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| | **California Public Utilities Commission**<br>***Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program*** |
| | **East County (ECO) Substation Project**<br><br>**Compliance Status Report: 022**<br><br>**February 2, 2014** |

## 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 January 20th 2014 to February 2nd 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, and ECO Substation. No construction activities were conducted on Monday, January 20th.

Construction activities were restricted to the ECO Substation and limited portions of the 138kv Underground Transmission Line on January 23rd and January 24th due to a Red Flag Warning issued by the National Weather Service.

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***

138 kV Underground Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of repair and maintenance of the sediment and erosion control devices along the right-of-way between the Domingo Lake Construction Yard and the Boulevard Substation rebuild site; continued excavation, duct bank installation, continuation of vault setting and tie-ins and initiation of trenching for vaults associated with Boulevard Rebuild Substation.

In accordance with MM-HAZ-1a, spill kits were observed on site and securely attached to construction equipment (see Attachment A - Photo 1) to ensure materials are readily accessible for clean-up of small spills. Staged equipment and portable restroom facilities were also observed to have containment bins (see Attachment A - Photo 2).

Topsoil was observed stockpiled along the edges of the work limits in accordance with the Habitat Restoration Plan and MM-BIO-1d (see Attachment A - Photo 3).

In accordance with MM-CUL-1d and MM-BIO-1c, archeological and biological monitors were present during initial ground disturbance activities. Archeological and biological monitors ensured construction activities remained within the approved work limits and impacts to sensitive environmental resources were minimized. Biological monitors were observed working with construction crews to ensure trenches were sloped and excavations were covered at the end of daily construction activities to prevent wildlife entrapment.

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period included rough grading and finish grading of steel pole pads and spur roads, brush-chipping, geotechnical testing and micro-pile drilling at steel pole pad foundations.

In accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1, water trucks were observed suppressing fugitive dust emissions in areas of active construction and along unpaved roads (see Attachment A - Photo 4). Trucks transporting bulk materials during spoil removal were observed to be covered per MM-AQ-1.

Silt fencing and straw wattles were installed at steel pole pad sites and along spur roads for erosion control purposes in accordance with MM-HYD-1 (see Attachment A - Photo 5).

Construction vehicles were observed maintaining speed limits of 15 MPH along unpaved access roads in accordance with MM-BIO-4a. Rattle plates and rock aprons were also observed being maintained at points of egress/ingress to public roadways to minimize the potential for trac-out.

In accordance with MM-TRA-1, traffic flaggers were utilized to direct traffic along Old Highway 80 to ensure safe passage of motorists during the closure of the eastbound lane that was required to complete construction activities.

ECO Substation

Construction activities at the ECO Substation included spoil delivery for 500 kV pad rough-grading, foundational drilling and concrete form building, substation structure construction, continued installation and wiring of circuit breakers, erection of steel A-frames and H-braces, assembly and installation of 500 kV transformer, concrete pours for the 500 kV substation pad drainage system, and installation of the ground grid system.

In accordance with MM-BIO-7d, waste was contained in covered waste-management receptacles or inside construction vehicles. In accordance with MM-HAZ-1c, trash storage bins were covered and removed from site when at capacity (see Attachment A - Photo 6).

Water trucks and water buffalos with hose attachments were used throughout the substation to suppress dust along access roads and active spoil piles as specified in the project dust control plan and per MM-BIO4-a and MM-AQ-1 (see Attachment A - Photo 7).

All construction equipment and active sites were equipped with fire suppression tools and emergency water supply as stipulated in MM-FF-1 (see Attachment A - Photo 8).

### *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*

On January 21st construction activities consisting of a crew member utilizing a rake to clean-up construction debris from micro-pile activities occurred in advance of nesting bird surveys being completed at steel pole 75. The completion of construction activities in advance of nesting bird surveys is not permitted in accordance with MM-BIO7j and MM-BIO-11a. A nesting bird survey was completed at steel pole 75 by a CPUC approved biologist the following day and it was determined that no nests were present in the area. The incident was determined to be a Level 1 Minor Deviation as no resources, beyond those originally identified within the Final EIR/EIS were impacted and no potential for new resource damage exists.

## CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

### *Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site*

Construction crews have completed demolishing existing structures and have completed the finish-grade of the substation pad. Construction of the concrete forms for the substation foundations and piers continues. Construction activities are approximately 24% complete.

### *ECO Substation Site Construction*

Construction crews have completed hydro-seeding application and slope stabilization of the topsoil along the slopes of the 500 kV and 230/138 kV substation pads. Construction activities associated with the above-grade components continues. Construction activities are approximately 68% complete.

### *138 kV Underground Construction*

SDG&E has completed the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line between the ECO substation and Old Highway 80. Construction crews have completed 14 vaults and 23% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled.

### *138 kV Overhead Construction*

SDG&E continued to place ESA fencing along the right-of-way, remove vegetation, install erosion control devices, clearing and grading pad sites, and erecting steel poles. Twenty-eight steel pole pads/spur roads have been completed, four 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. Construction activities are approximately 68% complete.

***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 began construction activities in November 2013 and 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. Construction activities are approximately 24% complete.

# ATTACHMENT A
# Photos


**Photo 1:** Spill kits attached to construction equipment to ensure materials are readily accessible for clean-up of small spills in accordance with MM HAZ1-a.


**Photo 2:** Containment bins were observed beneath staged equipment in accordance with MM-HAZ1-a.


**Photo 3:** Topsoil is stockpiled along the edges of the work limits for use in restoration activities in accordance with the Habitat Restoration Plan and MM BIO-1d.

**Photo 4:** In accordance with MM BIO-4a and MM AQ-1, water trucks were observed suppressing fugitive dust emissions in areas of active construction.

**Photo 5**: Silt fencing and straw wattles are installed along the perimeter of steel pole pad sites for erosion and sedimentation control in accordance with the SWPPP and MM HYD-1.

**Photo 6:** In accordance with MM HAZ-1c, trash storage bins were covered and removed from site when at capacity.

**Photo 7:** Water trucks were observed being utilized throughout construction activities at the ECO substation to suppress dust per MM BIO4-a and MM AQ-1.

**Photo 8**: Fire suppression tools and emergency water supply area readily available during construction activities at the ECO substation in accordance with MM-FF-1.

# 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 | 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 |

# 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 |
| 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 |