

# California Public Utilities Commission Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program

# **South Bay Substation Relocation Project**

**Compliance Status Report: 015** 

**September 30, 2015** 

#### **SUMMARY**

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the South Bay Substation Relocation 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 to mitigate or avoid 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 September 1 through September 30, 2015.

## MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

## Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations in areas of active construction. Observations were documented using site inspection forms, and applicable applicant proposed measures (APMs) and mitigation measures (MMs) were reviewed in the field.

## Implementation Actions

During the month of September, construction activities at the Bay Boulevard Substation included the following:

- Installing and maintaining Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs) (See Photo 1—Attachment A)
- General grading and compaction activities
- Delivery of a transformer and placement of the 230 kilovolt (kV) transformers onto transformer pads



- Drilling for and setting foundations, setting rebar cages, and pouring concrete (See Photo 2—Attachment A)
- Bioswale: Grading and backfilling activities for the swale and slopes
- Bioretention Basin: Installing perforated drain pipe and gravel
- Screen Wall and Control Shelter: Excavating, placing forms and rebar, and pouring concrete for the screen wall footing and conducting masonry work (See Photo 3—Attachment A)
- Erecting steel structures (See Photo 3—Attachment A)
- Duct Banks: Installing the duct bank adjacent to the southern screen wall footing; installing the
  duct bank adjacent to the southern driveway; trenching for and installing the duct bank near the
  northern driveway
- Excavating, grading, pouring concrete, and installing forms associated with the box culvert on Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) property/southern driveway and dewatering of the box culvert
- Material deliveries and internal haul road maintenance

Activities along the transmission line component included the following:

- Installation of perimeter fencing for transmission components north of the Bay Boulevard Substation
- Delineation of work areas (See Photo 4—Attachment A)
- Installation and maintenance of silt fencing and BMPs along the staging areas within the transmission line ROW (See Photos 5 and 6—Attachment A)
- Trimming/clearing/ chipping vegetation along the transmission corridor
- Conducting potholing
- Digging pole holes using an auger and hand tools and installing wood poles
- Mobilizing transmission equipment
- Receiving wood poles and began framing along the transmission line ROW
- Installing the dewatering system for foundation holes and the jack-and-bore location, including drilling the first well

Activities at the H & Bay Boulevard Yard included maintenance of sediment control BMPs and trimming vegetation with trimmers.

During construction of the Bay Boulevard Substation project components, compliance with Air Quality APMs and MMs were observed by the CPUC third party monitor. Crews were observed maintaining speed limits of 15 mph or less in accordance with APM-AIR-02, and in some locations within the



Substation work area, reduced speed limits of 5 mph were observed posted (at the substation entrance and along an internal westerly access road) and adhered to by vehicle and equipment operators. Water trucks were observed on site watering topsoil, roads, stock piles, etc. in effort to prevent dust emissions on site in accordance with APM-AIR-01 and MM-BIO-05. Additionally, crews were observed manually watering areas to prevent dust emissions. No fugitive dust was observed and no reports of grading over eight acres per day (APM-AIR-03) were made this reporting period.

Biological monitors were observed onsite during construction activities at the Substation site in accordance with APM-BIO-01 and 02. Biological monitors were observed checking heavy equipment to ensure they were free of debris prior to departure to minimize potential for off-site transport of noxious weeds in accordance with MM-BIO-04. Because initial ground-disturbing activities associated with the excavation for the box culvert and grading for the southern access road occurred, archaeological monitors were at the site in accordance with MM-CUL-01 and paleontological monitors were on site during drilling or ground disturbing activities having potential to impact the Bay Point Formation in accordance with APM-CUL-05.

SWPPP BMPs installed at the Substation site, including silt fencing and straw wattles around the temporary perimeter fence, as well as the rock apron/rattle plates at the entrance of the Substation site, were observed to be intact and in good functioning condition. Sediment track out onto Bay Boulevard was not observed at the times of inspection. Installed gravel bag dams were observed upstream and downstream of excavation grading activities within the drainage swale for the southern driveway and associated box culvert were intact. In preparation for a rain event that occurred this reporting period, visqueen was observed installed along the box culvert trench and secured with gravel bags in accordance with the SWPPP. Stockpiles were observed covered and secured with gravel bags and lined with straw wattles at the base. The qualified SWPPP Practitioner (QSP) was observed onsite conducting inspections ranging from checking equipment for leaks to checking effectiveness of BMP installation.

Spill prevention measures observed at the Substation site included containment bins placed beneath hazardous materials and equipment stored onsite, spill kits staged on site, drip pans placed beneath sanitary facilities, and absorbent materials beneath staged equipment in accordance with APM- HAZ-01.

A Notice to Proceed (NTP) for construction of the project's transmission line components was issued by CPUC this reporting period (See Attachment B). Prior to activities occurring along the transmission line alignment, SDG&E provided verification of landowner notification in accordance with MM-L-1a and 1b. Also, pre-construction biological surveys were conducted in accordance with APM-BIO-02, APM-BIO-03, APM-BIO-06, and MM BIO-07 and reported by SDG&E in a weekly status report.

Initial activities along the transmission line alignment included delineating approved limits of disturbance/work limits (See Photo 4—Attachment A). Upon completion of delineating work limits, SWPPP BMPs such as fiber rolls/straw wattles and silt fencing were observed installed along the alignment. A stabilized entrance to the transmission line alignment, consisting of a rock apron and rattle



plates, was observed installed in order to minimize sediment track out onto Bay Boulevard in accordance with the SWPPP (See Photo 5—Attachment A).

Crews were observed mobilizing and staging materials and equipment within the transmission alignment, including heavy vehicular equipment, dumpsters, silt fencing and fiber rolls/straw wattles, and poles. Absorbent materials were observed under staged heavy equipment in order to prevent potential equipment leaks from penetrating soil, and waste bins were contained in accordance with the SWPPP and APM-HAZ-01. Dumpsters were observed secured and covered in order to prevent attracting wildlife or causing litter within the work area (See Photo 6—Attachment A).

During CPUC monitor site inspections, traffic control measures were observed being utilized at the Bay Boulevard Substation in accordance with the Traffic Management Plan (MM TRA-01). Heavy-duty construction vehicles were observed using Palomar Avenue in accordance with APM-TRA-01 and flag persons were observed during the hauling of oversized loads to the site.

## 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 Decision for the South Bay Substation Relocation Project, as adopted by the CPUC on October 17, 2013 (Decision D.13-10-024).

## Compliance Status

CPUC third-party monitors observed overall compliance with mitigation measures throughout the reporting period.

#### **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

## Bay Boulevard Substation

Initiated on February 16, 2015. Estimated completion date is November 2016. Approximately 42% complete.

## South Bay Substation Demolition

Not Started. Estimated completion date is July 2017.

## 230 Kilovolt (kV) Loop In

Estimated completion date is November 2016.



# 69 kV Loop In/Relocation

Estimated completion date is March 2017.

## 138kV Extension

Estimated completion date is March 2017.

# **CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE**

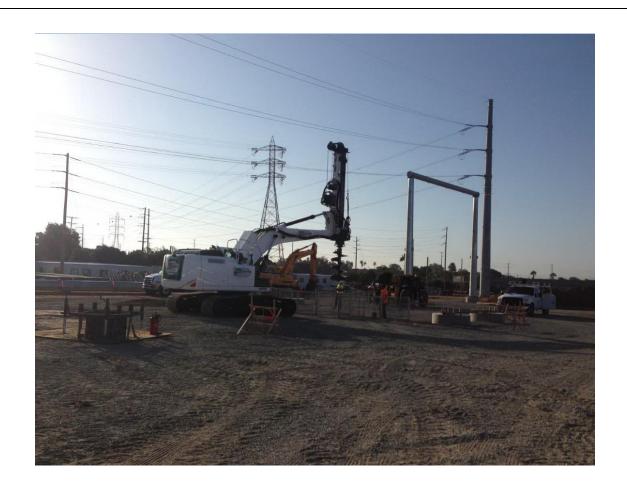
*South Bay Substation Relocation Project (CPUC NTP No. 001)* – SDG&E began potholing activities at the project site on January 5, 2015. All project activities are scheduled to be complete by July 2017.



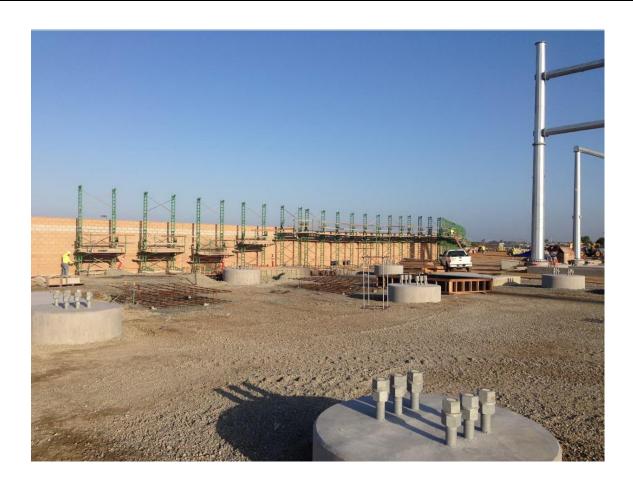
# ATTACHMENT A Photos



**Photo 1**: Prior to an anticipated rain event, visqueen secured by gravel bags and straw wattles were observed along the Bay Boulevard Substation box culvert/southern driveway in accordance with the SWPPP. Stockpiles were also secured with visqueen, gravel bags, and straw wattles prior to the event, and runoff was not reported.



**Photo 2:** Drilling for tower foundations at the Bay Boulevard Substation 230kV pad.



**Photo 3:** Masonry work on the construction screening wall (above) and control shelter continued this reporting period. Vertical components of the Bay Boulevard Substation (structural steel, above, right) was observed being erected by equipment.



**Photo 4:** Prior work occurring along the transmission line alignment, work limits were delineated on the ground.



**Photo 5:** After work limits were delineated along the transmission alignment, SWPPP BMPs were installed, including silt fencing, straw wattles, and a stabilized construction entrance consisting of a rock apron and rattle plates.



**Photo 6:** Equipment including dumpsters, heavy vehicular equipment, building materials, etc. was staged along the transmission line alignment. Silt fencing was installed around staging areas, waste bins were observed contained, absorbent material was observed under staged vehicular equipment, and dumpsters were observed covered and secured to prevent attracting wildlife.

# **ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed**

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC - 001	November 14, 2014	Potholing and Grading at the Bay Boulevard Substation	Υ
CPUC-002	March 17, 2015	Full Construction of the Bay Boulevard Substation	Υ
CPUC-003	September 3, 2015	Construction of the Transmission Line Components	Y

# ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
-	-	-	-	-