



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

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MEMORANDUM

To: Michael Cavillo, Environmental Compliance Lead, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)

CC: Ilja Nieuwenhuizen, CPUC Monitoring Supervisor, E & E

From: Lincoln Allen, Senior Biologist/Project Manager, SWCA

Date: October 19, 2018

Re: *Pre-construction Survey for Agricultural Fields/ Farmland Areas for Notice to Proceed #1 (NTP#1) for the PG&E Sanger Substation Expansion Project, Fresno County, California*

Introduction

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) has prepared this survey report for Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) in support of Sanger Substation Expansion Project (Project) located in unincorporated Fresno County, California. Information contained in this document is consistent with the Applicant Proposed Measure (APM) and Mitigation Measure (MM) requirements contained in the project's Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan (MMCRP), and conditions specified in the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Notice to Proceed #1 (NTP#1). For work locations defined in NTP #1, PG&E will be expanding the existing Sanger Substation to contain a new breaker-and-a-half configuration. To accommodate this work, the northerly fence line and area of Sanger Substation will be expanded by approximately 6.6 acres to the north as well as approximately 0.5 acre into an area west of the existing substation. In addition, a temporary staging area immediately west of the Sanger Substation and within PG&E's property, will be prepared for the project. This work will entail placing heavy-duty geotextile fabric over an approximately 112 feet x 974 feet areas (approximately 2.5 acres), placing rock rip-rap/gravel on top of the fabric, and installing a temporary chain-linked fence around the staging area.

SWCA Environmental Consultants (SWCA) Environmental Inspector Chennie Castañon conducted the survey on October 16, 2018 in compliance with APM AGR-1 and MM AGR-1, which states:

APM AGR-1: Agriculture impacts avoidance and compensation. To avoid potential impacts on agriculture, PG&E will work with farmers to conduct its work between their harvest and planting periods where and whenever possible. In areas containing permanent crops that must be removed and replaced to gain access to pole sites for construction purposes, PG&E will provide compensation to farmers and/or landowners in accordance with PG&E's Property Damage Settlement Guidelines. Within 6 months of completion of project construction, PG&E shall also repair, replace or provide compensation for damage to fences, irrigation facilities and other such agricultural infrastructure. Access across active crop areas will be negotiated with the farmers and/ or owners in advance of any construction activities.

MM AGR-1: PG&E shall implement the following measures for temporarily disturbed Farmland:

- The applicant shall survey agricultural fields prior to construction and return all temporary disturbance areas to pre-construction conditions (i.e, meeting the definition of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency) after the completion of construction, except that crops will not be replanted.
- If topsoil is removed from an area to accommodate temporary construction activities, it shall be restored to preconstruction conditions within two months of the completion of construction, except that crops will not be replanted by PG&E.

Discussion

The preconstruction survey of agricultural fields (Farmland) was conducted in areas within and adjacent to the project work locations as defined in NTP #1. Agricultural land cover type known to occur west and north of the Sanger Substation, consist primarily of rotated row crops. However, no crops or plantings were observed in these areas during the field survey. Recently colonized nonnative grasses and forbs were observed with bare soil making up the dominate feature. To ensure areas of temporary Farmland disturbance are restored to preconstruction conditions at the completion of construction, photographs were taken at various locations (Figure 1), and latitude and longitude documented. In addition, directional viewpoints are detailed in the photograph captions to ensure accurate positions are recaptured during the post-construction survey.

Photos



Photo 1. View facing northwest of Sanger Substation from E. Jensen Avenue. 36.706697, -119.612205.



Photo 2. View facing northwest of Sanger Substation. 36.707235, -119.612191.



Photo 3. View facing north, west of Sanger Substation within the temporary staging area.
36.707959, -119.612207.



Photo 4. View facing south, northwest of Sanger Substation within the temporary staging area.
36.709022, -119.612176.



Photo 5. View facing southeast from the canal northwest of Sanger Substation.
36.710208, -119.612182.



Photo 6. View facing southeast from the canal, outside the temporary staging area.
36.710245, -119.612616.



Photo 7. View facing south, from the corner of McCall Avenue and the canal.
36.710058, -119.610443.



Photo 8. View facing north (slightly northwest), from McCall Avenue.
36.708809, -119.610352.

Figure 1. Photograph locations.

