

August 10, 2017

Edith Moreno
San Diego Gas & Electric
8315 Century Park Court
San Diego, CA 92123

***Re: Verification Survey, Sycamore-Peñasquitos 230-Kilovolt Transmission Line Project,
San Diego, California***

Dear Ms. Moreno,

On August 9 and 10, 2017, Balk Biological biologists Brynne Mulrooney and Amy Trexler conducted a verification survey within Segment A and Segment C (see below) on behalf of San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) for the Sycamore-Peñasquitos 230-Kilovolt Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project is located in San Diego, California.

The proposed Project consists of the construction and operation of a 230-kV transmission line between the existing Sycamore Canyon and Peñasquitos substations. The 14-mile long Project alignment has been divided into three segments and spans developed and open space areas. The segments are divided into the following components:

- Segment A – overhead alignment between Sycamore Canyon Substation and Stonecroft Trail within existing SDG&E right-of-way. One 230-kV steel cable pole will be constructed near Stonecroft Trail, and the existing 138-kV H-frame structure will be replaced with a steel H-frame dead-end structure.
- Segment B – underground alignment originating from the 230-kV cable pole near Stonecroft Trail and constructed within existing roads to Carroll Canyon Road.
- Segment C – overhead alignment between Peñasquitos substation and Carroll Canyon Road. One 230-kV steel cable pole will be constructed near Carroll Canyon road at the transition from overhead to underground.

The proposed Project is located between the existing Peñasquitos and Sycamore Canyon substations in San Diego, CA (United States Geological Survey [USGS] Del Mar and Poway 7.5-minute quadrangles). The Project originates from the Peñasquitos substation, south of Carmel Mountain Road, and extends southeast to Interstate-805 and Carroll Canyon Road. The alignment follows Carroll Canyon Road until extending slightly north of Miramar Road through commercial development before it reaches Interstate-15. At Interstate-15, the alignment follows Pomerado Road to Stonebridge Parkway and terminates at the Sycamore Canyon substation on Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar.

The verification survey was conducted on August 9 and 10, 2017 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Weather conditions consisted of cloudy to clear skies (0% - 100% cloud cover), winds approximately 0-5 miles per hour, and a temperature ranging from

approximately 70 - 83 degrees Fahrenheit. Chambers Group prepared the original preactivity survey in December 2016 (SDG&E 2016).

The verification survey was conducted according to Appendix A of the SDG&E Subregional Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP). This section of the NCCP states, "If surface disturbance has not commenced within 30 days, the Environmental Surveyor will conduct a verification study." The purpose of this verification study was to document any significant changes that may have occurred to the project areas and project design since the date of the original preactivity survey.

The habitat surveyed during the verification survey was consistent with the immediate and surrounding habitat described for the project area in the PSR and was primarily composed of bare ground and disturbed habitat, with lesser amounts of coastal sage scrub, chaparral, grassland and landscape/ornamental habitat (Figures 1 - 35). The results of the verification survey indicate that Project impacts have been appropriately accounted for in the original PSR, in accordance with SDG&E's Subregional Plan.

Wildlife species detected during survey include coastal California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*; NCCP-covered species; 32.902422° N, -117.211172° W), house finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), Anna's hummingbird (*Calypte anna*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), California scrub-jay (*Aphelocoma californica*), red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), black phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), Nuttall's woodpecker (*Picoides nuttallii*), Bewick's wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), lesser goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*), California towhee (*Melospiza crissalis*), wren-tit (*Chamaea fasciata*), and European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*). No bird nests, nesting activities, burrows or middens were observed within the Project area during the verification survey. No other NCCP-covered species were observed during the verification survey.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (305) 849-2765.

Sincerely,
Brynne Mulrooney

Brynne Mulrooney

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Figure 1: East-facing view of alternating current (AC) mitigation site location northwest of the Peñasquitos Substation.



Figure 2: East-facing view of existing structure 39 at the Peñasquitos Substation.

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Figure 3: South-facing view of AC mitigation site location south of the Peñasquitos Substation.



Figure 4: Northwest-facing view of guard structure (GS) 1 and AC mitigation site locations west of East Ocean Air Drive.

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Figure 5: Southeast-facing view of GS 2 location from East Ocean Air Drive.



Figure 6: South-facing view of existing structure 40.

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Figure 7: Southeast-facing view of existing structure 41.



Figure 8: North-facing view of existing structure 42.

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Figure 9: Northwest-facing view of GS 3 location from Sorrento Valley Blvd.



Figure 10: Southeast-facing view of GS 4 and AC mitigation site locations from Sorrento Valley Blvd.

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Figure 11: North-facing view of existing structure 43.



Figure 12: North-facing view of existing structure 44.

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Figure 13: North-facing view of GS 5 location from Wateridge Circle.



Figure 14: East-facing view of GS 6 location from parking lot off Wateridge Circle.

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Figure 15: East-facing view of existing structure 45.



Figure 16: West-facing view of GS 7 location from parking lot off of Wateridge Circle.

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Figure 17: West-facing view of GS 8 location from parking lot off of Wateridge Circle.



Figure 18: East-facing view of existing structure 46.

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Figure 19: Southeast-facing view of GS 9 location from Wateridge Vista Drive.



Figure 20: South-facing view of existing structure 47.

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Figure 21: North-facing view of GS 10 location from Mira Sorrento Place.



Figure 22: Southwest-facing view of GS 11 location from Mira Sorrento Place.

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Figure 23: Northeast-facing view of GS 12 location from Mira Mesa Blvd.



Figure 24: South-facing view of GS 13 location from Mira Mesa Blvd.

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Figure 25: North-facing view of ADSS interset structure north of Mira Mesa Blvd.



Figure 26: East-facing view of existing structure 48.

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Figure 27: North-facing view of AC mitigation site location south of Mira Mesa Blvd.



Figure 28: North-facing view of temporary work area location north of Carroll Canyon Rd.

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Figure 29: North-facing view of AC mitigation site location north of Carroll Canyon Rd.



Figure 30: South-facing view of GS 14 location north of Carroll Canyon Road.

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Figure 31: North-facing view of GS 15 location south of Carroll Canyon Road.



Figure 32: East-facing view of GS16 location from Stonecroft Terrace.

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Figure 33: Northeast-facing view of GS17 location from Stonebridge Parkway.



Figure 34: South-facing view of structure R01 to be removed.

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Figure 35: East-facing view of temporary work space located south of the Sycamore Substation.