

***Appendix B***  
***EIR Scoping Summary Report***

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**SCOPING SUMMARY REPORT  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY'S  
ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

**APPLICATION No.: A.09-09-020  
SCH No.: 2010101075**

**December 2010**

**Lead Agency:**

**California Public Utilities Commission**  
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# List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

CAGN	coastal California gnatcatcher
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CPCN	Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
E & E	Ecology and Environment, Inc.
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
GO	General Order
I-5	Interstate 5
IS	Initial Study
kV	kilovolt
LST	localized significance threshold
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOP	Notice of Preparation
proposed project	Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project
ROW	right-of-way
SA	Settlement Agreement
SCAQMD	Southern California Air Quality Management District
SCE	Southern California Edison
SCH	State Clearinghouse
SDG&E	San Diego Gas and Electric
SoCalGas	Southern California Gas Company
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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# 1

## Overview of CEQA Scoping Process

### 1.1 Introduction

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas, or the applicant) filed an application (A. 09-09-020) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), for the construction and operation of the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project (the proposed project) on September 28, 2009.

The CPUC's environmental review process invites broad public participation through public scoping meetings and comment periods to receive input on the proposed project. In addition, the CPUC seeks input on project issues, environmental impacts, and mitigation measures for the proposed project. Early public and agency consultation to identify public concerns and potential environmental impacts associated with the scope of the project is called "scoping."

As the lead agency for the proposed project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the CPUC will prepare either a draft and final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or an Initial Study (IS) and draft and final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), as determined appropriate.

### 1.2 Summary of Scoping Activities

This report summarizes the scoping activities that the CPUC has conducted for the proposed project. It also includes all written comments and a summary of oral comments on the scope and content of the EIR as received from agencies and members of the public during the scoping period in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an EIR.

#### Notice of Preparation

The CPUC circulated the NOP for the proposed project on October 21, 2010, opening a 30-day comment period on the scope and content of the EIR and announcing two public scoping meetings. On October 26, 2010, the CPUC subsequently distributed an errata notice for the NOP to inform the public that the November 5, 2010, meeting had an address correction and would be held at the Wiley Canyon Elementary School located in Newhall, California.

The NOP was sent to the State Clearinghouse (SCH No. 2010101075) and responsible and trustee agencies, including 16 state agencies and 5 local agencies and planning groups. Additionally, the NOP was distributed to over 700 individuals, including property owners within 300 feet of the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Field (storage field), Southern California Edison (SCE) subtransmission lines, and SCE substations. The NOP as amended is contained in Appendix A

### **Newspaper Notices**

The CPUC placed notices announcing the public scoping meetings in the following newspapers on the dates noted: the *Santa Clarita Valley Signal* on October 21, 2010, and October 28, 2010; the *Los Angeles Daily News* on October 21, 2010, and October 28, 2010.

### **Hotline, Email, and Public Website**

The CPUC maintains a telephone hotline and an email address for the proposed project through which the public can contact the CEQA team and comment on the proposed project. The CPUC also maintains a website with information and documents related to the proposed project. This information was included in the NOP and newspaper notice and distributed at the public scoping meeting as part of the project fact sheet and PowerPoint presentation. The project-specific email, fax, voicemail, and website are as follows:

- **Email:** [AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com](mailto:AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com)
- **Fax:** 415-981-0801
- **Voicemail:** 877-676-8678 (toll free)
- **Website:**  
[www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/ene/aliso\\_canyon/aliso\\_canyon\\_home.html](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/ene/aliso_canyon/aliso_canyon_home.html)

### **Public Scoping Meetings**

During the scoping period the CPUC held two public scoping meetings. One meeting was held on November 4, 2010, at the Porter Valley County Club in Porter Ranch, California, and the second meeting was held on November 5, 2010, at Wiley Canyon Elementary School in Newhall, California. The following materials were provided at the meeting and are also included in Appendix C:

- Registration Sheet;
- Speaker Card;
- Written Comment Sheet;
- Project Fact Sheet; and
- PowerPoint Presentation.

For both meetings, the CPUC's consultant, Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E) provided an overview of the purpose of the meeting and described all methods for the public and agencies to provide comment on the EIR. The CPUC followed with an overview of the CPUC and the environmental review process.

Following the CPUC's presentation, E & E provided an overview of the proposed project and outlined the potential impacts of the proposed project. Following the presentations, all meeting attendees were given an opportunity to ask questions about the proposed project and provide oral comments.

**Public and Agency Comments**

The 30-day comment period began on October 21, 2010, and ended on November 22, 2010. Oral and written comments received during the comment period are summarized in Section 3 of this report. The scoping meeting registration sheet is included in Appendix B, and copies of the letters received are included in Appendix C. Records of the attendees for each scoping meeting are provided in Appendix B. Written comments that were received during the scoping period are provided in Appendix C.

Comments received will be used, as appropriate, in identifying the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant effects to be analyzed in depth in the CEQA document.

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# 2

## Overview of the Proposed Project

### 2.1 Background

SoCalGas is required to implement the proposed project in order to meet the terms of Phase 1 of the Settlement Agreement (SA) between SoCalGas and parties to the 2009 Biennial Cost Allocation Proceeding approved by the CPUC D.08-12-020. The SA requires that SoCalGas replace the turbine-driven compressors and expand the overall injection capacity at the storage field by approximately 145 million cubic feet per day. The new compressor motors would provide reliable, efficient, and increased injection capabilities required by the terms of the SA.

### 2.2 Project Description

The proposed project includes several components to be constructed by SoCalGas and SCE. These components include:

1. Construction of the proposed onsite Central Compressor Station and installation of new equipment, including three variable-speed compressor trains, compressors, piping, coolers, and other additional required equipment.
2. Relocation of onsite office trailer facilities and an onsite guardhouse. The existing trailers would be replaced by new trailers at a site in proximity to the proposed Central Compressor Station. The existing guardhouse would remain in its current location and a new guardhouse would be constructed approximately 500 feet north of the existing guard house, and the east side of the main entry road would be widened in order to relieve traffic congestion at the facility entrance.
3. Construction of a new onsite, four circuit, approximately 2,000-foot 12-kilovolt (kV) Plant Power Line that would provide dedicated electric services to the proposed Central Compressor Station. The proposed Plant Power Line would be interconnected from the proposed Natural Substation to the proposed Central Compressor Station. The Plant Power Line would be owned by SoCalGas and designed to San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) standards.
4. Construction of the proposed onsite Natural Substation, including foundation and equipment pads, electrical equipment, installation of security perimeter wall/chain link fence, access road, and capacitor bank

(additional elements may be included). The proposed Natural Substation would be 56 megavolt ampere, 66/12 kV with a pre-fabricated mechanical electrical and engineering room. This project component would be constructed by SCE.

5. Construction of both onsite and offsite electrical modifications to two existing SCE 66-kV subtransmission lines (approximately 12 miles long) in order to serve the proposed Central Compressor Station's load. Modifications would also include replacement of existing transmission towers and H-frame structures with new tubular steel poles, and installation of telecommunication lines on the poles. This project component would be constructed and owned by SCE.
6. Conduct offsite substation modifications at three existing SCE substations (Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations) that support two existing SCE 66-kV subtransmission lines. Proposed modifications include construction of a loop-in interconnection at San Fernando to provide for two new positions, and installation of new relay systems and ancillary equipment within the substation to provide advanced electrical service protection. This project component would be constructed and owned by SCE.

### **2.3 Project Construction**

Construction of the project components could occur concurrently. Construction-related activities are estimated to take 22 months to complete.

### **2.4 Operations and Maintenance**

#### **Storage Field Project Components**

The project components that would be located within the storage field would be integrated into SoCalGas's existing safety measures, operational controls, and maintenance and monitoring procedures, including procedures and best management practices for fire safety and storm water drainage. Operations and maintenance activities would be performed by SoCalGas operations and maintenance personnel. The Natural Substation would be located within the storage field; however, the substation would be owned and operated by SCE, as described below.

#### **Natural Substation and Subtransmission Lines**

The proposed Natural Substation would be unstaffed, and electrical equipment within the proposed Natural Substation would be remotely monitored and controlled by an automated system from SCE's Regional Control Center. SCE personnel would perform routine site visits for electrical switching and maintenance purposes. Routine maintenance would include equipment testing, equipment monitoring, and repair. Routine site visits to the proposed Natural Substation would typically be performed three to four times per month.



Modifications to the Chatsworth–MacNeil–Newhall–San Fernando line and MacNeil–Newhall–San Fernando line would be maintained in a manner consistent with CPUC General Order (GO) 95 and CPUC GO 165. These subtransmission lines may occasionally require emergency repairs, which would be conducted by SCE personnel.

## **2.5 Project Alternatives**

If an EIR is determined to be the appropriate CEQA document for environmental review of the proposed project, reasonable project alternatives will be identified and analyzed in the Draft EIR. Agencies and the public will be given the opportunity to comment on the project alternatives considered following publication of the Draft EIR during the 45-day comment period. A Notice of Availability (NOA) will be issued at the time of the publication of the Draft EIR to inform the public and agencies that the 45-day comment period for the Draft EIR has been initiated.

If an MND is determined to be the appropriate CEQA document for environmental review of the proposed project, the public will be given the opportunity to comment following publication of the Draft MND during the 30-day comment period. An NOA will be issued at the time of the publication of the Draft MND to inform the public and agencies that the 30-day comment period for the Draft MND has been initiated.

## **2.6 Project Location**

The main project site is located within the storage field and is approximately 3,600 acres in size. The proposed project would involve coordination between SoCalGas, SDG&E, and SCE, and project components would pass through unincorporated Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles, the City of Santa Clarita (in Los Angeles County), the Community of Mission Hills (in Los Angeles County), and unincorporated Ventura County. Figure 1 shows an overview of the project area.

The storage field is located at 12801 Tampa Avenue, in Northridge, California, north of the Porter Ranch Community. The Aliso Canyon Plant Station is located 0.8 miles north of Sesnon Boulevard. Project activities within the storage field property would include construction of the proposed new Central Compressor Station, relocation of the office trailers and guardhouse, construction of the Plant Power Line and Natural Substation, and modification of the existing SCE 66-kV subtransmission line.

The reconductoring and pole replacement of the Chatsworth–MacNeil–Newhall–San Fernando line and the MacNeil–Newhall–San Fernando line would take place in the Cities of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles, and portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The reconductoring and pole replacement of the Chatsworth–MacNeil–Newhall–San Fernando line and the MacNeil–Newhall–San Fernando line would originate at the Newhall Substation, located at the intersection of Wiley Canyon Road and Lyons Avenue, in the community of Newhall located in

the City of Santa Clarita. The route of the proposed SCE 66-kV subtransmission line modification would follow the existing right-of-way (ROW) from the Newhall Substation toward Interstate 5 (I-5) south to the SCE Chatsworth Tap, at Tap Point A, located approximately 4 miles south of the Newhall Substation. At the Chatsworth Tap, the route of the proposed subtransmission line modification would traverse in a southwesterly direction to the proposed Natural Substation location (see Figure 1).

Additional offsite improvements would include modifications at the Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations. The Newhall Substation is located within the community of Newhall in the City of Santa Clarita; the Chatsworth Substation is located near the Chatsworth Reservoir, near Valley Circle Road and Plummer Street; and the San Fernando Substation is located near the intersection of San Fernando Mission Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard in the community of Mission Hills in Los Angeles County (see Figure 1).



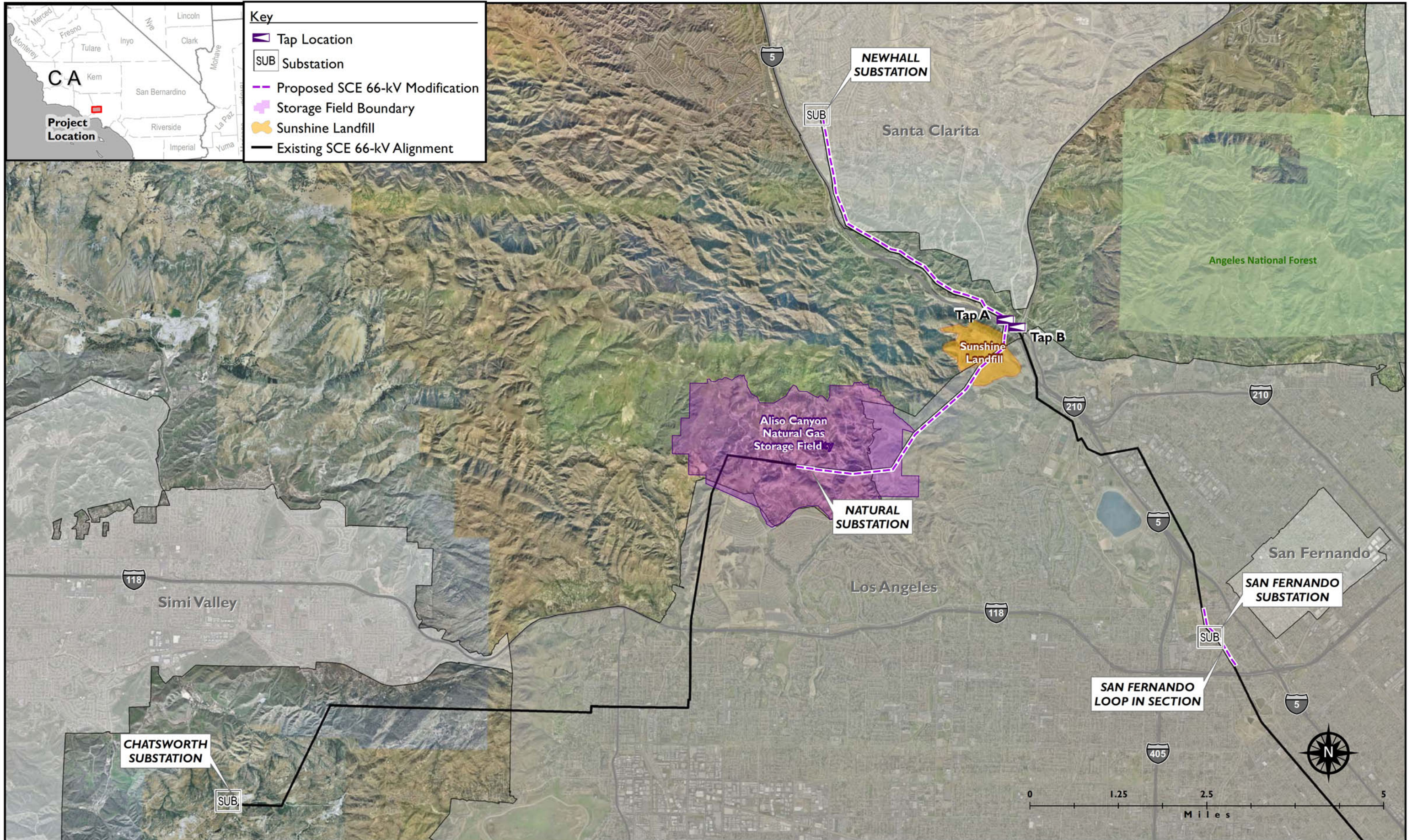


Figure 1  
Proposed Project Area



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# 3

## Summary of Scoping Comments

This section summarizes both written and oral comments received from members of the public and public agencies during the 30-day scoping period. Fourteen people attended the public scoping meeting held on November 4, 2010, in Porter Ranch, and eight people attended the public scoping meeting on November 5, 2010, in the community of Newhall.

The CPUC received four written comment letters from government agencies, and 11 comment letters from members of the public.

Concerns and requests raised during the public scoping period are summarized below.

### 3.1 CEQA Process/Public Notification

Two comments regarding public notification were received from members of the public during the scoping period.

One comment indicated that the address listed in the NOP for the public scoping meeting to be held on November 5, 2010, at Wiley Canyon Elementary School was incorrect. In response, the CPUC issued a subsequent errata notice on October 26, 2010, to all recipients of the NOP, and republished the public scoping meeting notices in the *Los Angeles Daily News* and the *Santa Clarita Valley Signal*.

Another comment requested that the applicant post a 6-foot by 6-foot sign at the Sesnon/Tampa entrance to the storage field indicating the extent of the expansion, including current storage capacity, increased injection capacity, the exchange of turbines from gas-driven engines to electrical engines, a description of the additional power lines to be installed, and a stated warning of any additional fire risk.

### 3.2 Project Description, Objectives, and Alternatives

#### Project Description

Comments received from the public during the scoping period regarding the project description included requests that the applicant (1) explain the natural gas import process, including routes of import; (2) and describe the natural gas export process and routes of distribution.

**Alternatives**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding alternatives included requests that the applicant (1) install transmission lines to be reconducted underground to avoid fire danger and visual impacts; and (2) consider/explain whether transmission lines and pole structures could be located away from the back yards of residential properties.

**3.3 Environmental Resources**

Most of comments from members of the public and agencies addressed impacts of the proposed project on the human environment, most often with regards to air quality, noise, hazards, health, and safety. Comments pertaining to impacts on specific environmental resources are described below.

**Aesthetics**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding aesthetics included requests that (1) the transmission lines that would be reconducted be installed underground to avoid visual impacts; and (2) the transmission poles be designed or camouflaged to look like trees.

**Air Quality**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding air quality included (1) concerns regarding the smell of gas in neighborhoods south of the storage field, and the safety of breathing air in areas around the site; and (2) a request that air emissions from the proposed project be disclosed in the Draft EIR.

Comments received from agencies during the scoping period regarding air quality included a letter in response to the NOP from the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). In this comment letter, the SCAQMD (1) requested that the lead agency identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the proposed project and all air pollutant sources related to the project; (2) requested that the lead agency calculate air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations; (3) recommended that the lead agency quantify emissions of fine particulate matter 2.5 micrometers in diameter ( $PM_{2.5}$ ) and compare the results to  $PM_{2.5}$  significance thresholds recommended by the SCAQMD; (4) recommended that the lead agency calculate localized air quality impacts and compare the results to localized significance thresholds (LSTs); (5) recommended that the lead agency perform a localized significance analysis by either using the LSTs developed by the SCAQMD or performing dispersion modeling as necessary; (6) recommended that the lead agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment for the project elements that would generate or attract vehicular trips, especially heavy duty diesel-fueled vehicles; and (7) recommended that the lead agency perform an analysis of all toxic air contaminant impacts that could be generated from decommissioning activities or the use of equipment potentially generating such air pollutants.

**Biological Resources**

Comments from agencies during the scoping period addressing biological resources were received from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

In its comment letter, the CDFG (1) requested that the CEQA document include a complete, recent assessment of flora and fauna within and adjacent to the proposed project area, with particular emphasis on identifying endangered, threatened, and locally unique species and sensitive habitats; (2) requested that the CEQA document include a thorough discussion of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that could adversely affect biological resources, and include specific measures to offset such impacts; (3) requested that the CEQA document include a range of alternatives to ensure that alternatives to the proposed project are fully considered and evaluated. The CDFG requested that a range of alternatives which avoid or otherwise minimize impacts to sensitive biological resources, including wetlands/riparian habitats, alluvial scrub, and coastal sage scrub, be included in the CEQA document. The CDFG also requested that specific alternative project locations with lower resource sensitivity than the proposed project locations be evaluated where appropriate; (4) requested that the CEQA document include a thorough and robust analysis of potentially significant impacts on endangered, rare, and threatened species and their habitat that could occur as a result of the proposed project and that the CEQA document include specific, potentially feasible mitigation measures to avoid or substantially lessen any potentially significant impacts; (5) requested that the CEQA document identify whether or not an Incidental Take Permit will be required for the proposed project as prescribed by Fish and Game Code section 2801, subdivisions (b) and (c); and (6) indicated that CDFG opposes the elimination of watercourses and/or the canalization of natural and human-made drainages or conversion to subsurface drains.

In its comment letter, the USFWS (1) expressed concerns about potential impacts from the proposed project on coastal sage scrub habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher (CAGN) and Bell's vireo, and that if the proposed project has the potential to impact areas of suitable habitat for CAGN, the applicant may be required to perform further surveys for CAGN within one year prior to the start of project construction; (2) indicated that the CPUC should ensure consideration of potential project impacts on special status plant species, including San Fernando Valley spineflower and Braunton's milk-vetch; (3) indicated that the USFWS would issue a letter of concurrence if surveys for protected species demonstrate that the proposed project would have no effect on habitat for protected species; (4) indicated that, if surveys determine that the proposed project would result in "take" of a protected species, the applicant would likely be required to prepare a Habitat Conservation Plan under Section 10 of the Federal Endangered Species Act; and (5) indicated that impacts on protected species may be "significant" at any level under the Endangered Species Act, as compared to CEQA significance thresholds.

**Cultural Resources**

Comments received from agencies during the scoping period regarding cultural resources came from The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC recommended that (1) the CPUC initiate early consultation with Native American tribes in the proposed project area as the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries; (2) a Native American Monitor or Native American culturally knowledgeable individual be employed whenever a professional archaeologist is employed during the “Initial Study” and in other phases of the environmental planning processes; and (3) the CPUC contact the California Historic Resources Information System of the Office of Historic Preservation, for information on recorded archaeological data.

**Land Use**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding land use included a request that the applicant conform to the requirements of local grading and oak tree ordinances.

**Noise**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding noise included concerns about noise emanating from trucks traveling along Tampa Road during the evening and early morning hours.

**Hazards and Hazardous Materials**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding Hazards and Hazardous Materials included (1) multiple comments related to the potential for downed power lines to ignite fires in the hills near the Porter Ranch residential community; (2) requests that the applicant clear brush under existing and new power lines in accordance with City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County regulations, and that the applicant reimburse the appropriate regulatory agency for periodic fire safety inspections of the transmission lines for the life of the proposed project; (3) a request that the applicant be required to follow the same brush clearance regulations and requirements that SCE is required to follow; (4) a request that the applicant’s brush clearance inspection protocols be disclosed; (5) a request that there be disclosure of the party or parties responsible for the safety of power lines at the storage field; (6) concerns addressing the safety of natural gas storage operations at the storage field site; (7) concerns addressing the effects of venting natural gas into the atmosphere as performed by the applicant; (8) a request that an air monitoring station be set up at the storage field site; (9) concern over the safety of the storage field with regard to earthquake hazards; (10) a request that a phone number for persons with safety concerns related to the storage field to call be established and/or publicized; (11) a request that the CEQA document include a description of the worst-case consequences that could occur at the storage field at current and any proposed storage capacity limits, including the consequences of an explosion at the facility and whether or not an explosion would trigger an earthquake; (12) concerns that the reconductored transmission lines could create health issues; (13) a request that the applicant employ and dedicate a full-time safety engineer, who would be unmotivated by profit incentives, to be responsible for the safety of the storage



field site and that this safety engineer conduct safety audits and implement a plan of corrective action based on the initial audit; (14) a request that the storage field plant manager be responsible and held accountable for corrective actions that could result from safety audits; (15) a request that all safety/maintenance, audit, and corrective action records be posted online on the applicant's website and made available for public viewing; (16) a request that the storage field provide ongoing safety and community relations training for all site employees; (17) a request that the safety engineer (previously referred to under comment 13) and the storage field plant manager present an annual safety report to the neighborhood councils of Porter Ranch, Granada Hills North, and Chatsworth; and (18) a request that one employee of the applicant be in charge of and responsible for the safety of the storage field site and the operation of the SCE transmission line from the Chatsworth Tap to the storage field site.

### **Hydrology and Water Quality**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding hydrology and water quality included (1) concern that the proposed project would cause contamination of water sources in the area; and (2) a request that surface water and groundwater that may be contaminated from storage field uses be appropriately analyzed.

### **Public Services and Utilities**

Comments received from members of the public during the scoping period regarding public services and utilities included concerns that the proposed project would contaminate drinking water, groundwater, lakes, and ponds in the area.

### **Comments Not Addressed in the CEQA Document**

In October 2008, the Sesnon fire caused wide-ranging damage in the Porter Ranch, Twin Lakes, and Indian Hills communities. From October 13 to 18, the fire burned more than 14,000 acres, resulting in large-scale evacuations in the area. During the fire, 89 structures were damaged, and 15 residences were destroyed. The cause of the fire was attributed to a downed electrical distribution line in the area (CALFIRE 2008).

While fire hazards and issues related to public safety will be addressed and mitigated as necessary in Section 4.8, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, of the EIR, the EIR will not address comments specifically related to the Sesnon fire received during the public comment period that were not also related to the proposed project.

### **References**

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). 2008. Sesnon Fire Incident Information. October 18.

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**A**

**Notice of Preparation**

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505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
OR INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR THE ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
PROPOSED BY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY**

**Application No. A.09-09-020**

**To: All Interested Parties**

**A. Subject**

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) has filed an application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), for the construction and operation of the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project (project). The CPUC will prepare an environmental review document to evaluate the project in accordance with the criteria, standards and procedures of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et. seq.) and the State CEQA Guidelines (California Administrative Code Sections 15000 et. seq.).

This Notice indicates the CPUC's intent to prepare either a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in accordance with CEQA. The EIR would describe the nature and extent of the environmental impacts of the project and project alternatives and would discuss mitigation measures for adverse impacts. Depending on the initial assessment of potential impacts related to the construction or operation of the project, the CPUC may instead issue an Initial Study (IS) and draft MND, if appropriate.

**B. Summary of the Proposed Project**

***Background***

SoCalGas is required to implement the proposed project in order to meet the terms of Phase 1 of the Settlement Agreement (SA) between SoCalGas and parties to the 2009 Biennial Cost Allocation Proceeding (BCAP) approved by the CPUC D.08-12-020. The SA requires that SoCalGas replace the TDCs and expand the overall injection capacity at the field by approximately 145 million cubic feet per day (MMcfd). The new compressor motors would provide reliable, efficient, and increased injection capabilities required by the terms of the SA.

## ***Project Description***

Project components project would include:

1. Construction of the proposed on-site Central Compressor Station and installation of new equipment including three variable frequency drive compressor trains, compressors, piping, coolers, and other additional required equipment.
2. Relocation of on-site office trailer facilities and an on-site guard house. The existing trailers would be replaced by new trailers at a site in proximity to the proposed Central Compressor Station. The guard house would be relocated approximately 500 feet north of the existing facility to relieve traffic congestion at the facility entrance.
3. Construction of a new on-site, four circuit, approximately 2,000-foot 12-kilovolt (kV) Plant Power Line (PPL) that would provide dedicated electric services to the proposed Central Compressor Station. The proposed PPL would be interconnected from the proposed SCE Natural Substation to the proposed Central Compressor Station. The PPL would be owned by SoCalGas and designed to San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) standards.
4. Construction of the proposed on-site SCE Natural Substation including foundation and equipment pads, electrical equipment, installation of security perimeter wall/chain link fence, access road, and capacitor bank (additional elements may be included). The proposed SCE Natural Substation would be 56 MVA, 66/12-kV with a pre-fabricated mechanical electrical and engineering room. This project component would be constructed by SCE.
5. Construction of both on-site and off-site electric modifications to two existing SCE 66-kV subtransmission lines (up to approximately 12 miles long) in order to serve the proposed Central Compressor Station's load. Modifications would also include replacement of existing towers and H-frame structures with new tubular steel poles (TSP), and installation of telecommunication lines on the poles. This project component would be constructed and owned by SCE.
6. Conduct off-site substation modifications at three existing SCE substations (Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations) that support two existing SCE 66-kV subtransmission lines. Proposed modifications include: construction of a loop-in interconnection at San Fernando to provide for two new positions and installation of new relay systems and ancillary equipment within the substation to provide advanced electrical service protection. This project component would be constructed and owned by SCE.

## ***Project Location***

The main project site is located within the Aliso Canyon gas storage field (storage field), and is approximately 3,600 acres in size. The project would involve coordination between SoCalGas, SDG&E, and SCE, and project components would pass through unincorporated Los Angeles, the City of Los Angeles, the City of Santa Clarita (in Los Angeles County), the Community of Mission Hills (in Los Angeles County), and unincorporated Ventura County. Figure 1 shows an overview of the project area.

The storage field is located at 12801 Tampa Avenue, in Northridge, California, north of the Porter Ranch Community. The Aliso Canyon Plant Station is located 0.8 miles north of Sesnon Boulevard. Project activities within the storage field property would include construction of the proposed new Central Compressor Station, relocation of the office trailers and the guard house, construction of the PPL and Natural Substation, and modification of the existing SCE 66 kV sub-transmission line (see Figure 2).

The reconductoring and pole replacement of the Chatsworth-MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando line and the MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando line would take place in the cities of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles, and portions of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The reconductoring and pole replacement of the Chatsworth-MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando line and the MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando line would originate at the Newhall Substation, located at the intersection of Wiley Canyon Road and Lyons Avenue, in the community of Newhall located in the City of Santa Clarita. The route of the proposed SCE 66 kV sub-transmission line modification would follow the existing right-of-way (ROW) from the Newhall Substation toward Interstate 5 (I-5) south to the SCE Chatsworth tap, at tap point A, located approximately 4 miles south of the Newhall Substation. At the Chatsworth tap, the route of the proposed sub-transmission line modification would traverse in a southwesterly direction to the proposed SCE Natural Substation location (see Figure 1).

Additional off-site improvements would include modifications at SCE's Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations. The Newhall Substation is located within the community of Newhall in the city of Santa Clarita; the Chatsworth Substation is located near the Chatsworth Reservoir, near Valley Circle Road and Plummer Street; and the San Fernando Substation is located near the intersection of San Fernando Mission Boulevard and Sepulveda Boulevard in the community of Mission Hills in Los Angeles County (see Figure 1).

## ***Project Construction***

Construction of the project components could occur concurrently. Construction-related activities are estimated to take 22 months to complete.

## ***Operations and Maintenance***

### *Storage Field Project Components*

The project components that would be located within the storage field would be integrated into SoCalGas's existing safety measures, operational controls, and maintenance and monitoring procedures, including procedures and best management practices for fire safety and stormwater drainage. Operations and maintenance activities would be performed by SoCalGas operations and maintenance personnel except at the Natural Substation owned and operated by SCE, as described below.

### *SCE Natural Substation and SCE Electric Sub-transmission Lines*

The proposed SCE Natural Substation would be unstaffed, and electrical equipment within the proposed SCE Natural Substation would be remotely monitored and controlled by an automated system from SCE's Regional Control Center. SCE personnel would perform routine site visits for electrical switching and maintenance purposes. Routine maintenance would include equipment testing, equipment monitoring, and repair. Routine site visits to the proposed SCE Natural Substation would be typically performed three to four times per month.

The modified Chatsworth-MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando line and MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando line would be maintained in a manner consistent with CPUC General Order (GO) 95 and CPUC GO 165. The sub-transmission lines may occasionally require emergency repairs, which would be conducted by SCE personnel.

### C. Project Alternatives

If an EIR is confirmed to be the appropriate CEQA document for environmental review of the project, reasonable project alternatives will be identified and analyzed in the Draft EIR. Agencies and the public will be given the opportunity to comment on the project alternatives considered following publication of the Draft EIR during the 45-day comment period. A Notice of Availability (NOA) will be issued at the time of the publication of the Draft EIR to inform the public and agencies that the 45-day comment period for the Draft EIR has been initiated.

If an MND is confirmed to be the appropriate CEQA document for environmental review of the project, the public will be given the opportunity to comment following publication of the Draft MND during the 30-day comment period. A Notice of Availability (NOA) will be issued at the time of the publication of the Draft MND to inform the public and agencies that the 30-day comment period for the Draft MND has been initiated.

### D. Scope of EIR and Discussion of Potential Impacts

CEQA requires agencies to consider environmental impacts that may result from a proposed project, to inform the public of potential impacts and alternatives, and to facilitate public involvement in the assessment process. The CEQA document prepared for the project will describe in detail the nature and extent of the environmental impacts of the project, and will discuss appropriate mitigation measures for any adverse impacts. The EIR will include, among other matters, discussions of the project objectives, a description of the affected environment, an evaluation of the environmental impacts of the proposed project, and proposed mitigation to reduce environmental impacts to a less-than-significant level. If it is found that all environmental impacts can be mitigated to a less-than-significant level, an MND will be prepared.

The Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (PEA), prepared by SoCalGas for the project, identified the following potential environmental impacts. The EIR may identify additional impacts.

**Table 1: Potential Project Issues or Impacts**

<b>Environmental Issue Area</b>	<b>Potential Issues or Impact</b>
<b><i>Aesthetics</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of the SCE project elements could result in impacts to aesthetics.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Air Quality</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction could result in an exceedance of nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) emissions above the CEQA threshold.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Biological Resources</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction could result in impacts to native habitat including Venturan coastal sage scrub.</li> </ul>
<b><i>Cultural Resources</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of some project elements could result in impacts to historic resources.</li> </ul>



## **E. Project Scoping Process and Scoping Meetings**

Circulation of this Notice opens a public comment period on the scope of the CEQA document that extends from October 21, 2010 through November 22, 2010. The CPUC invites interested parties to the following public scoping meetings for the project:

- Thursday, November 4, 2010 at the **Porter Valley Country Club**, 19216 Singing Hills Drive, Northridge, CA 91326
  - Open House: 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM.
  - Presentation and Public Comment Session: 7:00 PM
- Friday, November 5, 2010 at the **Wiley Canyon Elementary School**, 24607 Walnut St, Newhall, CA 91321
  - Open House: 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM
  - Presentation and Public Comment Session: 7:00 PM

The public is invited to present comments about the project and scope of the environmental document at either or both of the above meetings. Comments may also be mailed, faxed, or emailed to the CPUC during the NOP comment period specified above. Comments may be mailed to the following address:

**Public Scoping Comments**  
**RE: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project**  
**c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.**  
**130 Battery Street, Suite #400**  
**San Francisco, CA 94111**

Emailed comments may be sent to the following address: [AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com](mailto:AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com). Faxed comments may be sent to the following number: (415) 981-0801. Voice messages may be left at (877) 676-8678. Please include your name and mailing address at the bottom of the comment for mailed, faxed, and emailed comments and note the "Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project."

**Comments on the scope and content of the CEQA document must be received or postmarked by *Monday, November 22, 2010*, to be accepted.** No comments will be accepted after the scoping comment period is closed. Interested parties will have an additional opportunity to comment on the project during the 45-day public review period to be held for the Draft EIR.

## **F. Agency Comments**

This NOP has been sent to responsible and trustee agencies, cooperating federal agencies, and the State Clearinghouse. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information, which reflects your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed project. Once again, responses should identify the issues to be considered in the CEQA document, including significant environmental issues, alternatives, mitigation measures, and whether the responding agency will be a responsible agency or a trustee agency. Due to the time limits mandated by State laws, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but no later than 30 days (November 22, 2010) after receipt of this notice. Please send your response to:

**Public Scoping Comments**  
**RE: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project**  
**c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.**  
**130 Battery Street, Suite #400**  
**San Francisco, CA 94111**

**G. Additional Information**

Information about the Aliso Canyon Project and the CEQA compliance process is available at the following website:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/Environment/Current+Projects/>

The website will be used to post all public documents related to the CEQA document. No public comments will be accepted on this website; however, the website will provide a sign-up option for interested parties to be placed on the project mailing list, and a printable comment form.

The CEQA Guidelines are available at the following website:

[http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env\\_law/ceqa/guidelines/](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/)

Appendix G of the CEQA Guidelines, which serves as an environmental checklist for all CPUC CEQA documents, is available here:

[http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/guidelines/pdf/appendix\\_g-3.pdf](http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/guidelines/pdf/appendix_g-3.pdf)

**The California Public Utilities Commission hereby issues this Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report or Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration.**

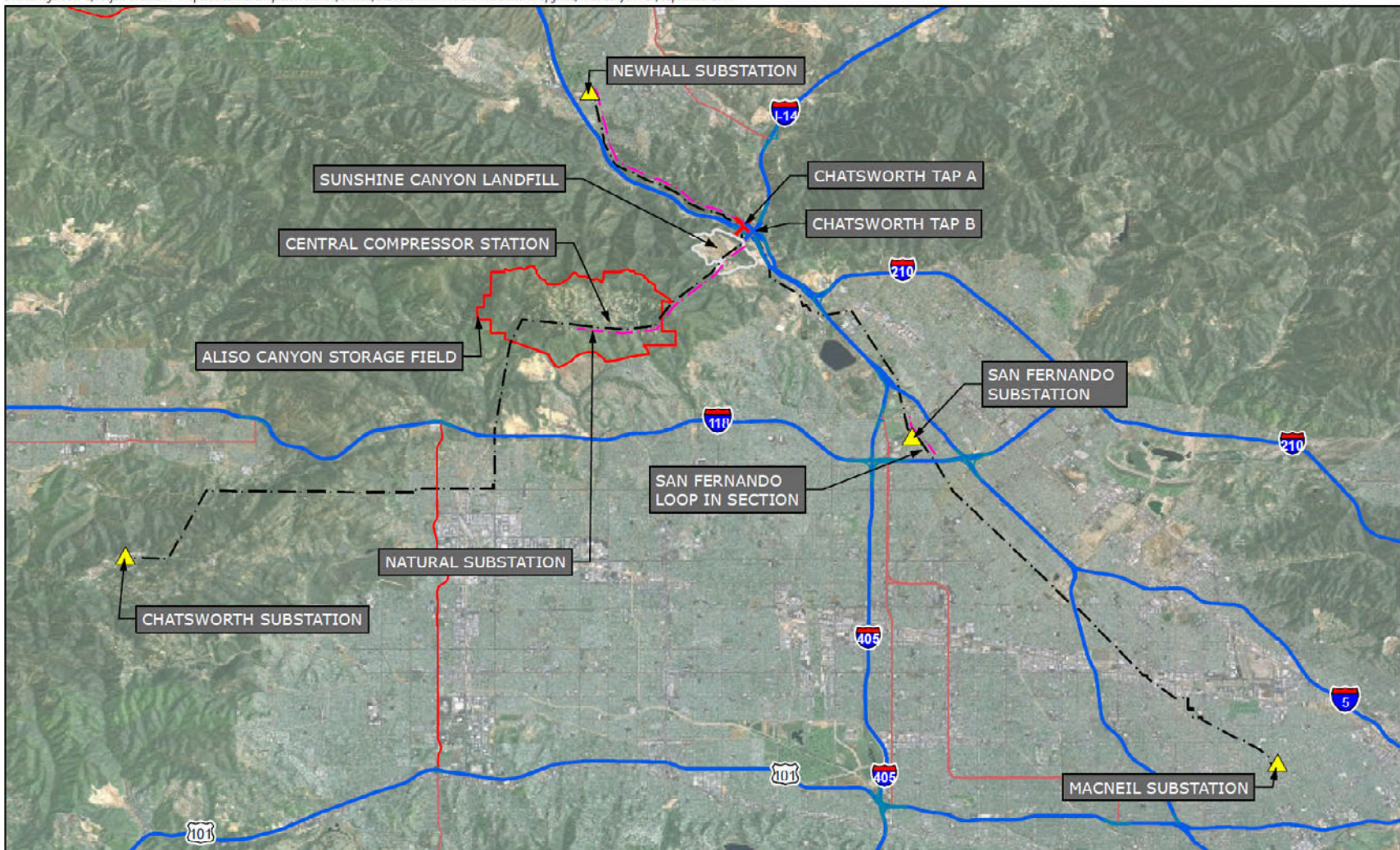
Andrew Barnsdale, Project Manager  
California Public Utilities Commission

October 21, 2010

**Attachments:**

**Figure 1 – Project Overview**

**Figure 2 – Project Components Within the Storage Field**



<p><b>Map Location</b></p>	<p><b>Legend</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Proposed SCE 66 kV Modification</li> <li> Existing SCE 66 kV Alignment</li> <li> Aliso Canyon Storage Field</li> <li> Existing Substation</li> <li> Existing SCE Chatsworth Tap A</li> <li> Proposed SCE Chatsworth Tap B</li> <li> Sunshine Canyon Landfill</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">   </p>
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Figure 1  
**Project Overview**

002975.CP13.02.a (Archives - Lacie2) 10/19/2010





Legend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: magenta;">- - -</span> Proposed SCE 66 kV Modification</li> <li><span style="color: black;">- - -</span> Existing SCE 66 kV Alignment</li> <li><span style="color: blue;">- - -</span> PPL</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>0 500 1,000 2,000 Feet</p> </div>
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Figure 2  
**Project Overview**  
 Proposed Project Components  
 Within the Storage Field

002975.CP13.02.b (Archives - Lacie2) 10/19/2010



505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

**ERRATA FOR**

**Notice of Preparation  
Environmental Impact Report  
Or Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration  
For the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
Proposed by Southern California Gas Company**

**Application No. A.09-09-020**

**To: All Interested Parties**

The Notice of Preparation for the Environmental Impact Report or Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project proposed by Southern California Gas Company, Application Number A.09-09-020 (NOP) contained an error with regard to the address for the location of the second scheduled public scoping meeting. Instead of 24607 Walnut St, Newhall, CA 91321 (which is the address for the Newhall Elementary School), the correct date, time, and address for the meeting are as follows:

**Date: Friday, November 5, 2010**

**Time: Open House: 6:30 to 7:00 PM; Presentation/Public Comment Session: 7:00 PM**

**Location: Wiley Canyon Elementary School  
24240 La Glorita Circle  
Newhall, CA 91321**

We regret any inconvenience this error may have caused.

Andrew Barnsdale, Project Manager  
California Public Utilities Commission

October 26, 2010

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# B

## Scoping Meeting Materials

- B.1 Registration Sheet**
- B.2 Speaker Card**
- B.3 Written Comment Sheet**
- B.4 Project Fact Sheet**
- B.5 Scoping Meeting PowerPoint Presentation**



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# B.1

## Registration Sheet

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11/4

### California Public Utilities Commission

Public Scoping Meeting on the Proposed Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
November, 2010

Name	Affiliation (If Applicable)	Address	email	Request CD of Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
Wes Rogers	Stakeholder	19371 VISTARANCE Way NORTHridge	wrogers1@Socx. rr.com	
AL GARCIA	Project Proponent	555 W. FIFTH ST LOS ANGELES, CA	agarcia6@Sempna. com	
Christine McLeod		2244 Walnut Grove Rosemead, CA	Christine.McLeod@ SCE.COM	
DeeDee + Gus Bolona ANDY (unrelated)		19016 Muir Kirk DR Porter Ranch 19080 Kiffinem st PR 91326	Deedee2000@Aol GUS4HOMES@Aol -	✓
Dick Rippey	PRNC	18910 Killimore Ct Porter Ranch 91326	daripeearthlink.net	✓
Lisa Solana	PRNC # 102 Banned Down	19502 Puma Place <del>185428 Puma</del> #1767	Lisa Solana LISA SOLANA	yes

11466 Viking Avenue  
Porter Ranch, CA 91326

11/4

### California Public Utilities Commission

Public Scoping Meeting on the Proposed Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
November, 2010

**Note:** Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Name	Affiliation (If Applicable)	Address	email	Request CD of Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
Tony Cusdon	LA Daily News	21860 Burbank Blvd Woodland Hills 91367	tony.cusdon@dailynews.com	✓
JANE LOWENTHAL	STATE LIBRARY COMMISSIONER + STAKEHOLDER	19360 RINALDI Suite 450 PR 91326	4 porterranch@gmail.com	✓
JOHN RAMADAN	STAKEHOLDER			
Larry Sasadowsz		10322 Encino Ave GH, CA 91314		
Linda Coburn	Chatsworth Patch		linda.coburn@gmail	✓
LARRY GREEN		10751 DUBOIS MOUNTAIN CANYON MOUNTAIN, CA 91311	HILLERS MACHENDA @YAHOO.COM	✓
GARDEN WOLFE		18733 KILGAMAN ST NORTH RIDGE	GWW174@AOL.COM	✓

Newhall

### California Public Utilities Commission

Public Scoping Meeting on the Proposed Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
November, 2010

**Note:** Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Name	Affiliation (If Applicable)	Address	email	Request CD of Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
ANTHONY CARRETTI		24813 FOURLE ROAD NEWHALL	carelli2@earthlink.net	X
Christina + Patrick Lopez		23812 Vally oak ct Newhall ca 91321	CHRISNGINS@hotmail.com	X

Newhall

### California Public Utilities Commission

Public Scoping Meeting on the Proposed Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
November, 2010

Note: Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Name	Affiliation (If Applicable)	Address	email	Request CD of Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
Jackie Bick	Sen P George Runner		JACKIE.BICK@SEN.CA GOV	
A.B.G. Wilson	HOME OWNER	25123 FOUR ROAD NEWHALL	mackenzie15@sbcglobal. net	
Juanita Contreras	HOME OWNER		R1880ATT.NET	
AL GARCIA	Project Applicant		Agarcia6@Sempna Utilities. com	
Larry Sanderson	SCG			
DENNIS HORN	HOME OWNER	25016 WILEY CYN. RD.	TINEX108@YAHOO.COM	✓

# B.2

**Speaker Card**

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**NAME:**

**AFFILIATION (if applicable):**

**California Public Utilities Commission**

Public Scoping Meeting on the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
November 4, 2010

**REQUEST TO SPEAK**

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**B.3**

**Written Comment Sheet**

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# B.4

## Project Fact Sheet

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## Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project

### Project Overview

The Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) is proposing to construct the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project (Aliso Canyon Project) at the Aliso Canyon natural gas storage field facility. The Aliso Canyon Project would primarily involve replacing existing natural gas compressors at the facility, which would allow SoCalGas to increase the facility's natural gas injection capacity from 300 to 445 million cubic feet per day. The storage and daily withdrawal capacity of the facility would remain the same. The project would be located mainly in an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will prepare either an Environmental Impact Report or an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project. This environmental document will describe the nature and extent of the impacts resulting from the project and project alternatives, and will discuss mitigation measures for any adverse impacts that are identified.

2. Relocation of on-site office trailer facilities and an on-site guard house;
3. Construction of a new on-site, approximately 2,000-foot 12-kilovolt (kV) Plant Power Line that would provide dedicated electric services to the proposed Central Compressor Station;
4. Construction of a new 56 Megavolt Ampere, 66/12-kV electric substation (the Natural Substation) by Southern California Edison (Edison);
5. Modifications that would be made by Edison to two existing 66-kV subtransmission lines (up to approximately 12 miles long) in order to serve the proposed Central Compressor Station's load; and
6. Modifications that would be made by Edison to three existing substations (Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations).

### Project Components

The Aliso Canyon Project would involve the following:

1. Construction of a new Central Compressor Station at the facility site, including the installation of three variable frequency drive compressor trains, compressors, and other equipment;



Hikers above O'Melveny Park



Red-tailed hawk

## Objectives of the Turbine Replacement Project

SoCalGas is proposing the Aliso Canyon Project to meet the terms of a Settlement Agreement between SoCalGas and parties to the 2009 Biennial Cost Allocation Proceeding (Decision D.08-12-020) approved by the CPUC. The project's objective is to ensure a reliable, efficient natural gas supply in order to support power generation and serve the heating, cooling, and other energy needs of industrial, commercial, and residential users.

## Potential Impacts Identified

In its initial review of the project, the CPUC has identified potential adverse environmental impacts to:

**Aesthetics** – Construction of the Edison project elements could result in impacts to views in the area.

**Air Quality** – Construction activities could result in an exceedance of emissions of nitrogen oxides above the CEQA threshold.

**Biological Resources** – Construction activities could result in impacts to native habitat, including Venturan coastal sage scrub.

**Cultural Resources** – Construction of some project elements could result in impacts to historic resources.

## Public Scoping Comments and Next Steps

The CPUC invites the public to present comments about the project and the scope of the environmental document. Comments may be mailed, emailed, or left verbally at one of two public scoping meetings or on the CPUC's hotline for the project (information below). All public scoping comments must be received or postmarked by November 22, 2010. Once the public scoping period ends, the CPUC will prepare a draft CEQA document, which will be circulated for review and further comment.



*Coast live oak*



*Chamise chaparral*



*Coast horned lizard*

## For more information...

**Website:** [http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/ene/aliso\\_canyon/aliso\\_canyon\\_home.html](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/ene/aliso_canyon/aliso_canyon_home.html)

**Email:** [AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com](mailto:AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com)

**Mail:** Aliso Canyon Project, c/o Ecology and Environment, 130 Battery Street #400, San Francisco, CA 94111

**Information Hotline:** (877) 676-8678

# B.5

## Scoping Meeting PowerPoint Presentation

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# Before the meeting starts...

**Please:**

- **Sign in**
- **Pick up meeting materials**
- **Fill out a speaker card if you want to comment**
- **Pick up comment cards for written comments**

**Public Scoping Period Ends:  
November 22, 2010**

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project



**CEQA Public Scoping Meetings  
November 4 and 5, 2010**

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Public Scoping Meeting Agenda

- **Introduction**
- **Purpose of the Meeting**
- **CPUC and Environmental Review Process**
- **Description of the Project**
- **Potential Environmental Impacts**
- **How to Comment**

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Purposes of the Public Meeting

1. Share information about the Aliso Canyon Project
2. Solicit input from the public and agencies on the scope of the Notice of Preparation

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT





# CPUC and the Environmental Review Process

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Aliso Canyon Project

## Introduction and Background

- The Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) has filed an application with the CPUC to replace the compressor turbines and expand injection capacity at the Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Facility.
- This project will allow SoCalGas to comply with a Settlement Agreement approved by the CPUC in Decision D.08-12-020.

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# CPUC Process for Project Review

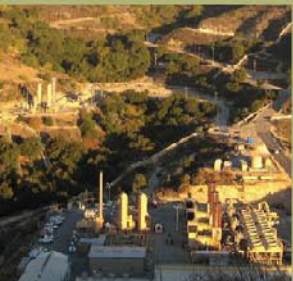
The CPUC process has two parts

1. Ratemaking (Need, Cost, Feasibility and Rates)
2. Environmental Review

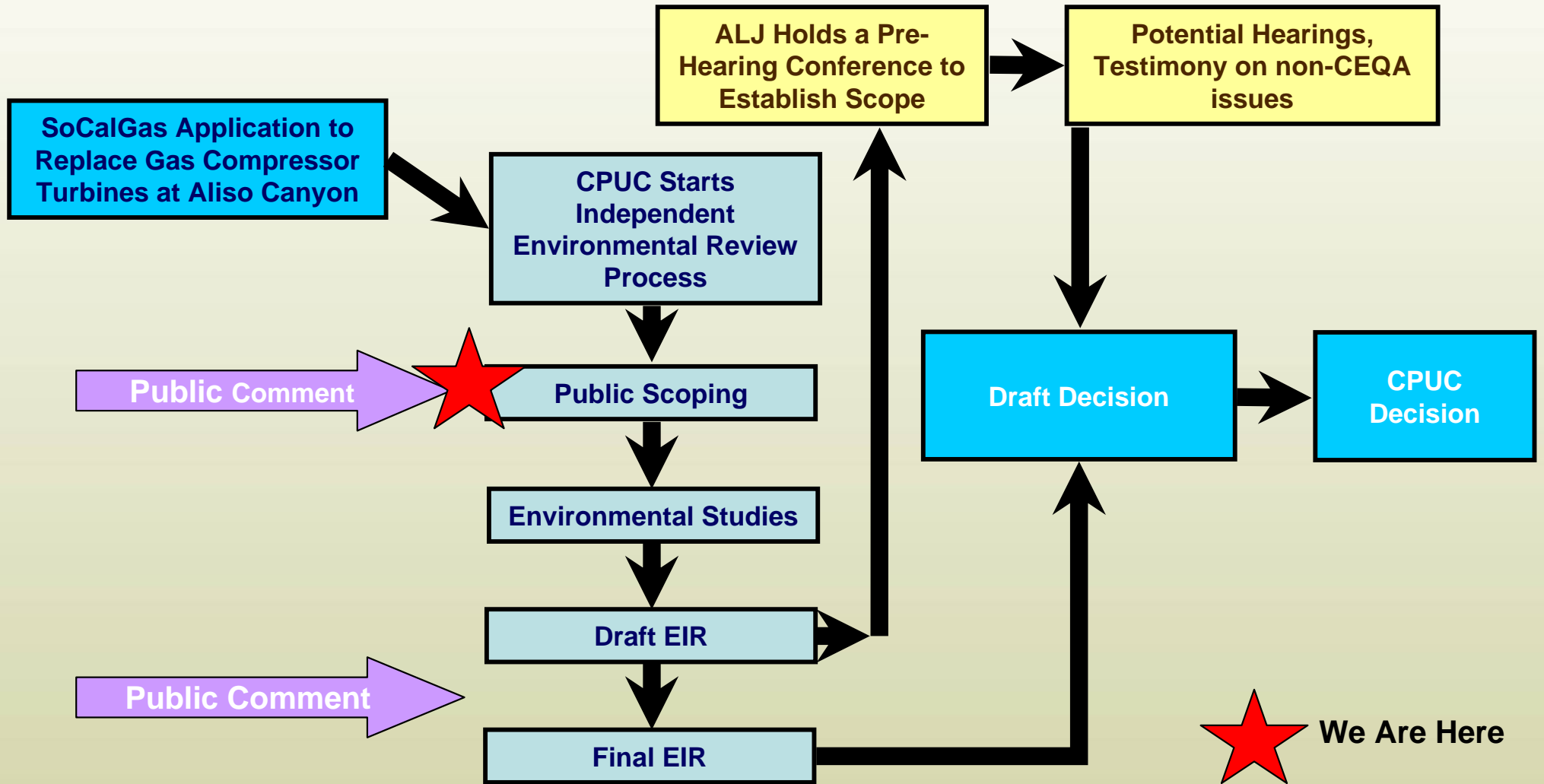
Today's meeting is about Environmental Review

- Compliance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# CPUC Process for Project Review



ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT







For Additional Information:  
<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov>

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Aliso Canyon Project and CEQA Document

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Key Players and Their Roles

## California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

Lead agency under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- **Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E&E) is the environmental (CEQA) contractor for CPUC**

## Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas)

Applicant and Project Developer

- **Southern California Edison (Edison): Will implement certain elements**

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# History of the Aliso Canyon Natural Gas Storage Field

**1936 – 1974:** Oil and natural gas reservoir

- 60 million barrels of oil, 180 million cubic feet of gas recovered

**1974:** Aliso Canyon began serving as a natural gas storage field

- Three turbine-driven compressors installed in 1970s

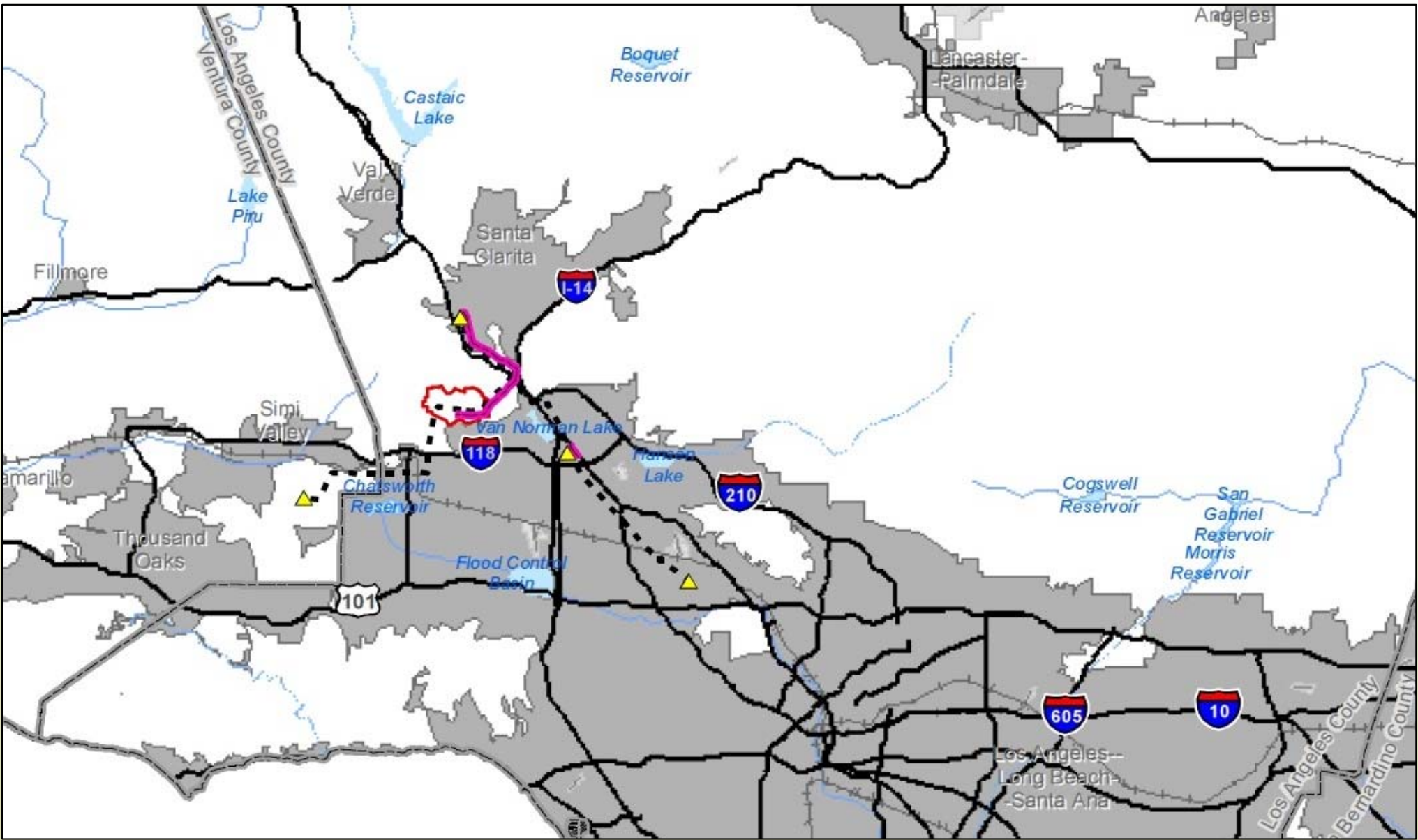
**SoCalGas's largest natural gas storage field, one of largest in U.S.**

- 84 billion cubic feet (Bcf) working storage capacity
- 1.875 Bcf per day withdrawal
- 300 million cubic feet per day injection

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT





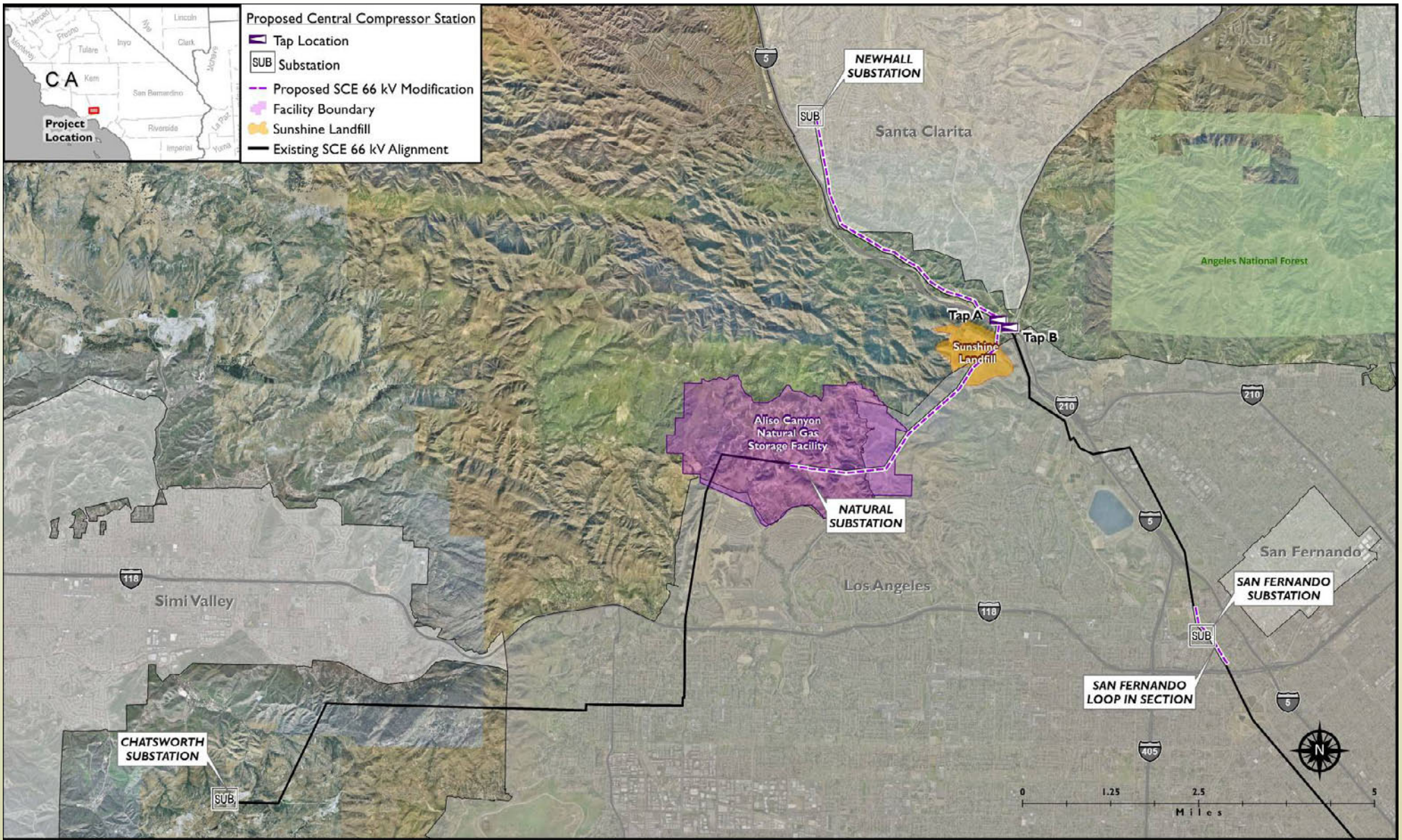


Source: AECOM 2009

## ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT







## ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT





# Description of the Aliso Canyon Project

## Project Components

### ***Natural Gas Storage Field:***

- On-site Central Compressor Station
- Relocation of office trailer facilities and guard house
- Natural Substation
- Plant Power Line (12kV) for proposed compressor station
- Widen entrance access road

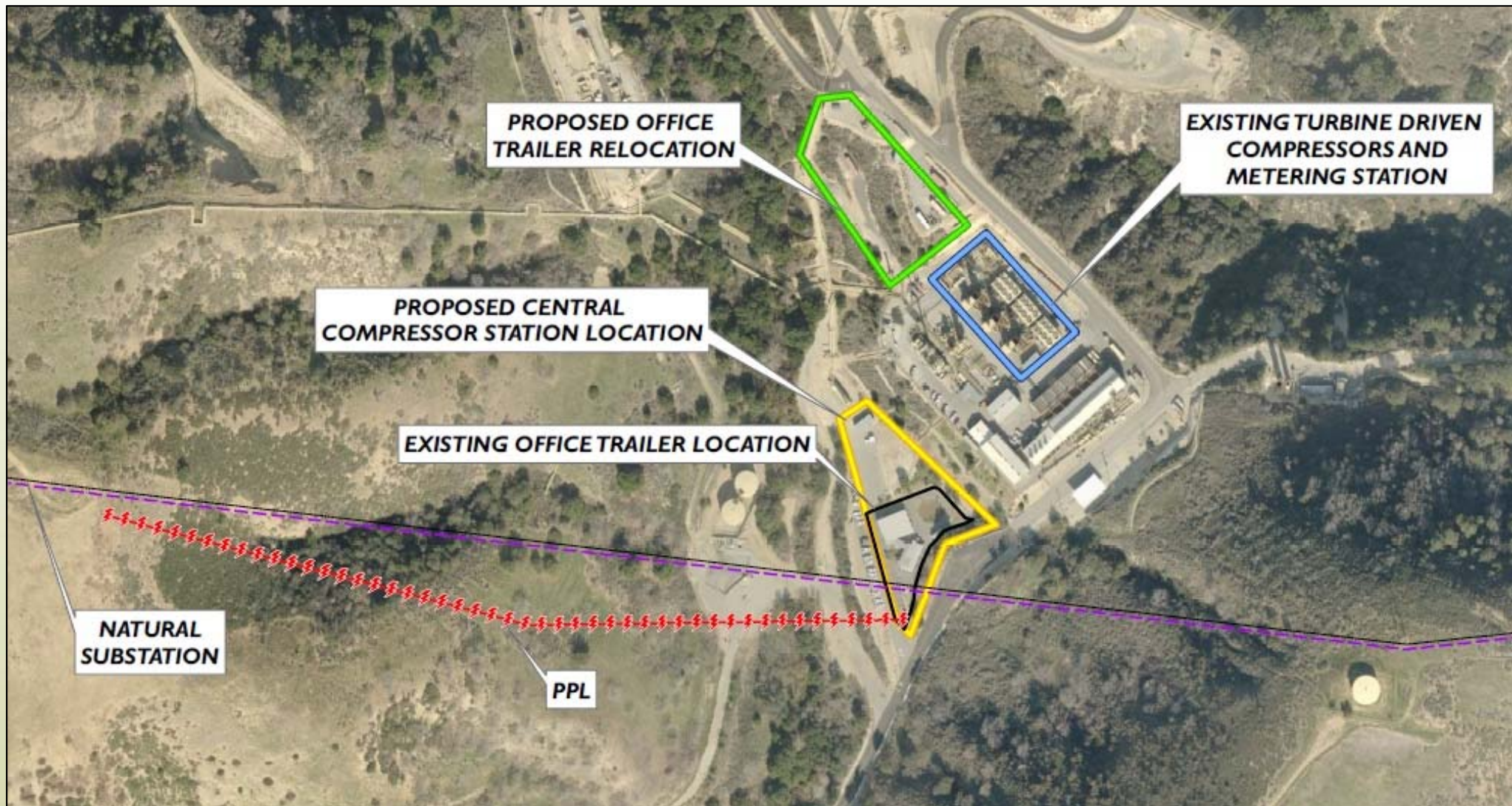
### ***Off-Site Components (Southern California Edison):***

- Reconductor two existing 66 kV subtransmission lines
- Modifications to three existing substations (Newhall, Chatsworth, San Fernando)

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT







## ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT





# Description of the Aliso Canyon Project

## Construction of New Guard House and Widened Access Road



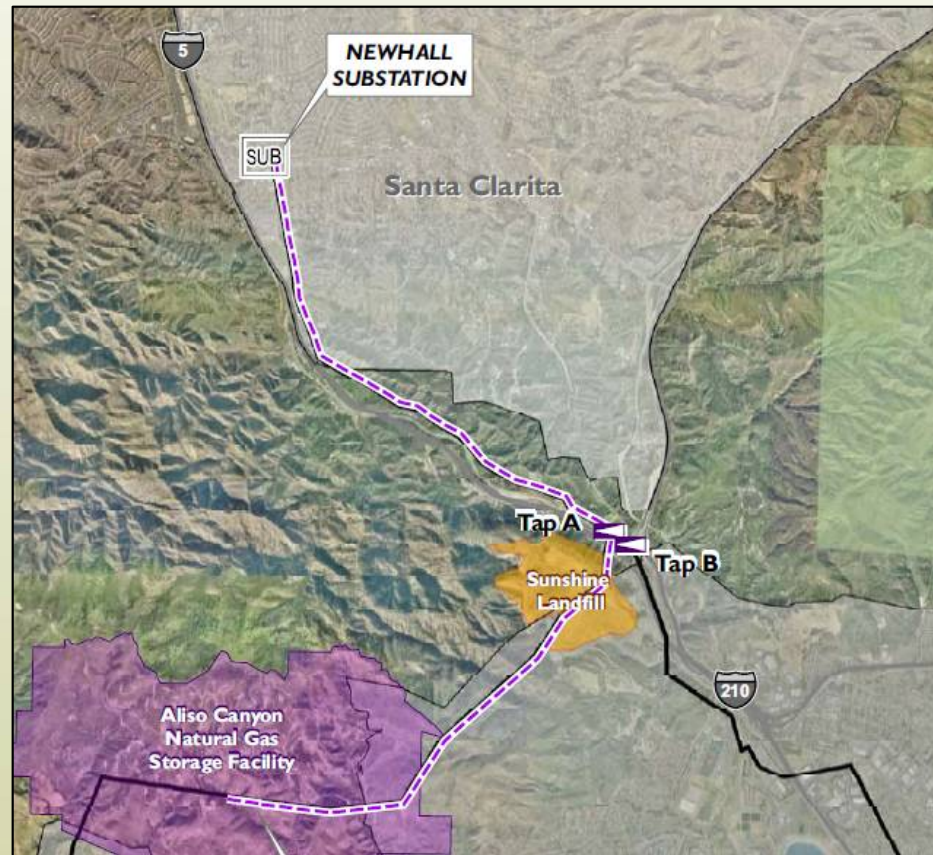
Source: AECOM 2009

## ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Description of the Aliso Canyon Project

SCE MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando and Chatsworth MacNeil-Newhall-San Fernando line Reconductoring and Pole Replacement



ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT





# Description of the Aliso Canyon Project

## Offsite Substation Modifications

- Installation of new equipment at SCE's Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations
- San Fernando Substation (TSP replacement)

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# CEQA Approach

- SoCalGas has submitted an application to CPUC to update Aliso Canyon facility
- CPUC is CEQA lead agency – required to review environmental impacts of SoCalGas’s proposal
- E&E (CPUC contractor) is conducting the environmental review under CEQA

## Environmental Impact Report (EIR) vs. Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT





# Aliso Canyon Project: Potential Environmental Impacts

Potential environmental impacts were initially identified for:

- **Aesthetics** – Construction of the Southern California Edison project elements could result in impacts to aesthetics
- **Air Quality** – Construction could result in an exceedance of emissions of nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>) above the CEQA threshold
- **Biological Resources** – Construction could result in impacts to native habitat, including Venturan costal sage scrub
- **Cultural Resources** – Construction of some project elements could result in impacts to historic resources

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# How to Make Comments

Provide comments in person at this meeting, or submit written comments via mail or email:

Email: [AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com](mailto:AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com)

Mail: Attention: Aliso Canyon Project  
c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.  
130 Battery Street #400  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Information Hotline: (877) 676-8678

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# For More Information

## CPUC Website for the Aliso Canyon Project:

[www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/ene/aliso\\_canyon/  
aliso\\_canyon\\_home](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/ene/aliso_canyon/aliso_canyon_home)

Written public scoping comments must be received or  
postmarked by November 22, 2010

ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



# Thank You



ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT





**C**

**Comment Letters**

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Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Governor's Office of Planning and Research  
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Cathleen Cox  
Acting Director

Notice of Preparation

October 25, 2010

To: Reviewing Agencies

Re: Aliso Canyon Turbine Project  
SCH# 2010101075

Attached for your review and comment is the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the Aliso Canyon Turbine Project draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

Responsible agencies must transmit their comments on the scope and content of the NOP, focusing on specific information related to their own statutory responsibility, within 30 days of receipt of the NOP from the Lead Agency. This is a courtesy notice provided by the State Clearinghouse with a reminder for you to comment in a timely manner. We encourage other agencies to also respond to this notice and express their concerns early in the environmental review process.

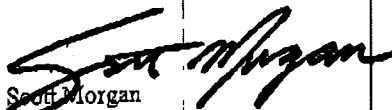
Please direct your comments to:

Andrew Barnsdale  
California Public Utilities Commission  
Energy Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102

with a copy to the State Clearinghouse in the Office of Planning and Research. Please refer to the SCH number noted above in all correspondence concerning this project.

If you have any questions about the environmental document review process, please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613.

Sincerely,

  
Scott Morgan  
Director, State Clearinghouse

Attachments  
cc: Lead Agency

**Document Details Report  
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

**SCH#** 2010101075  
**Project Title** Aliso Canyon Turbine Project  
**Lead Agency** Public Utilities Commission

**Type** NOP Notice of Preparation  
**Description** Construction of the proposed on-site Central Compressor Station, Relocation of on-site office trailer facilities and an on-site guard house. Construction of a new on-site, 4 circuit, approximately 2,000 sf 12-kilovolt (kV) Plant Power Line (PPL. Construction of the proposed on-site SCE Natural Substation including foundation and equipment pads, electrical equipment, installation of security perimeter wall/chain link fence, access road, and capacitor bank (additional elements may be included. Construction of both on-site and off-site electric modifications to 2 existing SCE 66-kV subtransmission lines (up to ~12 miles long). Conduct off-site substation modifications at 3 existing SCE substations (Newhall, Shatsworth, and San Fernando Substations) that support 2 existing SCE 66-kV subtransmission lines.

**Lead Agency Contact**

**Name** Andrew Barnsdale  
**Agency** California Public Utilities Commission  
**Phone** 415-703-3221 **Fax** (877) 676-8678  
**email** AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com  
**Address** Energy Commission  
 505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor  
**City** San Francisco **State** CA **Zip** 94102

**Project Location**

**County** Los Angeles, Ventura  
**City** Los Angeles, City of  
**Region**  
**Cross Streets** Senson Blvd and Tampa Ave  
**Lat / Long** 34° 18' 26" N / 118° 33' 06" W  
**Parcel No.** Multiple, including 282-100-580 (central)  
**Township** **Range** **Section** **Base**

**Proximity to:**

**Highways** Hwy 118, 14  
**Airports**  
**Railways** Metro Link, Amtrack  
**Waterways** Santa Clara River (Upper), Los Angeles Reservoir  
**Schools** Several  
**Land Use** Z: Various  
 GP: Non-urban, open space, rural/non-urban residential, urban residential, commercial, mixed use, public/institutional, transportation corridor

**Project Issues** Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Cumulative Effects; Drainage/Absorption; Economics/Jobs; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Minerals; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Recreation/Parks; Public Services; Schools/Universities; Septic System; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply; Wetland/Riparian

**Reviewing Agencies** Resources Agency; Department of Conservation; Cal Fire; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Water Resources; Department of Fish and Game, Region 5; Native American Heritage Commission; California Highway Patrol; Caltrans, District 7; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 4

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.



<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Agency Nadell Geyou	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region 1E Laurie Harnsberger	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American Heritage Comm. Debbie Treadway	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 8 Dan Kopulsky	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Boating & Waterways Mike Solislo	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region 2 Jeff Drongesen	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Utilities Commission Leo Wong	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 9 Gayle Rosander	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 1 Cathleen Hudson North Coast Region (1)
<input type="checkbox"/> California Coastal Commission Elizabeth A. Fuchs	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region 3 Charles Armor	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Monica Bay Restoration Guangyu Wang	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 10 Tom Dumas	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 2 Environmental Document Coordinator San Francisco Bay Region (2)
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorado River Board Gerald R. Zimneman	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region 4 Julie Vance	<input type="checkbox"/> State Lands Commission Marina Brand	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 11 Jacob Armstrong	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 3 Central Coast Region (3)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Conservation Rebecca Salazar	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region 5 Don Chadwick	<input type="checkbox"/> Tahoe-Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Cherry Jacques	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 12 Chris Herre	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 4 Teresa Rodgers Los Angeles Region (4)
<input type="checkbox"/> California Energy Commission Eric Knight	<input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Conservation Program Gabraha Gatchal	<input type="checkbox"/> Business, Trans & Housing Caltrans - Division of Aeronautics Sandy Hesnard	<input type="checkbox"/> Airport Projects Jim Lerner	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 5S Central Valley Region (5)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cal Fire Allen Robertson	<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region 6 Brad Henderson	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans - Planning Terri Pencovic	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Projects Douglas Ito	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 5F Central Valley Region (5) Fresno Branch Office
<input type="checkbox"/> Gen. Nat. Water/Flood Protection Board James Hixola	<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Fish & Game M George Isaac Marine Region	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> California-Highway Patrol Scott Loetscher	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial Projects Mike Tollstrup	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 5R Central Valley Region (5) Redding Branch Office
<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Historic Preservation Wayne Donaldson	<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Parks & Recreation Environmental Stewardship Section	<input type="checkbox"/> Office of Special Projects Housing & Community Development CEQA Coordinator Housing Policy Division	<input type="checkbox"/> State Water Resources Control Board Regional Programs Unit Division of Financial Assistance	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 6 Lahontan Region (6)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Parks & Recreation Environmental Stewardship Section	<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Agriculture Steve Shaifer	<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Transportation Caltrans, District 1 Rex Jackman	<input type="checkbox"/> State Water Resources Control Board Student Intern, 401 Water Quality Certification Unit Division of Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 8V Lahontan Region (6) Victorville Branch Office
<input type="checkbox"/> California Department of Resources, Recycling & Recovery Sue O'Leary	<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of General Services Public School Construction	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 2 Marcelino Gonzalez	<input type="checkbox"/> State Water Resources Control Board Steven Herrera Division of Water Rights	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 7 Colorado River Basin Region (7)
<input type="checkbox"/> S.F. Bay Conservation & Dev't. Comm. Steve Mckdam	<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of General Services Environmental Services Section	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 3 Bruce de Terra	<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Toxic Substances Control CEQA Tracking Center	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 8 Santa Ana Region (8)
<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Water Resources Resources Agency Nadell Geyou	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Commissions, Boards Delta Protection Commission Linda Flack	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 4 Lisa Carboni	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Pesticide Regulation CEQA Coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/> RWQCB 9 San Diego Region (9)
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<input type="checkbox"/> Fish and Game Dept. of Fish & Game Scott Flynn Environmental Services Division	<input type="checkbox"/> Governor's Office of Planning & Research State Clearinghouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 6 Michael Navarro		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fish & Game Region 1 Donald Koch		<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 7 Elmer Alvarez		

Last Updated on 03/24/10

**Document Details Report**  
**State Clearinghouse Data Base**

**SCH#** 2010101075  
**Project Title** Aliso Canyon Turbine Project  
**Lead Agency** Public Utilities Commission

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**Type** NOP Notice of Preparation

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**Lead Agency Contact**

**Name** Andrew Barnsdale  
**Agency** California Public Utilities Commission  
**Phone** 415-703-3221 **Fax** (877) 676-8678  
**email** AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com  
**Address** Energy Commission  
 505 Van Ness Avenue, 4th Floor  
**City** San Francisco **State** CA **Zip** 94102

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**Project Issues** Aesthetic/Visual; Agricultural Land; Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Biological Resources; Cumulative Effects; Drainage/Absorption; Economics/Jobs; Flood Plain/Flooding; Forest Land/Fire Hazard; Geologic/Seismic; Growth Inducing; Landuse; Minerals; Noise; Population/Housing Balance; Recreation/Parks; Public Services; Schools/Universities; Septic System; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Solid Waste; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Water Supply Wetland/Riparian

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		<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 6 Michael Navarro		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Caltrans, District 7 Elmer Alvarez		

Last Updated on 03/24/10

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

815 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364  
 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
 (916) 653-6251  
 Fax (916) 657-3390  
 Web Site [www.nahc.ca.gov](http://www.nahc.ca.gov)  
 e-mail: [da\\_nahc@pacbell.net](mailto:da_nahc@pacbell.net)



October 26, 2010

Mr. Andrew Barnsdale

**California Public Utilities Commission**

505 Van Ness Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: SCH#2010101007 CEQA Notice of Preparation (NOP); draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Aliso Canyon Turbine Project including Modifications to existing Southern California Edison Substations and Subtransmission Lines; located in the northern San Fernando Valley; Los Angeles County, California

Dear Mr. Barnsdale:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) is the state 'trustee agency' pursuant to Public Resources Code §21070 for the protection and preservation of California's Native American Cultural Resources. (Also see *Environmental Protection Information Center v. Johnson* (1985) 170 Cal App. 3<sup>rd</sup> 604). The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA - CA Public Resources Code §21000-21177, amendment effective 3/18/2010) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the California Code of Regulations §15064.5(b)(c)(f) CEQA guidelines). Section 15382 of the CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including ... objects of historic or aesthetic significance. The lead agency is required to assess whether the project will have an adverse impact on these resources within the 'area of potential effect (APE)', and if so, to mitigate that effect. State law also addresses Native American Religious Expression in Public Resources Code §5097.9.

The Native American Heritage Commission did perform a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search in the NAHC SLF Inventory, established by the Legislature pursuant to Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and Native American Cultural Resources were not identified in the Area of Potential Effect (APE). However, there are Native American cultural resources in close proximity to the APE. It is important to do early consultation with Native American tribes in your area as the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries once a project is underway and to learn of any sensitive cultural areas. Enclosed are the names of the culturally affiliated tribes and interested Native American individuals that the NAHC recommends as 'consulting parties,' for this purpose, that may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties in the project area (e.g. APE). A Native American Tribe or Tribal Elder may be the only source of information about a cultural resource.. Also, the NAHC recommends that a Native American Monitor or Native American culturally knowledgeable person be employed whenever a professional archaeologist is employed during the 'Initial Study' and in other phases of the environmental planning processes.

Furthermore the NAHC recommends that you contact the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) of the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP), for information on recorded archaeological data. This information is available at the OHP Office in Sacramento (916) 445-7000.

Consultation with tribes and interested Native American tribes and interested Native American individuals, as consulting parties, on the NAHC list, should be conducted in compliance with the requirements of federal NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321-43351) and Section 106 and 4(f) of federal NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470 [f] et seq), 36 CFR Part 800.3, the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ; 42 U.S.C. 4371 et seq.) and NAGPRA (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013), as appropriate. The 1992 *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* were revised so that they could be applied to all historic resource types included in the National Register of Historic Places and including *cultural landscapes*. Consultation with Native American communities is also a matter of environmental justice as defined by California Government Code §65040.12(e).

Lead agencies should consider avoidance, as defined in Section 15370 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) when significant cultural resources could be affected by a project. Also, Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.5 provide for provisions for accidentally discovered archeological resources during construction and mandate the processes to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery. Discussion of these should be included in your environmental documents, as appropriate.

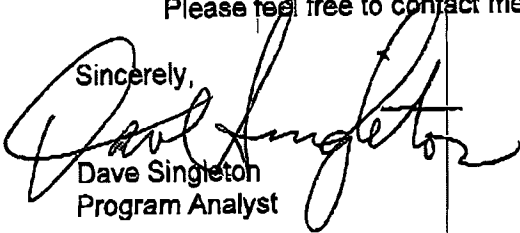
The authority for the SLF record search of the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory, established by the California Legislature, is California Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and is exempt from the CA Public Records Act (c.f. California Government Code §6254.10). The results of the SLF search are confidential. However, Native Americans on the attached contact list are not prohibited from and may wish to reveal the nature of identified cultural resources/historic properties. Confidentiality of 'historic properties of religious and cultural significance' may also be protected under Section 304 of the NHPA or at the Secretary of the Interior's discretion if not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Secretary may also be advised by the federal Indian Religious Freedom Act (cf. 42 U.S.C. 1996) in issuing a decision on whether or not to disclose items of religious and/or cultural significance identified in or near the APE and possibly threatened by proposed project activity.

CEQA Guidelines, Section 15064.5(d) requires the lead agency to work with the Native Americans identified by this Commission if the initial Study identifies the presence or likely presence of Native American human remains within the APE. CEQA Guidelines provide for agreements with Native American, identified by the NAHC, to assure the appropriate and dignified treatment of Native American human remains and any associated grave liens. Although tribal consultation under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; CA Public Resources Code Section 21000 – 21177) is 'advisory' rather than mandated, the NAHC does request 'lead agencies' to work with tribes and interested Native American individuals as 'consulting parties,' on the list provided by the NAHC in order that cultural resources will be protected. However, the 2006 SB 1059 the state enabling legislation to the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005, does mandate tribal consultation for the 'electric transmission corridors. This is codified in the California Public Resources Code, Chapter 4.3, and §25330 to Division 15, requires consultation with California Native American tribes, and identifies both federally recognized and non-federally recognized on a list maintained by the NAHC

Health and Safety Code §7050.5, Public Resources Code §5097.98 and Sec. §15064.5 (d) of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines) mandate procedures to be followed, including that construction or excavation be stopped in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a location other than a dedicated cemetery until the county coroner or medical examiner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. Note that §7052 of the Health & Safety Code states that disturbance of Native American cemeteries is a felony.

Please feel free to contact me at (916) 653-6251 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Dave Singleton  
Program Analyst

Attachment: List of Culturally Affiliated Native American Contacts

Cc: State Clearinghouse

Charles Cooke  
32835 Santiago Road  
Acton, CA 93510  
suscol@intox.net

(661) 733-1812 - cell  
suscol@intox.net

Beverly Salazar Folkes  
1931 Shadybrook Drive  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362  
folkes@msn.com  
805 492-7255  
(805) 558-1154 - cell  
folkes9@msn.com

Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians  
William Gonzales, Cultural/Environ Depart/Rudy Ortega  
601 South Brand Boulevard, Suite 102  
San Fernando CA 91340  
rortega@tataviam-nsn.us  
(818) 837-0794 Office  
(818) 837-0796 Fax

LA City/County Native American Indian Comm  
Ron Andrade, Director  
3175 West 6th Street, Rm.  
Los Angeles, CA 90020  
randrade@css.lacounty.gov  
(213) 351-5324  
(213) 386-3995 FAX

Chumash  
Fernandeno  
Tataviam  
Kitanemuk

Chumash  
Tataviam  
Fernandeno

Fernandeno  
Tataviam

Native American Contacts  
Los Angeles County  
October 27, 2010

Tongva Ancestral Territorial Tribal Nation  
John Tommy Rosas, Tribal Admin.  
Gabriellno Tongva  
tattnlaw@gmail.com  
310-570-6567

Kitanemuk & Yowlumne Tejon Indians  
Della Dominguez  
981 N. Virginia  
Covina, CA 91722  
(626) 339-6785  
Yowlumne  
Kitanemuk

San Fernando Band of Mission Indians  
John Valenzuela, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 221838  
Newhall, CA 91322  
tsen2u@hotmail.com  
(661) 753-9833 Office  
(760) 885-0955 Cell  
(760) 949-1604 Fax  
Fernandeno  
Tataviam  
Serrano  
Vanyume  
Kitanemuk

Randy Guzman - Folkes  
655 Los Angeles Avenue, Unit E  
Moorpark, CA 93021  
ndnRandy@yahoo.com  
(805) 905-1675 - cell  
Chumash  
Fernandeno  
Tataviam  
Shoshone Palute  
Yaqui

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.6 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code. Also, federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and federal NAGPRA. And 36 CFR Part 800.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans for consultation purposes with regard to cultural resources impact by the proposed Aliso Canyon Turbine Project of the Southern California Edison Company; located in the northern San Fernando Valley; Los Angeles County, California SCH12010101076; CEQA Notice of Preparation (NOP).





# South Coast Air Quality Management District

21865 Copley Drive, Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178  
(909) 396-2000 • [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov)

November 4, 2010

Public Scoping Comments  
Re: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.  
130 Battery Street #400  
San Francisco, CA 94111

## **Notice of Preparation of a CEQA Document for the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project**

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above-mentioned document. The SCAQMD's comments are recommendations regarding the analysis of potential air quality impacts from the proposed project that should be included in the draft environmental impact report (EIR). Please send the SCAQMD a copy of the Draft EIR upon its completion. Note that copies of the Draft EIR that are submitted to the State Clearinghouse are not forwarded to the SCAQMD. Please forward a copy of the Draft EIR directly to SCAQMD at the address in our letterhead. **In addition, please send with the draft EIR all appendices or technical documents related to the air quality and greenhouse gas analyses and electronic versions of all air quality modeling and health risk assessment files. These include original emission calculation spreadsheets and modeling files (not Adobe PDF files). Without all files and supporting air quality documentation, the SCAQMD will be unable to complete its review of the air quality analysis in a timely manner. Any delays in providing all supporting air quality documentation will require additional time for review beyond the end of the comment period.**

### **Air Quality Analysis**

The SCAQMD adopted its California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Air Quality Handbook in 1993 to assist other public agencies with the preparation of air quality analyses. The SCAQMD recommends that the Lead Agency use this Handbook as guidance when preparing its air quality analysis. Copies of the Handbook are available from the SCAQMD's Subscription Services Department by calling (909) 396-3720. Alternatively, the lead agency may wish to consider using the California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved URBEMIS 2007 Model. This model is available on the SCAQMD Website at: [www.urbemis.com](http://www.urbemis.com).

The Lead Agency should identify any potential adverse air quality impacts that could occur from all phases of the project and all air pollutant sources related to the project. Air quality impacts from both construction (including demolition, if any) and operations should be calculated. Construction-related air quality impacts typically include, but are not limited to, emissions from the use of heavy-duty equipment from grading, earth-loading/unloading, paving, architectural coatings, off-road mobile sources (e.g., heavy-duty construction equipment) and on-road mobile sources (e.g., construction worker vehicle trips, material transport trips). Operation-related air quality impacts may include, but are not limited to, emissions from stationary sources (e.g., boilers), area sources (e.g., solvents and coatings), and vehicular trips (e.g., on- and off-road tailpipe emissions and entrained dust). Air quality impacts from indirect sources, that is, sources that generate or attract vehicular trips should be included in the analysis.

The SCAQMD has developed a methodology for calculating PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions from construction and operational activities and processes. In connection with developing PM<sub>2.5</sub> calculation methodologies, the SCAQMD has also developed both regional and localized significance thresholds. The SCAQMD requests that the lead agency quantify PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions and compare the results to the recommended PM<sub>2.5</sub> significance thresholds. Guidance for calculating PM<sub>2.5</sub> emissions and PM<sub>2.5</sub> significance thresholds can be found at the following internet address:  
[http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/PM2\\_5/PM2\\_5.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/PM2_5/PM2_5.html).

In addition to analyzing regional air quality impacts the SCAQMD recommends calculating localized air quality impacts and comparing the results to localized significance thresholds (LSTs). LST's can be used in addition to the recommended regional significance thresholds as a second indication of air quality impacts when preparing a CEQA document. Therefore, when preparing the air quality analysis for the proposed project, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a localized significance analysis by either using the LSTs developed by the SCAQMD or performing dispersion modeling as necessary. Guidance for performing a localized air quality analysis can be found at <http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/LST/LST.html>.

In the event that the proposed project generates or attracts vehicular trips, especially heavy-duty diesel-fueled vehicles, it is recommended that the lead agency perform a mobile source health risk assessment. Guidance for performing a mobile source health risk assessment ("Health Risk Assessment Guidance for Analyzing Cancer Risk from Mobile Source Diesel Idling Emissions for CEQA Air Quality Analysis") can be found on the SCAQMD's CEQA web pages at the following internet address: [http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mobile\\_toxic/mobile\\_toxic.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mobile_toxic/mobile_toxic.html). An analysis of all toxic air contaminant impacts due to the decommissioning or use of equipment potentially generating such air pollutants should also be included.

### **Mitigation Measures**

In the event that the project generates significant adverse air quality impacts, CEQA requires that all feasible mitigation measures that go beyond what is required by law be utilized during project construction and operation to minimize or eliminate significant adverse air quality impacts. To assist the Lead Agency with identifying possible mitigation measures for the project, please refer to Chapter 11 of the SCAQMD CEQA Air Quality Handbook for sample air quality mitigation measures. Additional mitigation measures can be found on the SCAQMD's CEQA web pages at the following internet address: [www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM\\_intro.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/ceqa/handbook/mitigation/MM_intro.html). Additionally, SCAQMD's Rule 403 – Fugitive Dust, and the Implementation Handbook contain numerous measures for controlling construction-related emissions that should be considered for use as CEQA mitigation if not otherwise required. Other measures to reduce air quality impacts from land use projects can be found in the SCAQMD's Guidance Document for Addressing Air Quality Issues in General Plans and Local Planning. This document can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.aqmd.gov/prdas/aqguide/aqguide.html>. In addition, guidance on siting incompatible land uses can be found in the California Air Resources Board's Air Quality and Land Use Handbook: A Community Perspective, which can be found at the following internet address: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/ch/handbook.pdf>. CARB's Land Use Handbook is a general reference guide for evaluating and reducing air pollution impacts associated with new projects that go through the land use decision-making process. Pursuant to state CEQA Guidelines §15126.4 (a)(1)(D), any impacts resulting from mitigation measures must also be discussed.

### **Data Sources**

SCAQMD rules and relevant air quality reports and data are available by calling the SCAQMD's Public Information Center at (909) 396-2039. Much of the information available through the Public Information Center is also available via the SCAQMD's World Wide Web Homepage (<http://www.aqmd.gov>).

The SCAQMD is willing to work with the Lead Agency to ensure that project-related emissions are accurately identified, categorized, and evaluated. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call Ian MacMillan, Program Supervisor, CEQA Section, at (909) 396-3244.

Sincerely,



Ian MacMillan

Program Supervisor, CEQA Inter-Governmental Review  
Planning, Rule Development & Area Sources

**From:** Hesson, Bruce [Bruce.Hesson@conservation.ca.gov]

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 23, 2010 10:49 AM

**To:** Herron, Christy

**Subject:** RE: Aliso Canyon Gas Turbine Replacement Project: Notice of Preparation for an EIR

Hi Christy,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the attached NOP. Based on the summary of the proposed project the Ventura District office of the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) currently has no comments. The DOGGR Ventura District office does request that we be left on the distribution list for any future CEQA documentation that may be developed as part of this project.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Bruce H. Hesson, P.E.

District Deputy

Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources

1000 S. Hill Road, Suite 116

Ventura, CA 93003

(805) 654-4761

**From:** Herron, Christy [mailto:CHerron@ene.com]

**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 3:07 PM

**To:** Hesson, Bruce

**Subject:** Aliso Canyon Gas Turbine Replacement Project: Notice of Preparation for an EIR

Mr. Hesson,

Your contact information was unintentionally left off the distribution list for the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for an Environmental Impact Report or Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project proposed by Southern California Gas Company – apologies for the oversight. Please see the NOP, attached, and please use the commenting mechanisms in the NOP to submit a comment if you wish, and/or contact me directly. Ecology and Environment, Inc. is the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC's) consultant for the preparation of the CEQA document.

Thank you,

Christy Herron

Christy Herron, AICP

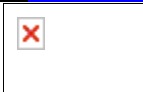
**Ecology and Environment, Inc.**

130 Battery Street, Suite 400

San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone: 415-981-2811 Ext: 4728 | Cell: 510-301-0738

[cherron@ene.com](mailto:cherron@ene.com) | [www.ene.com](http://www.ene.com)



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California Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

*ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor*  
*JOHN McCAMMAN, Director*



South Coast Region  
4949 Viewridge Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92123  
(858) 467-4201  
<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

November 24, 2010

Mr. Andrew Barnsdale  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Fax No. (877) 676-8678

**Subject: Notice of Preparation to prepare either Mitigated Negative Declaration or an Environmental Impact Report for the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project proposed by Southern California Gas Company, SCH 2010101075, Los Angeles and Ventura Counties**

Dear Mr. Barnsdale:

The Department of Fish and Game (Department) has reviewed the Notice of Preparation prepared by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for the construction and operation of the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project (project). The Notice indicates the CPUC's intent to prepare either an Initial Study (IS) and a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) or an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in accordance with CEQA. The EIR would describe the nature and extent of the environmental impacts of the proposed project and project alternatives and would discuss mitigation measures for adverse impacts. Depending on the initial assessment of potential impacts related to the construction or operation of the project, the CPUC may instead issue an IS and draft MND, as appropriate.

Southern California Gas Company (SoCalGas) has filed an application with the CPUC to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, for the construction and operation of the project. The project consists of construction of a Central Compressor Station, relocation of on-site office trailer facilities and an on-site guard house. The project includes the construction of both on-site and off-site electric modifications to two existing 66-kV sub-transmission lines (up to 12 miles long), conduct off-site substation modifications at three existing substations (Newhall, Chatsworth, and San Fernando Substations) that support two existing 66-kV sub-transmission lines. The Notice states that an environmental assessment prepared by SoCalGas identified that construction could result in impacts to native habitat including Venturan coastal sage scrub.

The Department is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources, holding these resources in trust for the People of the State pursuant to various provisions of the California Fish and Game Code (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a), 1802.). The Department submits these comments in that capacity under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (See generally Pub. Resources Code, §§ 21070; 21080.4.). Given its related permitting authority under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) and Fish and Game Code section 1600 et seq., the Department also submits these comments likely as a Responsible Agency for the project under CEQA (*Id.*, § 21069.).

Mr. Andrew Barnsdale  
November 24, 2010  
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The California Wildlife Action Plan, a recent Department guidance document, identified the following stressors affecting wildlife and habitats within the project area: 1) growth and development; 2) water management conflicts and degradation of aquatic ecosystems; 3) invasive species; 4) altered fire regimes; and 5) recreational pressures. The Department looks forward to working with the CPUC and SoCalGas to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife resources with a focus on these stressors. Please let Department staff know if you would like a copy of the plan to review.

To enable Department staff to adequately review and comment on the project, we recommend the following information, where applicable, be considered during the preparation of the IS/MND or the DEIR:

1. A complete, recent assessment of flora and fauna within and adjacent to the project area, with particular emphasis upon identifying endangered, threatened, and locally unique species and sensitive habitats (See *Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities* at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/habcon/plan/>).
  - a. A thorough recent assessment of rare plants and rare natural communities, following the Department's Guidelines for Assessing Impacts to Rare Plants and Rare Natural Communities.
  - b. A complete, recent assessment of sensitive fish, wildlife, reptile, and amphibian species. Seasonal variations in use within the project area should also be addressed. Recent, focused, species-specific surveys, conducted at the appropriate time of year and time of day when the sensitive species are active or otherwise identifiable, are required. Acceptable species-specific survey procedures should be developed in consultation with the Department and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
  - c. Endangered, rare, and threatened species to address should include all those species which meet the related definition under the CEQA Guidelines. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15380.)
  - d. The Department's Biogeographic Data Branch in Sacramento should be contacted at (916) 322-2493 ([www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/biogeodata)) to obtain current information on any previously reported sensitive species and habitats, including Significant Natural Areas identified under Chapter 12 of the Fish and Game Code. Also, any Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs) or Environmentally Sensitive Habitats (ESHs) or any areas that are considered sensitive by the local jurisdiction that are located in or adjacent to the project area must be addressed.
2. A thorough discussion of direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts expected to adversely affect biological resources, with specific measures to offset such impacts. This discussion should focus on maximizing avoidance, and minimizing impacts.
  - a. CEQA Guidelines, Section 15125(a), direct that knowledge of the regional setting is critical to an assessment of environmental impacts and that special emphasis should be placed on resources that are rare or unique to the region.
  - b. Project impacts should also be analyzed relative to their effects on off-site habitats and populations. Specifically, this should include nearby public lands, open space, adjacent natural habitats, and riparian ecosystems. Impacts to and maintenance of wildlife

Mr. Andrew Barnsdale  
November 24, 2010  
Page 3 of 5

- corridor/movement areas, including access to undisturbed habitat in adjacent areas are of concern to the Department and should be fully evaluated and provided. The analysis should also include a discussion of the potential for impacts resulting from such effects as increased vehicle traffic, outdoor artificial lighting, noise and vibration.
- c. A cumulative effects analysis should be developed as described under CEQA Guidelines, Section 15130. General and specific plans, as well as past, present, and anticipated future projects, should be analyzed relative to their impacts on similar plant communities and wildlife habitats.
  - d. Impacts to migratory wildlife affected by the project should be fully evaluated including proposals to remove/disturb native and ornamental landscaping and other nesting habitat for native birds. Impact evaluation may also include such elements as migratory butterfly roost sites and neo-tropical bird and waterfowl stop-over and staging sites. All migratory nongame native bird species are protected by international treaty under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918 (50 C.F.R. Section 10.13). Sections 3503, 3503.5 and 3513 of the California Fish and Game Code prohibit take of birds and their active nests, including raptors and other migratory nongame birds as listed under the MBTA.
  - e. Impacts to all habitats from City or County required Fuel Modification Zones (FMZ). Areas slated as mitigation for loss of habitat shall not occur within the FMZ.
  - f. Proposed project activities (including disturbances to vegetation) should take place outside of the breeding bird season (February 1- September 1) to avoid take (including disturbances which would cause abandonment of active nests containing eggs and/or young). If project activities cannot avoid the breeding bird season, nest surveys should be conducted and active nests should be avoided and provided with a minimum buffer as determined by a biological monitor (the Department recommends a minimum 500-foot buffer for all active raptor nests).
3. A range of alternatives should be analyzed to ensure that alternatives to the proposed project are fully considered and evaluated. A range of alternatives which avoid or otherwise minimize impacts to sensitive biological resources including wetlands/riparian habitats, alluvial scrub, coastal sage scrub, should be included. Specific alternative locations should also be evaluated in areas with lower resource sensitivity where appropriate.
- a. Mitigation measures for project impacts to sensitive plants, animals, and habitats should emphasize evaluation and selection of alternatives which avoid or otherwise minimize project impacts. Compensation for unavoidable impacts through acquisition and protection of high quality habitat elsewhere should be addressed with off-site mitigation locations clearly identified.
  - b. The Department considers Rare Natural Communities as threatened habitats having both regional and local significance. Thus, these communities should be fully avoided and otherwise protected from project-related impacts (attached).
  - c. The Department generally does not support the use of relocation, salvage, and/or transplantation as mitigation for impacts to rare, threatened, or endangered species. Department studies have shown that these efforts are experimental in nature and largely unsuccessful.

Mr. Andrew Barnsdale  
November 24, 2010  
Page 4 of 5

4. An Incidental Take Permit (ITP) from the Department may be required if the project, project construction, or any project-related activity during the life of the project will result in "take," as defined by the Fish and Game Code, of any species protected by CESA (Fish & G. Code, §§86, 2080, 2081, subd. (b), (c)). Early consultation with Department regarding potential permitting obligations under CESA with respect to the project is encouraged (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 783.2, subd. (b)). It is imperative with these potential permitting obligations that the DEIR prepared by the City in the present case includes a thorough and robust analysis of the potentially significant impacts to endangered, rare, and threatened species, and their habitat, that may occur as a result of the proposed project. For any such potentially significant impacts the City should also analyze and describe specific, potentially feasible mitigation measures to avoid or substantially lessen any such impacts as required by CEQA and, if an ITP is necessary, as required by the relevant permitting criteria prescribed by Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivisions (b) and (c). The failure to include this analysis in the project DEIR could preclude the Department from relying on the City's analysis to issue an ITP without the Department first conducting its own, separate Lead Agency subsequent or supplemental analysis for the project (See, e.g., Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15096, subd. (f); Pub. Resources Code, § 21166.). For these reasons, the following information is requested:

- a. Biological mitigation monitoring and reporting proposals should be of sufficient detail and resolution to satisfy the requirements for a CESA Permit.
- b. A Department-approved Mitigation Agreement and Mitigation Plan are required for plants listed as rare under the Native Plant Protection Act.

5. The Department opposes the elimination of watercourses (including concrete channels) and/or the canalization of natural and manmade drainages or conversion to subsurface drains. All wetlands and watercourses, whether intermittent, ephemeral, or perennial, must be retained and provided with substantial setbacks which preserve the riparian and aquatic habitat values and maintain their value to on-site and off-site wildlife populations. The Department recommends a minimum natural buffer of 100 feet from the outside edge of the riparian zone on each side of drainage.

- a. The Department also has regulatory authority with regard to activities occurring in streams and/or lakes that could adversely affect any fish or wildlife resource. For any activity that will divert or obstruct the natural flow, or change the bed, channel, or bank (which may include associated riparian resources) or a river or stream or use material from a streambed, the project applicant (or "entity") must provide written notification to the Department pursuant to Section 1602 of the Fish and Game Code. Based on this notification and other information, the Department then determines whether a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement (LSA) is required. The Department's issuance of an LSA is a project subject to CEQA. To facilitate issuance of an LSA, if necessary, the DEIR should fully identify the potential impacts to the lake, stream or riparian resources and provide adequate avoidance, mitigation, monitoring and reporting commitments for issuance of the LSA. Early consultation is recommended, since modification of the proposed project may be required to avoid or reduce impacts to fish and wildlife resources. Again, the failure to include this analysis in the project DEIR could preclude the Department from relying on the City's analysis to issue an LSA without the Department first conducting its own, separate Lead Agency subsequent or supplemental analysis for the project.



Mr. Andrew Barnsdale  
November 24, 2010  
Page 5 of 5

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments. Please contact Mr. Daniel Blankenship, Staff Environmental Scientist, at (661) 259-3750 if you should have any questions and for further coordination on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

*for* *Sheron A. Stewart*  
Edmund Pert  
Regional Manager  
South Coast Region

Attachment

- cc: Department of Fish and Game  
Terri Dickerson, Laguna Niguel  
Betty Courtney, Newhall  
Helen Birss, Los Alamitos  
Dan Blankenship, Valencia
  
- State Clearinghouse  
Scott Morgan, Sacramento

### Sensitivity of Top Priority Rare Natural Communities in Southern California

Sensitivity rankings are determined by the Department of Fish and Game, California Natural Diversity Data Base and based on either number of known occurrences (locations) and/or amount of habitat remaining (acreage). The three rankings used for these top priority rare natural communities are as follows:

- S1.# Fewer than 6 known locations and/or on fewer than 2,000 acres of habitat remaining.
- S2.# Occurs in 6-20 known locations and/or 2,000-10,000 acres of habitat remaining.
- S3.# Occurs in 21-100-known locations and/or 10,000-50,000 acres of habitat remaining.

The number to the right of the decimal point after the ranking refers to the degree of threat posed to that natural community regardless of the ranking. For example:

- S1.1 = very threatened
- S2.2 = threatened
- S3.3 = no current threats known

### Sensitivity Rankings (February 1992)

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Community Name</u>
S1.1	Mojave Riparian Forest Sonoran Cottonwood Willow Riparian Mesquite Bosque Elephant Tree Woodland Crucifixion Thorn Woodland Allthorn Woodland Arizonan Woodland Southern California Walnut Forest Mainland Cherry Forest Southern Bishop Pine Forest Torrey Pine Forest Desert Mountain White Fir Forest Southern Dune Scrub Southern Coastal Bluff Scrub Maritime Succulent Scrub Riversidean Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub Southern Maritime Chaparral Valley Needlegrass Grassland Great Basin Grassland Mojave Desert Grassland Pebble Plains Southern Sedge Bog Cismontane Alkali Marsh

- S1.2 Southern Foredunes  
Mono Pumice Flat  
Southern Interior Basalt Flow Vernal Pool
- S2.1 Venturan Coastal Sage Scrub  
Diegan Coastal Sage Scrub  
Riversidean Upland Coastal Sage Scrub  
Riversidean Desert Sage Scrub  
Sagebrush Steppe  
Desert Sink Scrub  
Mafic Southern Mixed Chaparral  
San Diego Mesa Hardpan Vernal Pool  
San Diego Mesa Claypan Vernal Pool  
Alkali Meadow  
Southern Coastal Salt Marsh  
Coastal Brackish Marsh  
Transmontane Alkali Marsh  
Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh  
Southern Arroyo Willow Riparian Forest  
Southern Willow Scrub  
Modoc-Great Basin Cottonwood Willow Riparian  
Modoc-Great Basin Riparian Scrub  
Mojave Desert Wash Scrub  
Engelmann Oak Woodland  
Open Engelmann Oak Woodland  
Closed Engelmann Oak Woodland  
Island Oak Woodland  
California Walnut Woodland  
Island Ironwood Forest  
Island Cherry Forest  
Southern Interior Cypress Forest  
Bigcone Spruce-Canyon Oak Forest
- S2.2 Active Coastal Dunes  
Active Desert Dunes  
Stabilized and Partially Stabilized Desert Dunes  
Stabilized and Partially Stabilized Desert Sandfield  
Mojave Mixed Steppe  
Transmontane Freshwater Marsh  
Coulter Pine Forest  
Southern California Fellfield  
White Mountains Fellfield
- S2.3 Bristlecone Pine Forest  
Limber Pine Forest

**Doyle, James Conor**

---

**From:** Chris\_Dellith@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 02, 2010 8:38 AM  
**To:** Herron, Christy  
**Cc:** Doyle, James Conor; Siu, Jennifer D.; dsblankenship@dfg.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Re: Discussion re: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project NOP

Hi Christy,

Great talking to you yesterday and thank you for summarizing our conversation. A couple of items below require a little clarification. 1) potential impacts to LBV would only be if there was suitable habitat for this species. Last I recall, there was not suitable habitat in the project area; however, it warrants further investigation; 2) I agree that there is a good chance that San Fernando Valley spineflower could be there; however, there is less of a chance that Braunton's milkvetch could be there, but it still warrants surveys; and 3) negative survey results for wildlife species can be used as rationale to demonstrate that the proposed project would not result in "take." You used the term "no effect" below, which we use in terms of a section 7 consultation; therefore, without a Federal nexus, you used be using the term "no take" of the wildlife species in question. Let me know if you have questions.

Sincerely,  
Chris

=====  
Chris Dellith  
Senior Fish & Wildlife Biologist  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office  
2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, CA 93003  
(805) 644-1766, ext. 227  
chris\_dellith@fws.gov

"Herron, Christy" <CHerron@ene.com>

12/01/2010 07:09 PM

To <Chris\_dellith@fws.gov>

cc "Siu, Jennifer D." <JSiu@ene.com>, "Doyle, James Conor"  
<JDoyle@ene.com>

Subject Discussion re: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project NOP

Chris,

Thanks for speaking with me today about the Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project EIR. I am glad you were able to review the EIR Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the project, and that we had a chance to have an initial conversation about the project and potential impacts that the CPUC should address in the CEQA document.

As I mentioned earlier, we are still gathering data and information regarding the proposed project and

12/3/2010

potential impacts to biological and wetlands resources. Our current understanding of the project indicates that it would probably not result in any wetland fill, but could result in indirect impacts to wetlands or drainages, and that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is not likely to take jurisdiction over such impacts.

You indicated that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has several initial concerns with regards to the proposed project, that the CPUC (lead agency) should consider, including:

1. Potential impacts to coastal sage scrub habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher. You indicated that "negative" surveys for such a species are considered adequate for up to one year, and that further surveys may need to be performed within one year of the start of project construction if the project has the potential to impact areas of suitable habitat.
2. Potential impacts to least Bell's vireo.

You also indicated that the CPUC should ensure consideration of potential project impacts to special status plant species, including San Fernando Valley spineflower, and Braunton's milk-vetch, both which are likely or highly likely to occur in the project area.

You and I also discussed the possibility of the applicant requesting a concurrence letter from USFWS that the project would not result in a species take, if surveys for species are negative and it can be shown that the project would have no effect on habitat for the species.

If surveys result in a positive identification of protected species, and if the project development is likely to result in a species take, the applicant would likely be required to prepare a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) under Section 10 of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA).

You and I also discussed the difference between CEQA thresholds and thresholds of impact to protected species under the federal ESA – where CEQA makes a distinction between "significant" and "less than significant" impacts, impacts to protected species may be "significant" at any level, under the ESA.

Thank you again for taking the time to discuss the proposed Aliso Canyon project and CEQA document. Please let me know if you would like to clarify any points discussed above; otherwise, this email will be saved in the record as the USFWS's response to the NOP for the EIR.

The CPUC will continue to keep you and other resource agency staff updated regarding the proposed Aliso Canyon project, as we progress further along in the CEQA process.

Christy Herron

Christy Herron, AICP

**Ecology and Environment, Inc.**

130 Battery Street, Suite 400

San Francisco, CA 94111

Phone: 415-981-2811 Ext: 4728 | Cell: 510-301-0738

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November 7<sup>th</sup> 2010

The Public Utilities Commission:

My family has lived in the Porter Ranch area of Northridge for 31 years. It seemed as if there was at least one wildfire episode yearly, if not more. I have always been concerned as to how these fires start. There are trees on Tampa Avenue that are burned and dead from the last fire we had in the Sesnon area. Who is responsible for the removal of the brush and burned trees? Denise King, spokeswoman for the Gas Company, said Safety is a top priority! Per the Daily News article 11/7/10. I know that it is necessary to upgrade equipment from time to time, however, is it necessary to have the high-voltage power lines so close to private residents? We had a devastating earthquake in 1994. What will happen to us when the next earthquake strikes!

Thank you for listening,

Diana Nasser

18801 Casa Lane

Northridge, Ca., 91326

*If you would like to respond, my Email address is  
DNASSER@SoCal.PU.com*

**From:** philillini@aol.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 3:10 PM  
**To:** Herron, Christy  
**Subject:** Aliso Canyon Storage Project

I live a half mile from the mountains that contain the gas storage facilities in question. I strongly urge that significant efforts be made to reduce the potential for damaging fires in the area surrounding the gas storage facilities. I have live here for 41 years and have seen at least 4 damaging fires over that time. The last one was precipitated by a downed power line. We are in the 21st century and need a modern method of protecting the storage facilities and the communities below. Stronger power lines are needed. If possible underground lines should be used near the facility. It is a high wind area well known to all in the Valley. Before we move forward, I ask that the area be scrutinized with respect to fire hazard. We need nothing less than the best protection available and one that can be upgraded over time.

Another concern is earthquake as the mountains are in a significant earthquake zone. I have seen 3 earthquakes in this area since 1971. We must be sure that the storage facility is strong enough to deal with a large quake.

Please make sure this project is safe for the thousands who live directly below it.

Philip H. Kaplan  
19262 Pebble Beach Place  
Porter Ranch, CA 91326-1444

Phil Kaplan

Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

**From:** Stephan Karczag [karczag@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 3:27 PM

**To:** Herron, Christy

**Subject:** Comment on SCGC Expansion

I believe the SCGC Expansion has merit, but the resident concerns for fire safety are valid given the recent fire caused by downed power lines.

One way to mitigate these problems is to have the project abide by LA City and County brush clearance standards and have Sempra repeatedly, for the life of the transmission lines, reimburse the appropriate regulatory agency for their periodic inspections

Thanks,

Stephan Karczag  
11861 Stone Gate Way  
Porter Ranch, CA 91326  
818-360-9707

Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

**From:** Schwartz, Diane L [diane.schwartz@csun.edu]

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 17, 2010 4:52 PM

**To:** Herron, Christy

**Cc:** Schwartz, Diane L

**Subject:** Proposed Gas Company Expansion

California Public Utilities Commission

I am very much opposed to the Gas Company proposed Expansion of their gas storage facility in Porter Ranch, I am particularly concerned with the additional fire hazard ( very dry conditions and high winds up here in Porter Ranch) that the expansion may cause. I also am concerned with the high transmission lines. I would like to see them installed underground to reduce the fire danger and the visual impact.

Diane Schwartz

19804 Mariposa Pines Way

Northridge, CA 91326

Click [here](#) to report this email as spam.

**From:** TUZO@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 18, 2010 9:24 AM  
**To:** Herron, Christy  
**Subject:** GAS EXPANSION

We have lived on Castlebay Lane in Porter Ranch across the street from Castlebay Lane Grade School since 1974; we have experienced many, many serious fires in the hills above Sesnon Boulevard...too numerous to go into in this email.

The fire in November, 2008 was by far the closest we have come to losing our home because the power lines in the hills above Sesnon set off the largest blaze ever for our Porter Ranch area. This MUST stop!

It is irresponsible for the gas company to not clear the brush around its power lines; it is ludicrous that the city and county allow this to continue to take place. It is absolutely unacceptable for the gas company to be able to add even more danger to our hills.

In 1974, there was an enormous blaze of burning gas at the top of our hills that continued for many days...enough gas was burnt off in those days to light up the City of New York! It took Red Adair to put out the fire...doesn't anyone remember that fiasco?

Perhaps it is time for a class action suit to take place; all stakeholders in Porter Ranch would join together to sue the gas company for the loss of several homes in our area in the November, 2008 fire and the need for us to evacuate from our homes three times.

Adding to this nightmare, my father had taken a fall and was in Northridge Hospital ER at the exact time of the first evacuation...he was then forced to remain in the hospital much longer than the one day of observation because of the smoke and ash in the air.

My father died of aspiration pneumonia a week later; I blame the gas company...had the gas company not been negligent, the fire would not have started. Had there been no fire that week, my father would not have been forced to remain in the hospital for several days and would not have developed aspiration pneumonia.

If my father had not developed aspiration pneumonia, he might still be with us today!

Jo-Ann Seitzinger  
18961 Castlebay Lane  
Porter Ranch, CA 91326  
(818) 360-6261 Phone

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**From:** denoleary@aol.com

**Sent:** Friday, November 19, 2010 2:29 PM

**To:** Herron, Christy

**Subject:** Proposed Gas Company Expansion In Porter Ranch

1. In a worst case scenario: What is the impact area and description of devastation if the storage area explodes? Would it trigger an earthquake and how large? Or do you need an EIR for that information?

2. As this is a storage location, please explain the import process and routes of import. Also describe the export process and routes of distribution. Are these areas at risk or exposed to the effects of fire or earthquakes? What is the description of the impact area should these routes explode?

3. As in the past, I expect my home owners insurance company to seize the opportunity to increase insurance premiums as a result of this discussion regardless of any mitigating factors or explanations. I am sick of being told my premium increase is due living in a fire area. My address is not in a fire area - any more than a home in Panorama City. If the Gas Company wants to store, import and/or distribute anything that will cause an increase in my home owner's insurance, I request a "user fee" or an amount to offset my increase in premium. How about the Gas Company provide a free fire insurance rider?

Just as the oil companies pay into a fund for Alaskans, I propose that the Gas Company pay into a fund for those of us living in the impacted area. The amount to be distributed annually.

4. Otherwise put the lines underground.

Thank you.

Dennis O'Leary

18932 Killimore Court

Northridge, CA 91326

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November 2, 2010

Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.  
130 Battery St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111

**Re: CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR KB HOME**

To Whom It May Concern:

The KB Home, Valencia office has moved. Any correspondence previously being sent to KB Home, 27240 Turnberry Lane, Suite 100, Valencia, Ca. 91355-1043, should now go to:

---

**KB Home**  
**25115 W. Avenue Stanford**  
**Suite B-215**  
**Valencia, Ca. 91355**

Thank you.

  
*Yvette S. Taylor*  
Land Coordinator  
KB Home  
661-219-6906

**California Public Utilities Commission**

Public Scoping Meeting on the Proposed Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
November, 2010

Thank you for participating in tonight's public scoping meeting. We would like to hear your comments.

**Note:** Before including your address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. All submissions from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Name (please print): LARRY HELLER

Affiliation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 818-885-5557 Email: HELLERSHACIENDA@YAHOO.COM

Address: 10751 OWENSMOUTH AVE.

City, State, Zip: CHATSWORTH, CA. 91311

**COMMENTS**

I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK OF SAFETY ISSUES REGARDING THE PROJECT SPECIFICALLY THE ABOVE  
GROUND ADDITIONAL POWER. THE PREVIOUS PORTER RANCH FIRE WAS STARTED DUE TO POOR BRUSH CLEARANCE  
AND ABOVE GROUND UTILITY LINES. I WOULD LIKE TO BE EMAILED FOR FURTHER MEETINGS AND PRESENTATIONS.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments must be received by November 22, 2010**  
Mail comments to Andrew Barnsdale c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc., 130 Battery Street, Ste. 400, San Francisco, CA 94111  
Fax: (415) 981-0801 Project Voicemail: 877-676-8678 email: AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com

### California Public Utilities Commission

Public Scoping Meeting on the Proposed Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project  
November, 2010

Thank you for participating in tonight's public scoping meeting. We would like to hear your comments.

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Name (please print): Teena Takata  
 Affiliation (if applicable): Chatsworth Neighborhood Council, SSMPA  
 Phone: 818 326-1533 Email: teena@besttax.com  
 Address: 9629 Baden Avenue  
 City, State, Zip: Chatsworth, CA 91311

#### COMMENTS

Safety Concerns - wouldn't this be more fire safe if lines, pipes placed underground?

How far would the explosion reach at today's level of capacity in a catastrophic event? (Say terrorist bombing)?

How far would explosion reach at new capacity level?

Comments must be received by November 22, 2010

Mail comments to Andrew Barnsdale c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc., 130 Battery Street, Ste. 400, San Francisco, CA 94111  
 Fax: (415) 981-0801 Project Voicemail: 877-676-8678 email: AlisoCanyonNG@ene.com

Because of our "new world" it may be much safer to have multiple smaller storage areas.

**From:** Wendy Moore [wendylmoore@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 22, 2010 10:02 AM  
**To:** Herron, Christy  
**Subject:** Gas Co Expansion Comment

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am writing regarding the proposed expansion of the Gas Company storage facility north of Porter Ranch, CA. I would like to request that before the project is approved, the Gas Company commit to regular clearance of the brush below the existing and future power lines effective immediately. I would also like to see it verified by the LAFD in Porter Ranch, stations 8 & 28, since they are the first line of defense to protect us in fire. The lack of brush clearance caused inexcusable damage to houses, people and parks. The dead trees are still not all removed from Limekiln Canyon and other canyons. Further, now that we have dead trees, we also have pine bark beetles.

Thank you for your consideration,

Wendy L. Moore  
19213 Dunure Place  
Porter Ranch, CA 91326

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**NOTICE OF PREPARATION  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
OR INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR THE ALISO CANYON TURBINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT  
PROPOSED BY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY**

**Application No. A.09-09-020**

**Public Scoping Comments**

**Wes Rogers, Porter Ranch Resident**

**RE: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project**

**c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.**

**130 Battery Street, Suite #400**

**San Francisco, CA 94111**

**Scoping Meeting Comments:**

The public scoping meeting held in Porter Ranch failed to acknowledge the **SCGA Aliso Facility caused, 2008 Sesnon fire**, and its damage to the environment. SGCA's CPUC application A.09-09-020 and PEA also fails to make mention of the fires environmental destruction of dozens of Los Angeles City protected oaks trees and hundreds of mature pine trees at park trails in the area. This was a significant wildfire that originated from the operation of the Aliso Gas Storage facility. The CPUC scoping meeting presentation completely ignored this.

The scoping meeting presentation ignored the Sesnon fire, presented the project overview with no questions taken, and gathered community input with no CPUC responses allowed or questions answered. These CPUC imposed scoping meeting restrictions contribute to the disingenuous nature of the public presentation Sempra SCGA has put forward for this project from the very beginning. The CPUC mission is to "serve the public interest by protecting consumers and ensuring the provision of *safe*, reliable utility service." Neither CEQA docs nor the scoping meeting presentation at Porter Ranch



Public Scoping Comments

**Wes Rogers, Porter Ranch Resident**

**RE: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project**

**c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.**

**130 Battery Street, Suite #400**

**San Francisco, CA 94111**

outlined any concern for wildfire safety. The meeting presenters would not discuss this. Completion of the project must not be placed ahead of public safety.

Failure to clear brush under any high voltage power line operating in areas of high wind, on red flag warning days, is unsafe. The CPUC does not have brush clearance jurisdiction over the SCGA Aliso facility, a non-electric utility on private land. This fact negates any environmental concerns the application A09-09-020 environmental review will exercise for humans, wild life, trees, etc. The environmental scoping meeting gives zero assurance that this environmental review will be nothing more than a rubber stamp unless a full investigation and review of SCGA Aliso facility safety practices leading up to the 2008 Sesnon fire is conducted to assure the safe ongoing operation of the SCGA Aliso facility.

**Comments on the SCGA Aliso Facility Environmental Impact:**

1. Brush must be cleared per LAFD regulation and maintained for both transmission and site distribution lines from the Chatsworth Tap to both Aliso facilities and all distribution lines within the Aliso facilities.
2. SCGC must post large (6' x 6') signage at the Sesnon/Tampa entrance to the Aliso facility indicating the extent of the facility expansion, including current storage capacity, increased injection capacity, the exchange of turbines from gas driven to electrical, a description of the additional power lines to be installed and a stated warning of the additional fire risk.
3. With two large independent agencies operating at the Aliso site (SCGC and Edison,) a reconciliation of authority must take place to establish one ultimate authority and responsibility for safety of the entire operation including Edison transmission line management from the Chatsworth tap to the Aliso site.
4. SCGC Aliso presently does not employ staff hired for specifically safety purposes, per Joseph M. Mosca, Public Affairs Manager, Southern California Gas Company. The SCGC Aliso site must employ and dedicate a full time safety engineer with **no profit incentives of any kind**, responsible for safety of the *entire site* and authority to shut down unsafe operations, reporting to Sempra's Corporate Compliance Committee.

Public Scoping Comments

**Wes Rogers, Porter Ranch Resident**

RE: Aliso Canyon Turbine Replacement Project

c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc.

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5. Under this new authority, the facility safety engineer must conduct an initial safety audit **to determine site compliance to local regulations** and submit as a public record (on-line) these findings along with recommendations for the scope and frequency of future audits and inspections. This initial audit will include brush clearance inspection and gas leak detection findings.
6. SCGA must prepare and implement a plan of corrective action from the initial audit (5.) that includes benchmarking of best practices from other gas storage facilities.
7. The facility safety engineer must be responsible for ongoing review and update of the newly established safety and maintenance site requirements with full compliance to local regulations. The safety engineer will perform ongoing audits of safety, maintenance practices and employee training for the facility, including structures, grounds, construction, equipment, gas leak detection, power line integrity and brush clearance.
8. The SCGA Aliso site plant manager must be responsible and held accountable for corrective actions as a result of safety engineer audits and corrective actions. SCGA must submit a plan for remedy when the plant manager does not comply with safety engineer determined corrective actions including possible plant manager suspension and or employment termination.
9. All safety/maintenance audit records and corrective actions status must be posted on-line at the SCGA website for public viewing with monthly updates.
10. The SCGA Aliso facility must provide ongoing safety and community relations training for all site employees, including management.
11. The safety engineer and the Aliso plant manager must attend and present a safety report at each of the following neighborhood councils annually. Porter Ranch, Granada Hills North, Chatsworth.
12. SCGA must provide **full** remediation of damage to the City of Los Angeles parks and trails as a result of the 2008 Sesnon fire, including reimbursement of costs for removal of **all** damaged/destroyed trees and replanting/maintenance of new trees at both Limekiln Trail and the Palisades Trail.

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