MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM
FOR THE
SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY
PICO SUBSTATION PROJECT
(Application No. 98-12-023)

Lead Agency:

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

June 1999

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SECTION 1.0
INTRODUCTION

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is the lead agency responsible for authorizing construction of the San Diego Gas & Electric Company's (SDG&E) Pico Substation project. The Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) prepared for the project provides analysis of the environmental effects resulting from the construction and operation of the Pico Substation project (State Clearinghouse No. 99041047, June 1999).

After considering the environmental analysis provided in the MND, the CPUC has decided to issue SDG&E a Permit to Construct the Pico Substation project. The Pico Substation is a 120 MVA with four 30 MVA transformers and sixteen 12 kV (kilovolt) circuits. The design is a low profile with a maximum equipment height of 13 feet. A 10- to 12-foot high wall will enclose the substation area (approximately 275 feet by 230 feet). The substation structures and equipment to terminate the incoming and outgoing transmission lines have a maximum height of 40 feet. The existing 138 kV tie line TL13836 will be routed into the proposed substation overhead. Initially, two new steel poles will be placed in the SDG&E right-of-way and used to loop in the 138 kV line into the substation. The new steel poles will be approximately the same height as the existing lattice towers (maximum height, 80 feet). Distribution circuits will be installed underground. The existing 138 kV tie line adjacent to the site will be routed in and out of the substation underground. Initially, one double-circuit pole will be used to loop in the 138 kV line. The pole will replace an existing lattice tower within the transmission power line right-of-way adjacent to the project site. *Figure 1* provides a regional location map for the project, and *Figure 2* illustrates the project site.

The project includes a number of measures to reduce or avoid potential environmental impacts associated with project construction and maintenance. Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code requires a lead or responsible agency that approves or carries out a project where an MND has identified measures to mitigate significant environmental effects, to adopt a "reporting monitoring program for adopted or required changes to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects." In accordance with Section 21081.6 of the Public Resources Code, this Mitigation Monitoring Program (MMP) has been prepared.

1.1 Purpose of the Mitigation Monitoring Program

The MMP developed for the Pico Substation project has been prepared in compliance with the requirements established in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CEQA provides that when adopting an MND, a public agency must adopt an MMP for the changes to the project which it has adopted or made condition of approval in order to mitigate or avoid significant project-related impacts on the environment. The MMP is designed to ensure compliance during implementation of the approved project through ongoing monitoring and reporting of adopted mitigation measures. The primary goal of the MMP is to ensure that during final design, construction, and operation, the project will avoid or reduce potentially significant environmental impacts.

Figure 1 Regional Location Map

Figure 2 Vicinity Map

The achievement of this goal involves the following five key actions:

- Adoption of mitigation measures as identified in this MMP and in the MND as conditions of approval of the project.
- Implementation of the adopted mitigation measures, as appropriate during design, construction, and/or operation of the project.
- Implementation of a monitoring process that confirms the application of the adopted mitigation measures.
- Implementation of a monitoring process that measures the applied effectiveness of the adopted mitigation measures.
- Establishment of a review and decision process that modifies the adopted mitigation measures or institutes new mitigation measures, as necessary, to achieve the avoidance or reduction of significant impacts recognized in the MND.

SECTION 2.0
PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The MMP for the Pico Substation project will be in place through all phases of the project, including design, construction and operation. The CPUC's Energy Division is responsible for the overall implementation and management of the MMP through the design, construction and operations period. The Energy Division includes environmental staff familiar with the project and qualified to determine if an adopted mitigation measure is being properly implemented. The Environmental Programs Manager of the Energy Division and/or assignee will be responsible for ensuring the following are implemented:

- A MMP Reporting Form will be prepared for each impact and its corresponding mitigation (see example in *Attachment A*).

- Appropriate specialists will be retained as needed to perform or monitor specific mitigation activities.

- Mitigation requirements will be described as appropriate in applicable construction bid packages.

- The MMP Reporting Forms will be distributed to the appropriate parties so that specific action items can be developed to carry out the necessary mitigation. These will be listed in the implementation action items section of the form.

- Mitigation measures that continue into the operational phase will be incorporated into SDG&E's operational procedures.

- The Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee will approve, by signature and date, the completion of each action item that was identified on the MMP Reporting Form.

All MMP Reporting Forms for impacts requiring no further monitoring will be signed off as completed by the Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee at the bottom of the MMP Reporting Form.

Unanticipated circumstances may arise requiring the refinement of mitigation measures. The Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee is responsible for approving any such refinements or additions. A revised MMP Reporting Form will be prepared by the Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee for each such addition or refinement and provided to the appropriate design, construction or operational personnel for compliance.

The Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee has the authority to stop the work of construction contractors, if compliance with any aspects of the MMP is not occurring after appropriate notifications have been issued.

All active and completed MMP Reporting Forms will be kept on file with the CPUC Energy Division. Forms will be available for inspection upon request at the following address:

California Public Utilities Commission
Energy Division
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
Contact: Environmental Programs Manager
SDG&E Pico Substation Project
(Application No. 98-12-023)

2.1 Mitigation Monitoring Program Phases

The MMP described herein is intended to provide focused yet flexible guidelines for monitoring the implementation of the mitigation measures discussed in the MND and adopted by the CPUC. All mitigation measures that are the responsibility of the CPUC, as lead agency, are included and listed in *Table 1*. Other agencies involved in the implementation of a specific mitigation measure are shown in the "Associated Agency" column in *Table 1*. *Section 3.0* of this document lists all mitigation measures adopted for the project. Each mitigation measure is individually numbered and grouped by area of potential impact. *Table 1* correlates each mitigation measure by its assigned number to the specific phase of the project to which the measure applies. The three project phases include design, construction and operation. A Reporting Form (see example in *Attachment A*) will be prepared for each impact and its corresponding mitigation measure as identified in *Section 3.0* of this document.

2.1.1 Design Phase

The design phase includes preparation of engineering design, architectural design and construction drawings by project design engineers and architects. Bid packages are also compiled for release to prospective construction contractors. Prior to initiation of design phase activities, the measure(s) applicable to each design phase activity are identified and reviewed with the design engineer, architect or other responsible parties. In the event the Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee determines that there is non-compliance with any of the mitigation measures to be implemented during the design phase, corrective actions are required and a follow-up review is conducted after the design documents are modified in response to the Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee comments. Report Forms are completed after each activity.

TABLE 1
APPLICABLE PROJECT PHASES FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT MITIGATION

	APPLICABLE PHASE			AGENCY	
MITIGATION MEASURE	DESIGN	CONSTRUCTION	OPERATION	LEAD	ASSOCIATED
General					
General	**U**			CPUC	City of San Clemente County of Orange
Geotechnical					
G-1	**U**	**U**		CPUC	City of San Clemente County of Orange
Water					
W-1	**U**	**U**		CPUC	Orange County Flood Control District State Water Resources Control Board
W-2	**U**	**U**		CPUC	County of Orange Civil Engineering Department, Drainage Division
W-3	**U**	**U**	**U**	CPUC	RWQCB
Air Quality					
A-1		**U**		CPUC	SCAQMD
Biological Resources					
B-1	**U**	**U**	**U**	CPUC	CDFG/USFWS
Hazards					
H-1	**U**	**U**	**U**	CPUC	Orange County Department of Environmental Health
Visual Resources					
V-1	**U**	**U**		CPUC	City of San Clemente
V-2	**U**		**U**	CPUC	City of San Clemente
V-3	**U**		**U**	CPUC	N/A
Paleontological Resources					
P-1		**U**		CPUC	N/A

RWQCB: Regional Water Quality Control Board
SCAQMD: South Coast Air Quality Management District
CDFG: California Department of Fish and Game
USFWS: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
N/A: Not applicable

2.1.2 Construction Phase

A pre-construction meeting will be held with the contractor prior to the initiation of construction activity. The Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee attends the meeting to explain the MMP, contractor and CPUC roles and responsibilities, and the approach for construction site visits and inspections. Construction activities are monitored as conditions dictate to ensure that required mitigation measures are implemented. Applicable measures are discussed with construction contractors periodically as needed to facilitate implementation. The Environmental Programs Manager and/or assignee coordinates with affected local agencies to ensure applicable ordinances and standards for construction are implemented.

2.1.3 Operational Phase

Once the facility is complete and operating, the operational aspects of the MMP will, at this point, become part of SDG&E's operational procedures.

SECTION 3.0
INVENTORY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

The mitigation measures described in the MND that were adopted as conditions of project approval are listed below. Mitigation is listed by type of mitigation measure and topical issue.

SDG&E has incorporated as part of its proposed project a number of measures to reduce or avoid potential environmental impacts associated with project construction and maintenance. These measures are considered part of the proposed project and are summarized below.

General

! Prior to substation site development, SDG&E will submit project grading, landscaping and street improvement plans and plans and elevation for the substation perimeter wall to the City of San Clemente and County of Orange for review and comment. Prior to project construction, should the City of San Clemente achieve a boundary change which would include the proposed Pico Substation, then plans will not be submitted to the County of Orange for review and comment. The plan submittal will follow a typical building permit and grading permit submittal process, with the exception that SDG&E will not receive building, grading, electrical or plumbing permits from the City or County. SDG&E will incorporate the plan check comments into the project, where those comments do not conflict with, or compromise, the CPUC's General Orders regulating the location, design, construction, operation and maintenance of the substation.

Geotechnical

G-1 Consistent with mitigation measures required in EIR 84-02, appropriate grading and construction standards based on the site-specific conditions identified in the Applicant's Geotechnical Report (*Woodward-Clyde, January 1994*) will be incorporated into design and construction of the proposed facilities.

Water

W-1 Measures to control sedimentation and erosion will be employed during the construction phase to control erosion, including the short-term use of sandbags, matting, mulch, berms, hay bales, or similar devices along all graded areas to minimize sediment transport. The exact design, location and schedule of use for such devices will be determined pursuant to direction and approval by the Orange County Flood Control District as required by the State Water Resources Control Board.

W-2 SDG&E shall submit a plan for drainage to the County of Orange Civil Engineering Department, Drainage Division, identifying the manner in which storm flows will be accommodated. If it is determined that storm flow quantities offsite will be increased after development, SDG&E shall ensure

that construction of improvements are in place to accommodate runoff generated onsite under developed conditions, and to control runoff downstream.

W-3 SDG&E will comply with the Regional Water Quality Control Board's (RWQCB) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit which consists of wastewater discharge requirements for stormwater and urban runoff. In compliance with the NPDES permit, a Best Management Practices (BMPs) program for stormwater pollution control will be created. BMPs appropriate to the substation project will be employed to reduce pollutants available for transport or to reduce the amount of pollutants in runoff prior to discharge.

Air Quality

A-1 SDG&E will comply with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 403 to reduce fugitive dust emissions, including implementing the following:

- All unpaved construction areas will be sprinkled with water or other acceptable SCAQMD dust-control agents during dust-generating activities to reduce dust emissions. Additional watering or acceptable SCAQMD dust-control agents will be applied during dry weather or windy days until dust emissions are not visible.

- Trucks hauling dirt and debris will be covered to reduce windblown dust and spills.

- On dry days, dirt or debris spilled onto paved surfaces will be swept up immediately to reduce resuspension of particulate matter caused by vehicle movement. Approach routes to construction sites will be cleaned daily of construction-related dirt in dry weather.

- Onsite stockpiles of excavated material will be covered or watered.

Biological Resources

B-1 The new proposed steel poles would result in both temporary and permanent impacts to coastal sage scrub habitat currently known as foraging areas for the California gnatcatcher. Measures are incorporated into the project which reduce biological impacts to less than significant. Measures to reduce permanent impacts include deducting credits at a 2:1 ratio from SDG&E's Conservation Bank in accordance with SDG&E's approved Subregional Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) requirements. Mitigation for temporary impacts will come in the form of reseeding impacted areas and a two-year monitoring program to determine success. If habitat enhancement is not successful, then deduction from SDG&E's Conservation Bank would be made for temporary impacts.

B-2 Construction activities defined as site development work: excavation, compaction and grading as well as setting new cable poles and removal of existing lattice structures shall occur outside the California gnatcatcher breeding season, February 15 to August 30.

Hazards

H-1 The project will comply with State Title 22 and federal Title 40 requirements, including the oil spill control and countermeasure plan (SCCP) required by Title 40 CFR Section 112.7.

Visual Resources

V-1 The substation perimeter wall will be 10- to 12-foot high designed to screen transformers, distribution circuits, and other facility improvements from view. It will be designed to comply with architectural guidelines of the Talega Business Park Design Guidelines. Plans and elevations for the perimeter wall and landscaping will be distributed to the City of San Clemente for review and comment (see General Mitigation Measures).

V-2 The site will be landscaped at initial development of the station and will be done in accordance with the landscape guidelines of the development.

V-3 During normal operation, night lighting will consist of only one 100-watt yellow, outside floodlight that will be installed at the entry gate on a pole about seven feet above finished grade. The lamp housing will be adjusted to shine out and down. Other substation lighting will be used during emergencies only.

Paleontological Resources

P-1 A county-certified paleontologist will attend a pre-grading conference, establish procedures for surveillance and halting or redirection of work, provide onsite observation of grading activities, fossil evaluation, salvage and report of findings.

ATTACHMENT A

Sample Reporting Form