

	<p><b>California Public Utilities Commission</b>  <b><i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></b></p>
	<p><b>CalPeco 625 and 650 Electrical Line Upgrade Project</b></p>
	<p><b>Compliance Status Report: 013</b>   <b>August 24, 2016</b></p>

**SUMMARY**

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/EIS/Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the CalPeco 625 and 650 Electrical Line Upgrade 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 FEIS/EIS/EIR to mitigate or avoid impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities for 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 August 7 through 20, 2016.

**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***

The following summarizes CalPeco’s implementation of applicable APMs and MMs. In addition, CalPeco has submitted Weekly Compliance Reports, in accordance with the project’s MMCRP.

Scenic Resources:

All construction areas kept clean to the extent possible. Timber harvesting and cutting activities include chipping, mastication, and/or lop and scatter treatment, as appropriate and as agreed to with property owners included within the Timber Harvest Plan (THP) areas. Stumps were cut to meet the 6-inch maximum height requirement (APM-SCE-1).

### Air Quality and Climate Change:

Signs stating that the speed limit is 15 miles per hour in these areas have been conspicuously placed along project access routes and the ROW (APM-AQ-7). Monitors and all project personnel continue to ensure that vehicle idling times are limited to a maximum of 5 minutes for vehicles and construction equipment, except where idling was required for the equipment to perform its task. No vehicles have been left unmanned and idling (APM-AQ-14). Grading areas are limited and unpaved vehicle and equipment access roads and work areas are being watered to control fugitive dust (APM-AQ-2, AQ-3, AQ-4, and AQ-11). Soil stockpiles are covered in accordance with APM-AQ-6. Construction vehicles are cleaned to prevent trackout (APM-AQ-8).

### Biological Resources:

Biological monitors were present during project construction activity (APM-BIO-1). Cut stumps were treated with borate compound (APM-BIO-4). Designated weed-cleaning stations and an air compressor were utilized to minimize the potential to spread noxious weeds (APM-BIO-6). Monitors with stop work authority were present with each vegetation removal crew to help ensure that impacts to biological resources were minimized (APM-BIO-21). All pole excavations and areas of active construction are inspected on a daily basis to ensure that no wildlife has been trapped (APM-BIO-22). Work activities were confined to approved and adequately delineated project areas (APM-BIO-26). Project work areas were kept free of trash/debris and no pets/firearms on project site (APM-BIO-33 and APM-BIO-34). Tree survey data provided to CPUC prior to tree removal activities (MM-4.7-4). Nesting bird surveys are being conducted no more than 10 days prior to construction activities and exclusionary buffer zones are being created surrounding active nests along the project alignment (APM-BIO-18 and CDFW Final Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement). Potential bat roosts are being surveyed prior to construction in order to determine usage and all non-active roosting sites are trimmed within 30 days of the surveys in order to prevent new roosts from being established (APM-BIO-20). Biological surveys for burrows and dens are being conducted no more than 30 days prior to construction activities. All burrow and den sites are being inspected for use by sensitive mammals, and buffers will be established as necessary based on occupation (APM-BIO-15). Topsoil is being salvaged and stockpiled separately (APM-BIO-23).

### Geology, Soils, Land Capability and Coverage:

Appropriate sediment control BMPs were in place, monitored, and maintained in accordance with the project's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and APM-SOILS-1.

### Hazards and Hazardous Materials:

Fire suppression equipment was kept within 25 feet of chainsaw use areas, as required under APM-HAZ-5. Smoking occurred in designated areas (APM-HAZ-6).

### Hydrology and Water Quality:

Refueling areas were identified with signs and located 100 feet from waterways and refueling was performed in appropriate areas using proper containment materials (APM-WQ-1). Tree skidding did not occur through aquatic resources (WQ-4). BMPs installed to minimize rutting and sedimentation (APM-WQ-6). Concrete washouts are occurring into excavations where concrete has been poured, within designated concrete washout areas, and/or are being captured within self-contained washout-recycling systems on the concrete delivery trucks (APM-WQ-2).

### Noise:

Property owners within 300 feet of construction notified of construction activity (APM-NOI-1) and signage posted within 1,000 of residences with project contact information (APM-NOI-2).

### Recreation:

Trail closure and re-direction signs were posted where the ROW crosses public trails (APM-REC-3).

### Traffic:

Traffic is being controlled by flaggers, where necessary (APM-AQ-12). Liberty Utilities implemented its Traffic Control Plan (APM-TRAN-1), in coordination with Caltrans.

In compliance with APM-BIO-1, APM-CUL-7, APM-CUL-10, and APM-HAZ-1, Liberty Utilities continued to implement a Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) for all project personnel entering the project area. Liberty Utilities provided the required environmental awareness training to 12 people during the reporting period. Additionally, topics included in the WEAP are being reviewed daily during the morning contractor tailboard meetings.

### ***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 project's MMCRP, as referenced in the Decision for the CalPeco 625 and 650 Electrical Line Upgrade Project, as adopted by the CPUC on March 27, 2015 (Decision D.15-03-020).

### ***Compliance Status***

Pre-construction mitigation measures have been completed as indicated in Notice to Proceed (NTP) No. 3 (Attachment B). Applicable mitigation measures were verified during site inspections and were determined to be implemented in accordance with the MMCRP, except as noted below.

In Liberty's Weekly Compliance Report submitted to the CPUC on August 16, 2016, it was noted that monitors observed (On August 10, 2016) a construction vehicle (dump truck) parked within a flagged nesting buffer, along an existing road between Poles 291117 and 291120. The buffer had been designated as a drive-through buffer only (no parking) the previous day (August 9, 2016) and signage installed. After removal of the parked vehicle, project biologists surveyed the area and determined that the nest has successfully fledged. On August 17, the CPUC expressed concern that either the buffer signage was insufficient/ineffective or project contractors ignored the signage or were not properly trained and stressed the importance of effectively implementing training, buffering, and monitoring APMs. Since the nest had fledged and no resource damage occurred, no further action was taken.

## **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

The project has been broken into three phases, as summarized below:

### **Phase 1 (Rebuild and Upgrade of the 650 Line (Including the Northstar Fold (2015-2016))**

#### **Phase 1A (2015 Construction Season)**

##### *Pre-Construction Invasive Weed Treatment (CPUC NTP No. 001)*

Pre-construction weed treatment in areas identified in the project's Invasive Plant Risk Assessment document was initiated on July 2, 2015, consistent with APM-BIO-4. Weed treatment activities covered under NTP-1 were completed in July 2015.

##### *650 Line Rebuild (Pole 291034 to 291105 and Pole 291105 to Northstar Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 002)*

Project tasks associated with Phase 1A of the 650 Line rebuild covered under NTP-2 were initiated on August 10, 2015 and were completed by November 8, 2015.

##### *Vegetation Management (Pole 291034 to 291169 and Pole 291105 to Northstar Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 002)*

Tree removal associated with Phase 1A of the 650 Line rebuild covered under NTP-2 were initiated on August 31, 2015 and were completed by November 15, 2015.

##### *Northstar Substation Rebuild (CPUC NTP No. 002)*

Project tasks associated with the Northstar Substation rebuild covered under NTP-2 were initiated on September 23, 2015 and were completed in October 2015.

**Phase 1B (2016 Construction Season)****650 Line Rebuild (Pole 291105 to Kings Beach Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 003)**

Project tasks associated with the 650 Line rebuild were initiated on May 31, 2016. During the period covered by this report, the following tasks were completed or initiated:

- Stormwater best management practices (BMPs) installed between Poles 291180 and 291198 and between Poles 291125 and 291168.
- Access road construction between Poles 291170 and 291205.
- Foundation pouring for Poles 291171, 291175, 291178, 291185, 291200 and 291204.
- Setting and framing of poles between Poles 291141 to 291197.
- Pulling of rope from Pole 291125 to 291168.
- Clipping in line between Poles 291105 and 291125.
- Temporary bridge removal between Poles 291110 and 291111.
- Restoration and cleanup of accesses and pad sites and temporary access to Pole 291108.
- Installation of erosion control structures (e.g., water bars) in preparation for final restoration and seeding.

**Vegetation Management (Pole 291129 to Kings Beach Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 003)**

Tree removal associated with the 650 Line rebuild were initiated on May 31, 2016. During the period covered by this report, the following tasks were completed or initiated:

- Tree removal activities within North Tahoe Public Utility District (NTPUD) parcels (5 MPEG Timber Harvest Plan (THP)) in the Kingswood Estates area, between Poles 291214 and 291226.
- Tree removal in cleared bird nest buffer areas.
- Skidding of trees not previously removed by helicopter in USFS timber harvest area.
- Installation of BMPs in advance of timber harvest activities.
- Completion of final clean-up at the Unit 5 landing (helicopter landing site).

*Kings Beach Substation Connections (CPUC NTP No. 003)*

Not started.

**Phase 2 (Substation Upgrades, Decommissioning of the Brockway Substation (2017))**

Not Started. Estimated completion date is October 2017.

**Phase 3 (Upgrade of the 625 Line and Additional Modifications of the Substation (2019-2020))**

Not Started. Estimated completion date is October 2020.

**CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE**

**Phase 1 (Rebuild and Upgrade of the 650 Line (Including the Northstar Fold (2015-2016))**

**Phase 1A (2015 Construction Season)**

*Pre-Construction Invasive Weed Treatment (CPUC NTP No. 001)*

Completed in July 2015.

*650 Line Rebuild (Pole 291034 to 291105 and Pole 291105 to Northstar Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 002)*

Initiated on August 10, 2015, completed in November 2015.

*Vegetation Management (Pole 291034 to 291169 and Pole 291105 to Northstar Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 002)*

Initiated on August 31, 2015, completed in November 2015.

*Northstar Substation Rebuild (CPUC NTP No. 002)*

Initiated on September 23, 2015, completed in October 2015.

**Phase 1B (2016 Construction Season)**

*650 Line Rebuild (Pole 291105 to Kings Beach Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 003)*

Initiated on May 31, 2016, estimated completion date is October 2016.

*Vegetation Management (Pole 291129 to Kings Beach Substation) (CPUC NTP No. 003)*

Initiated on May 31, 2016, estimated completion date is October 2016.

*Kings Beach Substation Connections (CPUC NTP No. 003)*

Not started, estimated completion date is October 2016.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos

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**Photo 1:** Dry rock ford with erosion control best management practices (BMPs) installed at project access road crossing of Drainage 1208, between Poles 291148 and 291149.



## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 2:** Tree removal work along right-of-way, including nest tree flagging and fencing.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 3:** Right-of-way near pole 291156, with debris fence on downhill side to prevent debris rolling down to Highway 267 below. Approved work area roped and flagged along both sides.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 4:** Fire box stored near equipment staging area in accordance with APM-HAZ-6.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 5:** Project signage near Kingswood Estates (Poles 291214 to 291226) notifying public of project and appropriate contact information.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 6:** Project access road near Pole 291183, including signage and track-out plates to prevent track-out onto adjacent Highway 267, in compliance with APM-AQ-8.

## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

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NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC-001	July 2, 2015	Pre-Construction Weed Treatment from Martis Tap Pole to Brockway Summit	Y
CPUC-002	August 5, 2015	650 Line Re-Build Between the Martis Tap Pole and the Northstar Substation, Northstar Substation Civil Work, and Vegetation Management Between the Martis Tap Pole and Brockway Summit	Y
CPUC-003	May 26, 2016	650 Line Re-Build Between the Northstar Tap Pole and the Kings Beach Substation, Kings Beach Substation Connection Work, and Vegetation Management Between the Northstar Tap Pole and Kings Beach Substation	Y

## ATTACHMENT C

### Minor Project Refinement Request

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Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	September 23, 2015	Additional Temporary Work Areas at Poles #291087 and #291098	Approved	September 29, 2015
002	July 11, 2016	Alternative Access Route and Temporary Staging Area for Pole #291108	Approved	July 15, 2016
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