



EAST COUNTY SUBSTATION PROJECT MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT REQUEST FORM

Date Submitted:	01-25-13	Request #:	1
Date Approval Required:	01-31-13	Landowner:	San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E)
APN:	66105004		
Refinement from (check all that apply):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Measure	<input type="checkbox"/> APM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Project Description	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
Identify source (mitigation measure, project description, etc.):			
<p>Figures B-3 and B-4 in the Project Description of the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the East County (ECO) Substation Project (Project) depict the approved location of the ECO Substation and the locations of the two permanent detention basins to be constructed adjacent to the 230/138 kilovolt (kV) yard at the ECO Substation site. Page B-11 of the Final EIR/EIS describes the specifications of the permanent detention basins and how they will be used to facilitate drainage of the site and store water during construction. Page 10 of Attachment A: Updated Project Description and ECO Substation Alternative Site—which was submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission on March 4, 2011, as part of SDG&E’s comments on the Draft EIR/EIS—describes that only one permanent detention basin, to be located along the western and southwestern edge of the 230/138 kV yard, will be constructed at the ECO Substation site. The information in this Minor Project Refinement (MPR) request form addresses a proposed refinement regarding the addition of a temporary, polyvinyl chloride (PVC)-lined retention basin within the 500 kV yard to be used for water storage during initial mass grading activities, which will occur during the site-development phase of the ECO Substation. After the permanent detention basin is graded, portions of the permanent detention basin will be lined to provide water storage throughout construction of the ECO Substation and the temporary retention basin will be removed.</p>			
Attachments (check all that apply):			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refinement Screening Form (provided as Attachment A: Minor Project Refinement Request Screening Form)	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maps (provided as Attachment B: Site Map)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<p>Under Order 3 of the Decision Granting SDG&E Permit to Construct the East County Substation Project (D.12-04-022), the CPUC may approve minor project refinements under certain circumstances. In accordance with Order 3 of the Decision, respond “yes” or “no” to the following questions (a) through (d).</p>			
<p>(a) Is the proposed refinement outside the geographic boundary of the EIR/EIS study area? No. The proposed temporary retention basin will be located within the boundaries of the approved ECO Substation permanent footprint. Figure 1: ECO Substation Temporary Retention Basin in Attachment B: Site Map depicts the approved ECO Substation site boundaries, which are located within the EIR/EIS study area.</p>			
<p>(b) Will the proposed refinement result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on the criteria used in the EIR/EIS? No. See Attachment A: Minor Project Refinement Request Screening Form for the detailed assessment.</p>			
<p>(c) Does the proposed refinement conflict with any mitigation measure or applicable law or policy? No.</p>			
<p>(d) Does the proposed refinement trigger an additional permit requirement? No.</p>			

Describe refinement being requested (attach drawings and photos as needed):					
<p>As previously described, the construction of one permanent detention basin adjacent to the 230/138 kV yard at the ECO Substation site was included in Attachment A: Updated Project Description and ECO Substation Alternative Site to SDG&E's comments on the Draft EIR/EIS. As part of this MPR request, SDG&E proposes to construct a temporary, PVC-lined retention basin within the 500 kV yard at the ECO Substation site for water storage during the site-development phase of the ECO Substation. The temporary retention basin will measure approximately 250 feet by 150 feet and will be approximately 10 feet deep. The basin will be fenced and located entirely within the approved boundaries of the ECO Substation permanent footprint. The basin will have a capacity of approximately two million gallons. Following the completion of mass grading, the temporary retention basin will be removed and the materials disposed of in accordance with the Project's Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Plan.</p> <p>Figure 1: ECO Substation Temporary Retention Basin in Attachment B: Site Map depicts the locations of the approved permanent detention basin and the requested temporary retention basin.</p>					
Provide need for refinement (attach drawings and photos as needed):					
<p>The requested addition of a temporary retention basin at the approved ECO Substation site is needed to allow SDG&E to store construction water on site for immediate access during initial mass-grading activities until the permanent detention basin is constructed. Due to the volume of water required for dust control and other purposes, including compaction, it would be time-consuming and infeasible for water trucks to constantly travel to off-site water sources during site development each time the need for water arose. Water trucks will be used to initially fill the retention basin prior to the commencement of mass grading and will be used to maintain water levels during site development, as required. Once the retention basin is initially filled, water trucks will be able to refill on site during mass-grading activities and the need for travel to off-site water sources during site development will be minimized. Figure 1: ECO Substation Temporary Retention Basin in Attachment B: Site Map depicts the location of the ECO Substation site, the approved permanent detention basin, and the requested temporary retention basin.</p>					
Date refinement is expected to be implemented:			Construction of the temporary detention basin is expected to begin the week of February 11, 2013.		
SDG&E Approvals					
Title	Name	Approval Initials	Date	Conditions (see attached)	
Substation Project Manager	Matt Huber	MH	01/25/13	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Environmental Project Manager	Don Houston	DH	01/25/13	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Environmental Compliance Lead	Kirstie Reynolds	KR	01/25/13	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Water Quality Specialist	Alex Greene	Not Applicable (NA)	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Lead Environmental Inspector	Larry Butcher	LB	01/25/13	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Cultural Resource Specialist	Nikki Morgan	NM	01/25/13	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Land Advisor	Pete McMorris	NA	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Landowner Approval (if required)					
Landowner Name		Signature or Other Consent (see attached)		Date	
SDG&E		NA		NA	

Resource Agency Coordination					
Resource Agency	Name	Action Required	Date	Documentation (see attached if yes)	
NA	NA	NA	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

ATTACHMENT A: MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT REQUEST SCREENING FORM

MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT REQUEST SCREENING FORM

RESOURCE EVALUATION

The proposed Minor Project Refinement was evaluated to verify that the minor project refinement would not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on the criteria used in the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). The following table provides a brief summary of the potential impact for each resource area analyzed in the EIR/EIS.

EIR/EIS Section	Summary of Potential Impacts
Aesthetics	<p><i>No Change.</i> The temporary retention basin will be constructed and utilized consistent with the activities described in the Final EIR/EIS for the East County (ECO) Substation site. The area of the requested temporary retention basin will measure approximately 37,500 square feet (0.86 acre) within the approved ECO Substation footprint and will be fenced. The fence around the temporary retention basin will be an approximately six-foot-tall, gray, galvanized steel chain-link fence, similar to the fence to be constructed around the ECO Substation site. The ECO Substation fence is described on Page B-10 of the Final EIR/EIS and on Page 3 of the East County Substation Project's (Project's) Surface Treatment Plan. The temporary retention basin and associated activities will be contained within the boundaries of the approved ECO Substation site, and will be consistent with the impacts analyzed for construction of the ECO Substation. In addition, construction of the temporary retention basin is temporary and short term in nature, and the retention basin will be removed following mass grading of the ECO Substation site. Therefore, there will be no new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact related to aesthetics as a result of the requested refinement.</p>
Agriculture and Forestry Resources	<p><i>No Change.</i> The temporary retention basin will be located entirely within the boundaries of the approved ECO Substation site. Construction and utilization of the temporary retention basin will not encroach onto the agricultural land, nor will they restrict any agricultural activities that occur on the land. Therefore, there will be no change in impact to agriculture and forestry resources.</p>

EIR/EIS Section	Summary of Potential Impacts
<p style="text-align: center;">Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions</p>	<p><i>No Change.</i> The activities that will occur during construction and utilization of the temporary retention basin include the activities discussed in the Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. The area of the requested temporary retention basin will measure approximately 0.86 acre within the approved ECO Substation footprint. No additional vegetation removal or grading will be required in this area beyond what was previously analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS for construction of the ECO Substation site. The temporary retention basin is anticipated to take approximately 14 days to construct and will be utilized during mass grading of the ECO Substation site, which is anticipated to last approximately four months.</p> <p>The Air Quality section of the Final EIR/EIS states that the ECO Substation component of the Project will generate dust and exhaust emissions of criteria air pollutants and toxic air contaminants due to the use of heavy equipment for site development. As described on Page D.11-22 of the Final EIR/EIS, water for dust control and other purposes during construction will be transported by water trucks from off-site locations within San Diego County, potentially as far away from the Project as the City of San Diego. The addition of a temporary retention basin will not increase the number of water trucks utilized or the number of trips needed to obtain water for site-development activities beyond what was analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. With the addition of the retention basin, the majority of the water truck trips will occur prior to site development rather than throughout the site-development phase. No additional ground disturbance will be required for construction of the temporary retention basin beyond what was analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS for construction of the ECO Substation. In addition, the Project-specific Dust Control Plan and mitigation measures related to limiting particulate matter and emissions will be implemented for these activities; thus, the total emissions for the requested refinement will be minimal, and objectionable odors will not increase as a result of the refinement. Likewise, the temporary retention basin will be located entirely within the ECO Substation site boundaries, and as a result, will not be located in closer proximity to any residences or sensitive receptors than what was described in the Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation. The requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or in a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact to air quality and greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Biological Resources</p>	<p><i>No Change.</i> The requested refinement area was included in previous reconnaissance surveys for the ECO Substation site, as well as vegetation, rare plant, and jurisdictional drainage surveys that were conducted for the Project. No special-status wildlife species are known to occur or were identified during any of the previous surveys within the requested refinement area. In addition, no sensitive plant species were identified in the requested refinement area during any of the rare plant surveys. The retention basin will be used temporarily and will be removed following mass grading of the substation site. In addition, the requested refinement area had been previously identified and included in analysis of the impacts associated with construction of the ECO Substation and was arranged to be graded during construction of the substation. SDG&E has compensated for impacts to vegetation communities associated with the substation construction as part of the Project's Compensatory Mitigation Plan, which has been approved by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Impacts to vegetation communities will not increase compared to the Project as a whole as a result of the addition of the temporary retention basin. Wildlife escape ramps will also be constructed within the retention basin—in accordance with Applicant-Proposed Measure ECO-BIO-20 of the Project's Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program—to allow entrapped wildlife to escape. No new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact to biological resources will occur.</p>

EIR/EIS Section	Summary of Potential Impacts
Cultural Resources	<p><i>No Change.</i> One cultural site has been identified within the requested refinement area, which was assessed in the August 2011 Eligibility Report prepared by ASM Affiliates, and is eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places and/or California Register of Historic Properties. The cultural site is located within the boundaries of the approved ECO Substation site, and impacts to the cultural site during construction of the ECO Substation are analyzed within the Research Design for Archaeological Data Recovery at CA-SDI-7074 (HPTP). The HPTP was approved by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on August 10, 2012, and was incorporated into the final Memorandum of Agreement, which was provided to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in August 2012. In addition, data recovery was conducted at this site in accordance with the HPTP, and the BLM approved the completion of the data recovery on December 21, 2012. In the event that potential cultural resources are encountered during construction or grading activities, all work will be halted and an archaeological monitor will assess the discovery in accordance with the Monitoring, Post-Review Discovery, and Unanticipated Effects Plan, which was approved by the BLM on August 10, 2012, and submitted to the CPUC on September 24, 2012. Therefore, no new significant impacts will occur to cultural resources beyond what was previously identified and analyzed.</p>
Geology, Soils, and Seismicity	<p><i>No Change.</i> The activities that will be performed at the requested refinement area will be conducted in accordance with the uses described in the Project's Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. No additional ground disturbance will be required to prepare the site. Use of the retention basin will be short term and temporary during mass grading of the ECO Substation site, and will be conducted in accordance with the best management practices (BMPs) provided in the ECO Substation Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) to reduce the potential for erosion. As a result, the requested refinements will not create any new significant impacts or substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact to geology, soils, and seismicity.</p>
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	<p><i>No Change.</i> The activities performed and the materials used during construction of the temporary retention basin will occur in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project's Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. Construction of the temporary retention basin may include use of the materials listed in Table D-10.2 of the Project's Final EIR/EIS and Table 1: Hazardous Materials and Uses of the Project's Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Plan. The use of these materials was previously included in the Final EIR/EIS and Proponent's Environmental Assessment analysis for the approved ECO Substation and permanent detention basin; this and all other hazardous materials that will be used at the ECO Substation site will be handled and disposed of in accordance with the Project's Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Plan and with the Health and Safety Program. The basin will be fenced to ensure worker safety. Therefore, there will be no change in impacts related to hazards or hazardous materials that will result from the requested refinement.</p>

EIR/EIS Section	Summary of Potential Impacts
Hydrology and Water Quality	<p><i>No Change.</i> The requested refinement area was surveyed for drainages during the initial jurisdictional surveys that were conducted for the ECO Substation site. Impacts to jurisdictional drainages located within the ECO Substation site will be compensated through the implementation of the Project’s Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan and Compensatory Mitigation Plan during construction in accordance with the permit requirements. The temporary retention basin will be lined with a PVC liner to prevent the stored water from entering the ground. In addition, the temporary retention basin will be utilized in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site, and the BMPs provided in the ECO Substation SWPPP will be implemented to reduce the potential for storm water runoff. Thus, no change in impacts related to hydrology and water quality will result from the proposed refinement.</p>
Land Use and Planning	<p><i>No Change.</i> The requested refinement area will be utilized in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. This area will be used temporarily during mass grading of the ECO Substation site, and will be removed after grading activities are complete. Thus, the requested refinements will not result in any change in impacts related to land use and planning.</p>
Mineral Resources	<p><i>No Change.</i> As provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS, there are no identified mines located within the ECO Substation site. The ground-disturbing activities that will be conducted to prepare the requested refinement area for construction of the temporary retention basin will require minor grading and compaction of the existing soil, which are required for development of the ECO Substation site. In addition, the temporary retention basin will be utilized in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. As a result, there will be no change in impacts to mineral resources from use of the requested refinement area.</p>
Noise	<p><i>No Change.</i> The temporary retention basin will be utilized in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. The only additional noise-generating activities that will result from the refinement include the use of heavy equipment for vegetation clearing and minimal grading/soil compaction for approximately 14 days, which is required to prepare the refinement area and construct the retention basin. Following completion of mass-grading activities, the temporary retention basin will be removed and the ECO Substation will be constructed on the refinement area. Therefore, the approximately 0.86-acre area of ground disturbance for construction of the temporary retention basin was analyzed as part of site development for the ECO Substation and will be disturbed regardless of the temporary presence of the retention basin. The use of heavy equipment for preparation of the refinement area will result in minimal and short-term additional noise impacts; however, the nearest sensitive receptor—a mobile home—is located approximately 2,600 feet (0.5 mile) from the site. Thus, there will be no new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact related to noise as a result of the requested refinement.</p>
Population and Housing	<p><i>No Change.</i> The temporary retention basin will be utilized in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. In addition, this area will be used temporarily during mass grading of the substation site, and will not induce population growth or displace people or existing housing. Thus, there will be no change in impacts to population and housing as a result of the requested refinement.</p>

EIR/EIS Section	Summary of Potential Impacts
Public Services	<p><i>No Change.</i> The temporary retention basin will be utilized in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. The refinement will not disrupt existing utility systems or cause a co-location accident, nor will it increase the need for public services/facilities, require additional water supplies, or impact the wastewater treatment provider or solid waste disposal site’s capacity. Therefore, there will be no change in impacts to public services as a result of the requested refinement.</p>
Recreation	<p><i>No Change.</i> The temporary retention basin will be located within the boundaries of the approved ECO Substation site. As provided in the Final EIR/EIS, the nearest recreation area to the ECO Substation is the In-Ko-Pah Park, which is located approximately 1.2 miles northeast of the ECO Substation, on the north side of Interstate 8. The refinement will not increase local population or housing and will not increase demand for recreational facilities in the ECO Substation area. Thus, the temporary retention basin will not impact any recreational resources and there will be no change in impacts to recreation as a result of the requested refinement.</p>
Transportation and Traffic	<p><i>No Change.</i> The location of the requested temporary retention basin will be within the boundaries of the approved ECO Substation site. The only vehicles or heavy equipment that will be utilized for the addition of the temporary retention basin are those that are required for vegetation clearing and the grading/soil compaction activities necessary to prepare the ECO Substation site for use. As previously discussed, the addition of a temporary retention basin will not increase the number of water trucks utilized or number of trips needed to obtain water for site-development activities beyond what was analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. Therefore, the amount of overall traffic for the Project will not change from that described in the Final EIR/EIS and there will be no change in the overall impact level for transportation and traffic.</p>
Utilities and Service Systems	<p><i>No Change.</i> The temporary retention basin will be located within the ECO Substation site. The retention basin will be utilized in accordance with the description of uses provided in the Project’s Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation site. The activities conducted during construction of the requested refinement area will be temporary and short term in nature, and no additional utilities or service systems will be required for this area. Therefore, there will be no change in impacts to utilities and service systems as a result of the requested refinement.</p>

ATTACHMENT B: SITE MAP

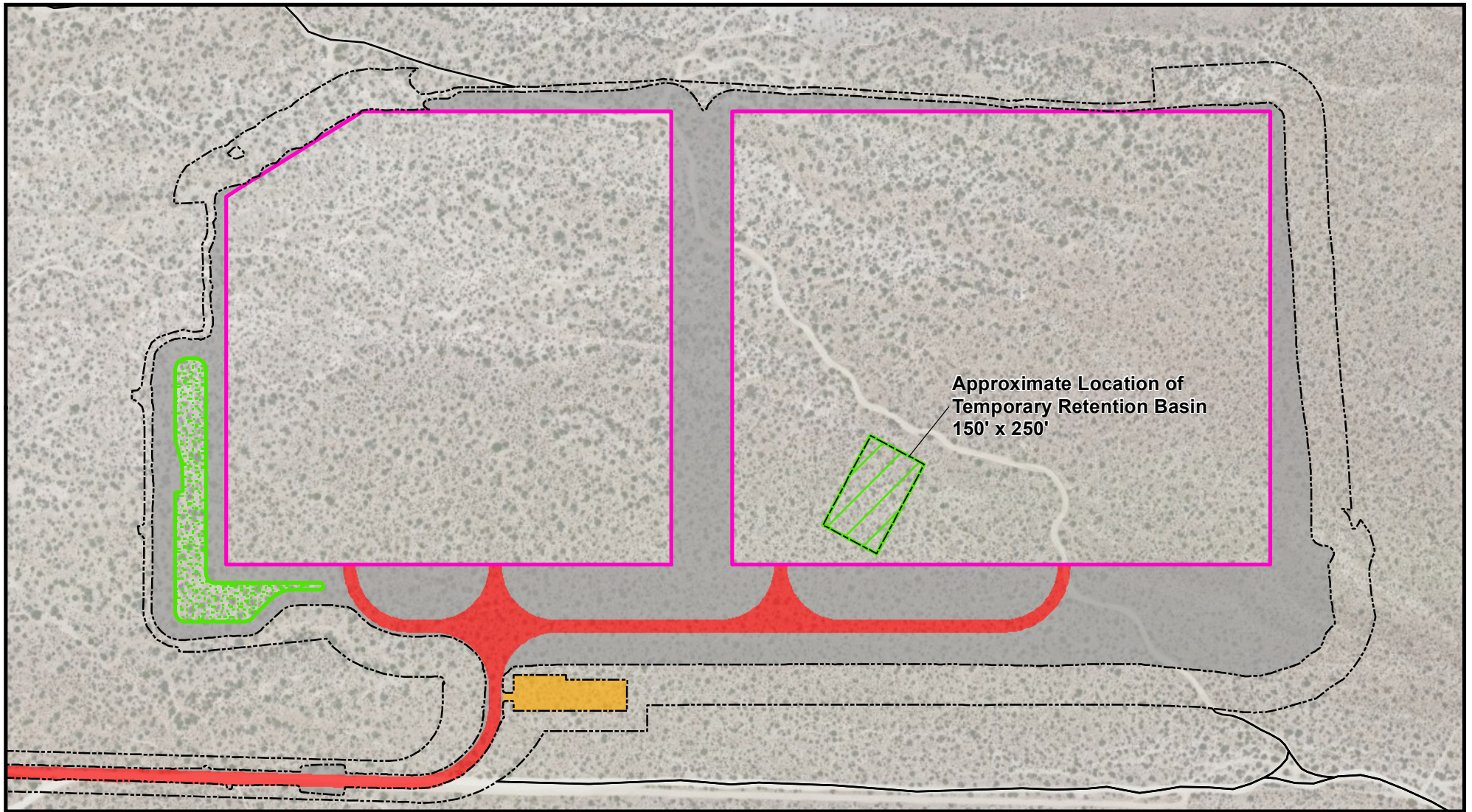


Figure 1: ECO Substation Temporary Retention Basin

East County Substation Project

- Existing Access Road Centerline
- ▨ Temporary Retention Basin
- ▤ Permanent Retention Basin
- ▭ ECO Substation Pad
- ▭ Grading
- ▭ Proposed Access Road
- - - Temporary Construction Area

