (see Photo 6 – Attachment A).

Construction equipment and staged materials throughout the substation were equipped with drip pan containment as stipulated by MM-HAZ-1a and fire suppression equipment per MM-FF-1. Fire patrol was on site and actively checking all entering personnel for SWEAP training stickers in accordance with MM-FF-1 and the Project Health and Safety Plan outlined in MM-HAZ1-b.

Hazardous materials stored onsite were observed to be labeled and staged in proper containment bins per MM-HAZ-1a. As required by MM-HAZ1-c, trash storage bins were equipped with covers to avoid dispersal due to weather or wildlife.

### ***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***

No issues/concerns were observed during this reporting period.

## CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

### *Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site*

Construction activities associated with foundation and concrete forms, drilling pier foundations, and installing circuit breakers and the associated wiring continued during this reporting period.

### *ECO Substation Site Construction*

Crews continue completing activities associated with the concrete form building, drilling pier foundations and installation of the ground grid and electrical system.

### *138 kV Underground Construction*

Construction crews have completed 33 vaults and 69% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled.

### *138 kV Overhead Construction*

Forty-nine steel pole pads/spur roads have been completed, twenty pole foundations are complete, and one pole has been erected.

## 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 June 2014.

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

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

*Boulevard Substation Rebuild* – SDG&E began construction in December 2012 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos

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**Photo 1:** All excavations were inspected daily prior to and during construction activities to ensure that no wildlife species had become entrapped in accordance with MM-BIO-7e. The photo above shows a biological monitor relocating a small rabbit found during morning inspection.



**Photo 2:** Water trucks are being utilized to minimize dust emissions in accordance with MM-AQ-1 and MM-BIO-4a.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 3:** Environmentally Sensitive Areas are clearly marked in the field per MM-CUL-1a.



**Photo 4:** Drip pan containment bins is placed beneath equipment staged along the right-of-way in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a and spill kits were accessible in case of hazardous materials leak.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 5:** In accordance with MM-BIO4-A and MM-AQ-1, water trucks equipped with hoses are utilized to control dust in areas of active construction.



**Photo 6:** In accordance with MM-VIS-3c, opaque visual screen fencing was routinely maintained at the Boulevard Substation.



## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

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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	Y
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

## ATTACHMENT C

### Minor Project Refinement Requests

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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
008	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