



Don Houston
Environmental Project Manager
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November 15, 2013

Ms. Lisa Orsaba
Project Manager
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Notice to Proceed (NTP) Request #12 to Conduct Fault Investigations at the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-In SD-6 Site

Dear Ms. Orsaba:

On June 21, 2012, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) selected the East County (ECO) Substation Alternative Site combined with the ECO Partial Underground 138 kilovolt Transmission Route Alternative (Decision A.09-08-003) as the approved ECO Substation Project (Project). The decision grants San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) a Permit to Construct and conditionally authorizes construction of the Project after the implementation of pre-construction mitigation measures (MMs). A Notice of Determination was submitted to the State Clearinghouse on June 21, 2012, indicating the CPUC's approval of the Project.

Purpose

SDG&E is requesting authorization from the CPUC to conduct exploratory geotechnical trenching within an existing dirt access road north of East County Substation (ECO) site in the vicinity of SWPL Loop-in Structure SD-6. The exploratory trenching is necessary to further define the location of a fault that was discovered during grading activities on the 500kV pad at the ECO site. The exact fault location must be determined in order to finalize the design of the SWPL loop-in component prior to initiating construction activities, which are scheduled to begin in January 2014. The location where the exploratory trenching will occur is depicted in Attachment A: Fault Investigation Sites. No activities associated with construction of the SWPL loop-in will occur until authorization has been received under a separate NTP.

Pre-Construction Mitigation Measures

All required pre-construction MMs applicable to geotechnical activities have been fulfilled prior to submittal of this NTP request or will be implemented immediately prior to or during work (such as measures pertaining to delineating work areas and biological and cultural monitoring during ground disturbing activities).

Activity Summary

The fault investigation will consist of a maximum of two exploratory trenches within the existing dirt access road adjacent to the SWPL loop-in structure SD-6. The two locations of the proposed exploratory trenches are identified as Trench A and Trench B in Attachment A: Fault Investigation Sites. Trench A will measure approximately 85 feet in length and will be excavated to an approximate depth of five feet. Trench B will measure approximately 65 feet in length and will also be excavated to an approximate depth of five feet. The excavation will be performed with a rubber-tire back hoe equipped with a 24-inch wide bucket.

The excavations of the two trench locations are located within the approved work space for SWPL loop-in structure SD-6 as depicted in the Final Environmental Impact Report/ Final Environmental Impact Statement

for the project. All activities will be limited to the existing dirt access road and no impacts to vegetation will occur. No rare plant species, known cultural resource areas, or jurisdictional drainages will be impacted by the fault investigation activities.

It is anticipated that the total duration of this activity will be 10 days. Excavations at each trench location will start at 7:00 a.m. and activities will be finished no later than 7:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Following completion of the fault investigations, the associated trenches will be backfilled with the excavated soil material and the dirt access road will be restored to its existing condition. After the activities have been completed, any Project-generated waste, trash, and debris will be removed from the site.

We respectfully request authorization of this NTP request by November 22, 2013, in order to meet the construction schedule and ensure that the design of the underground transmission alignments are complete prior to construction of that component of the Project. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (XXX) XXX-XXXX.

Sincerely,

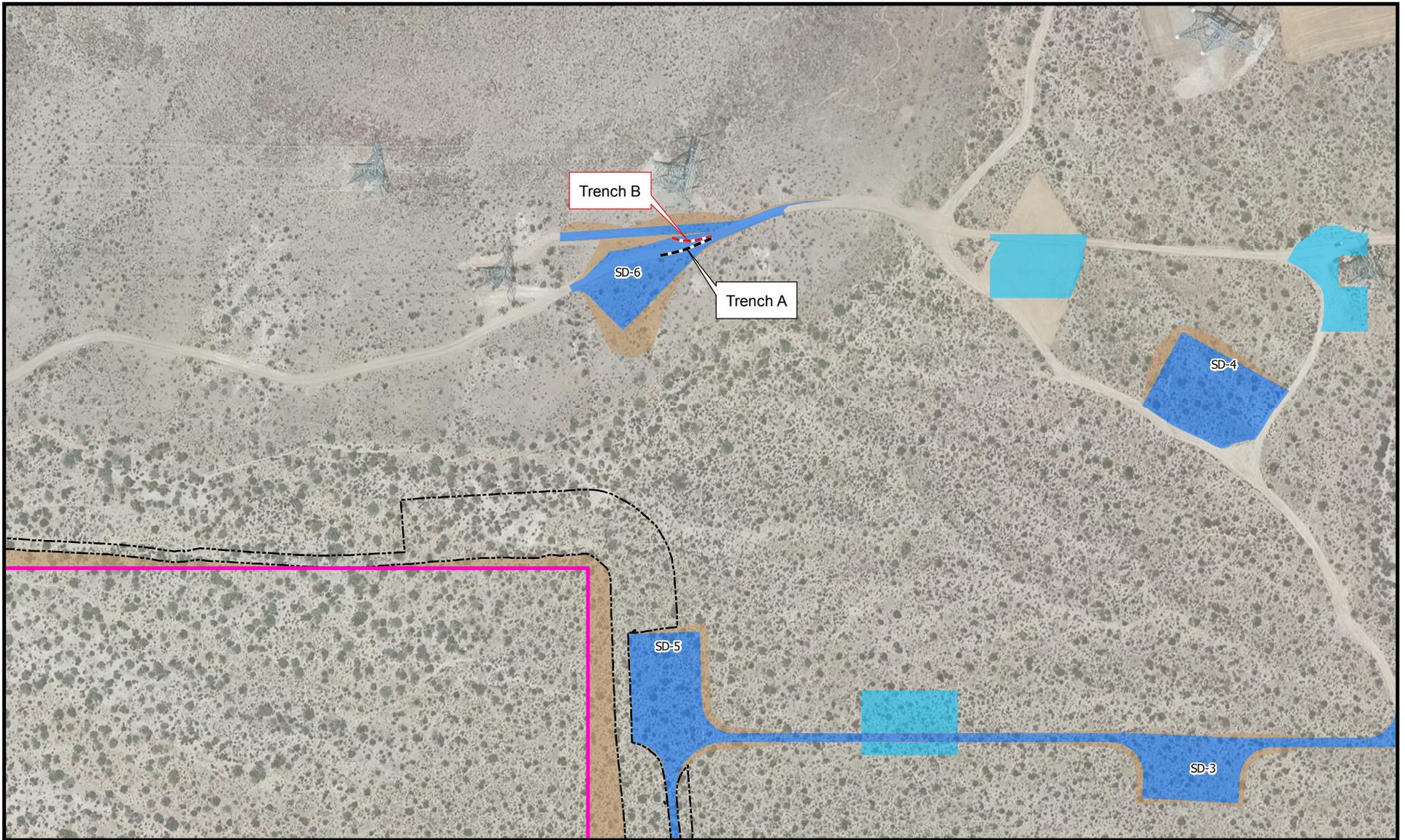
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Houston". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Don Houston
SDG&E Environmental Project Manager

Attachment A: Fault Investigation Sites

cc: Anne Marie McGraw, Insignia Environmental
Jeffrey Coward, Insignia Environmental
Kirstie Reynolds, SDG&E
David Hochart, Dudek

ATTACHMENT A: FAULT INVESTIGATION SITES



Attachment A: Fault Investigation Sites

East County Substation Project

- Trench A
- Trench B
- Grading
- Pole Work Area/Proposed Road
- Pull Site/Vault Pad
- ECO Substation Pad
- Temporary Construction Area

