



## Mesa 500-kV Substation Project Construction Non-Compliance Report

<b>Incident Date:</b>	January 7, 2019	<b>Report No.:</b>	NCR-003 (issued by SCE)
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	January 8, 2019	<b>Location:</b>	Mesa Substation (Tower M35-T5)
<b>Level:</b>	Non-Compliance Level 2	<b>Relevant Plan/Measure:</b>	Mitigation Measure BR-1
<b>Current Land Use:</b>	Linear ROW	<b>Sensitive Resources:</b>	Inactive Nest

**Description of Incident:**

The biologist observed the SCE Transmission crew removing nesting material from the former location of Red-tailed Hawk's nest 121, on the bottom of the northwest arm of Construct M35-T5. A biologist was not present with the crew, the area had not been swept by a biologist prior to the work occurring, and the nesting material had not been monitored by a biologist to determine if the nest was active. The nesting material consisted of eucalyptus branches, twigs, leaves, and pine branches and twigs, and no other nesting materials were present. There was no evidence of chicks, eggs or egg fragments. The nesting material was from the 2019 nesting season, and while it is unknown exactly how long the material was in the tower, it was likely hours or days at the most. Our monitors did not observe any adult raptors or other birds in the vicinity of the tower that day or previous days. No work or biological monitoring activities were scheduled in the vicinity of this transmission line tower in recent weeks. The last work scheduled at this transmission line tower was the removal of Nest 121 in accordance with protocol stipulated in Section 2.7 of the approved NBMP on September 26, 2018.

The incident was not within any listed species habitat. The area affected was surveyed and was completely within approved disturbance limits, with no additional impacts observed.

**Pertinent Plans/Permits/Mitigation Measures:**



This incident conflicts with MM BR-1: Pre-Construction surveys, and Sections 2.7.1 and 3 of the Mesa Nesting Bird Management Plan.

**Proposed Resolution:**

SCE immediately stopped work being performed by this crew. All members of the crew participated in a meeting on site to review communication protocol, the bio survey/clearance process as well as the inactive nest removal process.

Please see attached Corrective Actions for further steps being taken immediately. In addition to these steps, a biological monitor has been assigned to this crew specifically.

**Recommended timeline for follow-up:**

Approvals	Date	Name (print)	Signature	Comments
CPUC Compliance Manager	1/16/2019	Ilja Nieuwenhuizen		
CPUC Compliance Monitor (if applicable)	N/A			
CPUC Project Manager (if applicable)	1/16/2019	Lisa Orsaba		
SCE Environmental Project Manager (if applicable)				

**Prepared by:** Lori Iles-Rangel, SCE Environmental Project Manager      **Date:** January 11, 2019

Lori,

Going forward, we (Transmission) will be implementing the following mitigation measures to ensure that we are in compliance with any and all environmental/biological requirements for the Mesa 500kV Substation Project:

1. A stand down was conducted with the Edison crews at Mesa in order to discuss mitigations and procedures that are in place moving forward.
2. In order to eliminate miscommunication in the future we have set the following procedures into place:
  - During our daily call at the end of the work day, we will discuss the following day's work locations. This list will be distributed to the project team to ensure they are all properly swept.
  - We will meet after morning tailboard with the entire crew and the lead bio monitor on site and confirm the locations previously agreed upon are still scheduled for work that day.
  - We will ensure that crew members are aware of the identity of the lead biological monitor for the day so that crew leader is aware of their identity.
  - No work shall begin in a new area until Edison Transmission has received proper approval from the bio team on site.
  - No nest material will be removed. In order to limit impact on resources, transmission crews will consult with bio monitors for guidance prior to taking action.

Please let us know if there is anything else we need to consider in the future to be in full compliance. We plan to cooperate fully with all procedures set forth to make Mesa a successful Edison Project.



