

# **United States Department of the Interior**

### **BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

El Centro Field Office 1661 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street El Centro, CA 92243 (760) 337-4400



August 9, 2013

In Reply Refer To:

CASE FILE NUMBER: CACA-51204

DOCUMENT NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CA-D070-2010-0027-EIS

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 70123460000029822853 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Don Houston Environmental Project Manager San Diego Gas & Electric Company 1010 Tavern Road Alpine, CA 91901

#### NOTICE TO PROCEED

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) is hereby authorized to proceed with the activities for the East County (ECO) Substation Alternative Site combined with the ECO Partial Underground 138 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Route Alternative, Variance #1 as approved on July 12, 2013, and as described below in the locations specified. The project shall be undertaken in conformance with: the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Record of Decision, dated August 21, 2012 (Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement [EIR/EIS] 20110347 and Case File Number: CACA-51204 DOI), Biological Opinion, dated September 1, 2011 (FWS-SD-10B0136-11F0122), Memorandum of Agreement, dated August 14, 2012, Terms and Conditions of Exhibit 2 (enclosed), authorized Right of Way Grant, dated December 19, 2012, and the approved Plan of Development (POD), dated August 2013.

#### **Description of Activities**

Construction of the 138 kV underground transmission line will be completed as described in Sections B.3 and C.4.1.4 of the Final EIR/EIS for the ECO Substation Project, and Attachment A: Updated Project Description, ECO Substation Alternative Site as presented in SDG&E's comments on the Draft EIR/EIS submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and BLM on March 4, 2011, the approved POD, and as reduced under the approved Variance #1 request.

The construction of the underground transmission line remaining on BLM land will consist of excavating duct banks and installing access vaults within the pavement of Old Highway 80 and the adjacent disturbed area as depicted on Exhibit 1 (enclosed). Duct bank installation will also require a horizontal direction drill and/or jack-and-bore as described in SDG&E's comments on

the Draft EIR/EIS submitted to the CPUC and BLM on March 4, 2011 and depicted on Exhibit 1.

# **The Project Legal Description**;

The public lands authorized for construction of a linear right-of-way for the ECO Substation project are as follows:

# San Bernardino Base and Meridian

T. 18 S., R. 8E.

sec. 2, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

sec. 3, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

sec. 3, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

sec. 10, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Total aggregate 7.39 acres of public land, more or less.

Holder shall implement all terms and conditions identified in Exhibit 2. A copy of this notice, terms and conditions, and grant CACA-51204 shall be made available in the field during the project. Any questions should be directed to Brian Paul, BLM Project Manager at 760 337-4445.

Sincerely,

Admy Thomas F. Zale

**Enclosures:** 

Exhibit 1, ECO Partial Underground 138 Kilovolt (kV) Transmission Route Alternative Overview Map

Exhibit 2, Terms and Conditions

CC

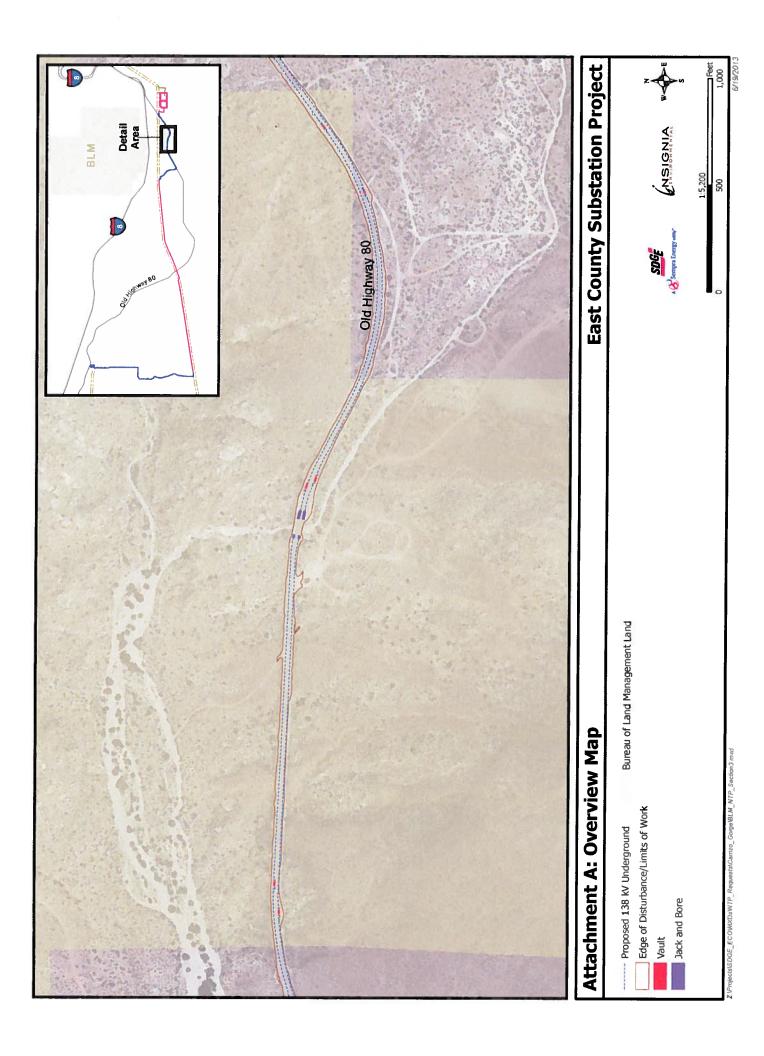
Carrie Simmons, BLM El Centro Field Office, El Centro, CA R. Brian Paul, BLM Renewable Energy Coordination Office (RECO), El Centro, CA Greg Miller, BLM RECO California Desert District, Moreno Valley, CA

☐ HOLDER ☐ CASE FILE

# **UNITED STATES** DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Right-of-Way or Temporary Use Permit (TUP) Serial Number CACA - 051204

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  RIGHT-OF-WAY NOTICE TO PROCEED		Date	Issuing Office
		08/09/2013	EL CENTRO FIELD OFFICE
		Right-of-Way or TUP name	
		ECO SUBSTATION	
Certified/Registered Mail-Return Receipt Requested			
INSTRUCTIONS — Use Certified or Registered Mail or hand deliver, Send or give	original to Hole	ler. Distribute other copie	s as indicated after receipt date.
Holder: SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC (SDG&E)			
In accordance with the terms and conditions of the above referenced right-of-way g below in the locations specified. Map(s) are attached.	rant or TUP you	are hereby authorized to p	proceed with the activities noted
Activity	Location		
The holder is authorized to begin pre-construction activities as identified in NTP Request #2 (July 12, 2013) in accordance with Exhibit 2 and as described in Sections B.3 and C.4.1.4 of the Final EIS for the ECO Substation Project and Attachment A: Updated Project Description and ECO Substation Alternative Site as presented in SDG&E's comments on the Draft EIR/EIS submitted to the CPUC and BLM on March 4, 2011, and as reduced under the approved Variance #1 request. The construction of underground transmission line remaining on BLM land will consist of excavating duct banks and installing access vaults within the pavement of Old Highway 80 and the adjacent disturbed area as depicted on Exhibit 1.	San Bernardino Meridian T. 18 S., R. 8E.  sec. 2, SE¼SW¼SW¼; sec. 3, S½SE¼SE¼; sec. 3, S½SW¼SE¼; sec. 10, NE¼NE¼NE¼;  See Exhibit 1: Overview Map		
Authorized officer is:			
Thomas F. Zale	Field Manager		
(Name)	(Title)		
Onsite inspection and compliance of the Right-of-Way or TUP stipulations will be c  Carrie L. Simmons		authorized officer's repre	
(Name of Authorized Officer's Representative)	(Office, Street Address, City, State, Zip)		
760-337-4400			
(Office Phone Number)	5 <del></del>	(Cell Pho	one Number)
Ch		08/0	9/2013
(Authorized Officer's or Representative's Signature)		(1	Date)
Holders Acknowledgement when notice is delivered in person.			
(Signature of Recipient)	(Firm Name)		
(Name of Recipient)	(Date)		



### Exhibit 2 - Terms and Conditions

## East County Substation Project CACA-51204

- The Holder shall complete all activities within the approved work limits identified in the rightof-way grant and location identified in Exhibit 1.
- The Holder shall comply with all stipulations contained in the Right-of-Way Grant dated December 19, 2012. Non-compliance with the stipulations by the Holder or any of its agents may at the option of the Authorized Officer result in cancellation or suspension of the Rightof-Way Grant or adverse action against the Holder.
- The Holder shall construct, operate, maintain and decommission the transmission facilities within this right-of-way in strict conformity with the project description as described in Notice to Proceed (NTP) Request dated January 12, 2013.
- The Holder shall comply with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations issued thereunder, existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated, affecting in any manner construction, operation, maintenance or termination of the Right-of-Way Grant.
- BLM reserves the right to approve post construction restoration activities, if applicable, to ensure compliance with the terms of this NTP and the ROW.
- The BLM retains the right to occupy and use the right-of-way and to issue or grant rights-ofway or other land uses over, upon, under and through the lands within the work limits, and will not unreasonably interfere with the authorized activities, or rights granted herein or by the Right-of-Way Grant.
- The Holder shall confine all activities within the area specifically defined in the Right-of-Way Grant.
- The Holder or its agents shall define and respect work area limits.
- The Holder shall protect all survey monuments found within the right-of-way. Survey monuments include, but are not limited to, General Land Office and BLM Cadastral Survey Corners, reference corners, witness points, U.S. Coastal and Geodetic benchmarks and triangulation stations, military control monuments, and recognizable civil (both public and private) survey monuments. In the event of obliteration or disturbance of any of the above, the Holder shall immediately report the incident, in writing, to the Authorized officer and the respective installing authority if known. Where General Land Office or BLM right-of-way monuments or references are obliterated during operations, the Holder shall secure the services of a registered land surveyor or a BLM cadastral surveyor to restore the disturbed monuments and references using surveying procedures found in the Manual of Surveying Instructions for the Survey of the Public Lands in the United States, latest edition. The Holder shall record such survey in the appropriate county and send a copy to the Authorized Officer. If the BLM cadastral surveyors or other Federal surveyors are used to restore the disturbed survey monument, the Holder shall be responsible for the survey cost.
- In the event that the public land underlying the right-of-way encompassed in the grant, or a
  portion thereof, is conveyed out of Federal ownership and administration of the right-of-way

or the land underlying the right-of-way is not being reserved to the United States in the patent/deed and/or the right-of-way is not within a right-of-way corridor being reserved to the United States in the patent/deed, the United States waives any right it has to administer the right-of-way, or portion thereof, within the conveyed land under Federal laws, statutes, and regulations, including the regulations at 43 CFR Part [2800][2880], including any rights to have the Holder apply to BLM for amendments, modifications, or assignments and for BLM to approve or recognize such amendments, modifications, or assignments. At the time of conveyance, the patentee/grantee, and their successors and assigns, shall succeed to the interests of the United States in all matters relating to the right-of-way, or portion thereof, within the conveyed land and shall be subject to applicable State and local government laws, statutes, and ordinances. After conveyance, any disputes concerning compliance with the use and the terms and conditions of the right-of-way shall be considered a civil matter between the patentee/grantee and the right-of-way Holder.

- The Holder, contractor or anyone conducting activities authorized under the grant must have a copy of the grant/terms and conditions on site at the time the activity is being conducted pursuant to the authorization.
- The Holder, and its contractors are liable for damages related to its activities and is responsible for incidents on its construction sites, including but not limited to, hazmat, vandalism, and accidents with recreational visitors.
- The Holder will obtain any applicable state/local permits pertaining to any activity, prior to initiating that activity
- All crew personnel shall be appropriately trained on environmental issues, including requirements of the NTP, prior to starting work. A log shall be maintained on-site with the names of all crew personnel trained and submitted to the BLM on a weekly basis.
- In accordance with MM-BIO-1a, SDG&E shall provide funding for law enforcement via a cost recovery account during construction and separate funding is required for long-term management during operations will be determined as part of the long-term management plan as required in MM-CUL-1b.
- In accordance with MM-NOI-1 and MM-HAZ-4b, no blasting is permitted prior to a blasting plan being approved by BLM.
- The project proponent shall designate a field contact representative (FCR) who will be responsible for overseeing compliance with protective stipulations for sensitive species and for coordination on compliance with the BLM. The FCR must be on-site during all project activities. The FCR shall have the authority to halt all project activities that are in violation of the stipulations. The FCR shall have a copy of all relevant stipulations when work is being conducted on the site. The FCR may be a crew chief or field supervisor, a project manager, any other employee of the project proponent, or a contracted biologist. The FCR shall have knowledge of all the sensitive species that may be found within the project area. The FCR shall also be approved by BLM.
- Only biologists approved by the BLM shall serve as biological monitors. The project proponent shall submit the name(s) and resumes of proposed biologist(s) to the BLM for review and

- approval at least 15 days prior to the onset of activities. No activities shall begin until a biologist is approved.
- To prevent the introduction of new invasive weedy plant species into the project area, Holder shall prepare and implement a Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species Control Plan as required in MM-BIO-3a. The Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species Control Plan shall be reviewed and approved by BLM prior to ground disturbing activities.