

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



December 18, 2013

Susan J. Nelson, AIA  
Regulatory Affairs  
Southern California Edison  
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, Quad 3D, GO1  
Rosemead, CA 91770

RE: Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP), Segments 4-11: Final Engineering Concurrence to NTP #10

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On December 9, 2013, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a request for Final Engineering Concurrence (FEC) for several new work areas and one new area of underground duct bank on the Segment 7 and 8 66kV Transmission Line (T/L), of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) in the City of Chino, San Bernardino County, California. SCE submitted additional information on December 12, 2013. **This Concurrence to Final Engineering is approved by CPUC based on the following factors:**

- SCE submitted the following information:

SCE submitted a request for Final Engineering Concurrence for several new work areas and one new area of underground duct bank on Segment 7 and 8 66kV T/L in the City of Chino, San Bernardino County, California. Subsequent to the approval of the Notice to Proceed Request (NTPR) for Segment 7 and 8 66kV T/L Relocation (NTP #10, dated August 3, 2010) by the CPUC, several new work areas and one new area of underground duct bank were identified to accommodate rerouting of existing telecom and distribution lines. Descriptions of the planned new work areas associated with these construction activities are provided below:

- Construction crews will conduct telecom relocation activities along Edison Avenue, Central Avenue, and 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The crews will access several existing features, including a pullbox, four poles, and four vaults. Crews will work along or within the street at these locations and use a bucket truck for the poles access. A temporary disturbance area, approximately 50 feet by 50 feet, will be needed at the pullbox and four vault locations, comprising a total additional disturbance area of approximately 1.13 acres.
- Distribution line relocation will be performed by accessing existing manhole M5570911, located directly north of Edison Avenue. Crews will work along or within the street, within an approximately 50 foot by 50 foot temporary construction disturbance area. The disturbance area associated with this new work area is approximately 0.23 acre.
- Construction crews will install approximately 180 linear feet of new underground duct bank near the intersection of 12<sup>th</sup> Street and Edison Avenue. The new duct bank will extend northward from an existing duct bank to existing pole 2283830E. The new duct bank and associated work area will reside entirely within the paved portion of 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The temporary disturbance area associated with this new work area is approximately 0.10 acre.

SCE has obtained a Traffic Control Plan from the City of Chino for the activities described above that encroach upon the city's streets.

In addition to the new work areas described above, note that existing manhole M9301270 along Edison Avenue, existing pullbox P5457680 near the intersection of Edison Avenue and 12<sup>th</sup> Street, and two existing poles (4328741E and 4774461E) near the intersection of Edison Avenue and Magnolia Avenue will be accessed by construction crews. These features are located within CPUC-approved work areas and, therefore, no additional ground disturbance will result from use of these areas.

- **Biological Resources:** SCE submitted biological resource information with the Request for FEC. The Project Component is characterized as developed/disturbed. Vegetation communities located within 500 feet of the Project Component include developed/disturbed, non-native woodland, ruderal grassland, agriculture, mulefat scrub, and ruderal wetland (ICF 2012). These surrounding vegetation communities will not be impacted by the Project Component. The Project Component is not located within occupied habitat or critical habitat for coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliptilla californica*) or least Bell's vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*). As of December 6, 2013, no active nests are located within or adjacent to the Project Component. However, two of the artificial burrowing owl burrows (FRED Nest IDs 4325 and 4328) are occupied by a single burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*) and Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) buffers are set at 150 feet. Additional unoccupied burrows occur throughout Ayala Park and ESA buffers are set at 33 feet. Special-status species observed in or within 500 feet of the Project Component include burrowing owl, Cooper's hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), loggerhead shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), merlin (*Falco columbarius*), and peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*). Special-status biological resources are demarcated in the field by ESA staking, where applicable. Construction began in this area in October 2011. Biological preconstruction surveys were conducted in November 2010, January 2011, and September 2011.

Jurisdictional resources are located adjacent to the Project Component, including Features 8-50-S-2 (runs south of and parallel to Edison Avenue), 8-50-S-3 (runs east of and parallel to Oaks Avenue north of Edison Avenue), 8-50-S-4 (runs west of and parallel to Oaks Avenue north of Edison Avenue), and 8-51-S-1 (runs along Magnolia Avenue south of Edison Avenue). These features will not be impacted as a result of the proposed work; no wetland permit amendments are required.

No additional impacts to biological resources are anticipated with the implementation of this FEC and the conditions noted below.

- **Cultural and Paleontological Resources:** SCE submitted a memorandum dated December 9, 2013 with the Request for Final Engineering Concurrence (FEC) titled the *TRTP Cultural and Paleontological Resource Guidelines for Segments 7 and 8 66kV Relocation, Request for Final Engineering Concurrence – Additional Work Areas and New Underground Telecom Conduit Installation*. The memorandum states that no cultural or paleontological resources will be impacted by the proposed additional work areas and new underground telecom conduit installation in support of the TRTP Segments 7 and 8 66kV relocation. Pullbox P5457679 and its associated disturbance area lay outside the previously surveyed TRTP corridor. However, this is an existing pullbox within a disturbed built paved environment. Therefore, based on a review of the archaeological database, aerial photographs of the existing area, accessing existing pullbox P5457679 and its associated disturbance area will have no significant impact on cultural resources and has a low probability of impacting previously unrecorded cultural resources. All remaining proposed areas identified in this Request for FEC were included in the previous surveys for the TRTP and no cultural resources were identified (Pacific Legacy 2007; 2010).

Previous paleontological assessments conducted for the TRTP indicate that the proposed areas identified in this Request for FEC are located within the Quaternary alluvium (Qa), which has a low sensitivity for yielding paleontological resources (Gust and Scott 2009; Aron 2010).

No additional impacts to cultural or paleontological resources are anticipated with the implementation of this FEC and the conditions noted below.

**The conditions noted below shall be met by SCE and its contractors:**

- SCE shall submit the Traffic Control Plan from the City of Chino and all encroachment permits prior to the start of work activities covered under this Final Engineering Concurrence.
- All conditions required by Notice to Proceed (NTP) NTP #10 shall apply to the subject area and activities.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, NTP #10, and this Final Engineering Concurrence shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities where applicable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason Coontz', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jason Coontz  
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen