

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



February 3, 2011

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

RE: Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (Segments 4-11), Modification to NTP #10

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On January 27, 2011, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a Variance Request to Notice to Proceed Request (NTP #10) to remove and replace 14 H-Frame poles on the Rio Hondo-Bradbury and Rio Hondo-Arcadia-Bradbury-Hopeful 66kV lines between Arrow Highway and Live Oak Avenue to meet engineering standards of the Segment 7 and 8 66 kV relocation of Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) located in the City of Irwindale, Los Angeles County, California. Under NTP #10, the subject portion of 66 kV circuit to be relocated was going to be placed on the existing wooden H-frame poles; however, it was subsequently determined that steel H-frame poles were required to support the double circuit. Therefore, given the nature of the requested change, it was decided that a Modification to the NTP was more appropriate than a Variance. Additional information was provided by SCE on February 1. **This Modification to NTP #10 is approved by CPUC for the proposed activities based on the following factors:**

- SCE submitted the following information:

SCE submitted a request for Variance (Modification) to NTP #10 to remove and replace 14 H-Frame poles on the Rio Hondo-Bradbury and Rio Hondo-Arcadia-Bradbury-Hopeful 66kV lines between Arrow Highway and Live Oak Avenue to meet engineering standards. The Notice to Proceed Request (NTPR) for Segment 7 and 8 66kV Relocation (NTP #10, dated August 3, 2010) was prepared prior to completion of final design.

- **Biological Resources** – SCE submitted a report titled *Biological Survey Report for the Proposed 66kV H-Frame Replacement/Removal Variance for TRTP, Segment 7 & 8 66kV Relocation, Los Angeles County, CA* dated January 21, 2011 by ICF International. The Variance Project Component (NTP Modification Area) and a 500-foot buffer (Biological Study Area [BSA]) were included in this analysis. The Variance Project Component was mapped as disturbed/developed. Four vegetation communities were mapped within the BSA and include mule fat scrub, ruderal wetland, open water, and disturbed/developed habitat. No special-status plants were observed in the Variance Project Component during previous focused surveys. No regulated trees have been recorded for the Variance Project Component.

No riparian vegetation suitable for least Bell's vireo or other listed species occurs within the San Gabriel River. No suitable burrows for burrowing owl were identified during the survey; therefore, a focused preconstruction burrowing owl survey will not be completed. A biological preconstruction survey completed for the report did not identify any special-status wildlife species. Potential bat roosts were observed, and a focused pre-construction bat roost assessment survey will be completed and submitted.

The San Gabriel River, a jurisdictional feature, is located within the BSA, and will be avoided by the Variance Project Component (ICF 2010h). No direct impacts to special-status biological resources are

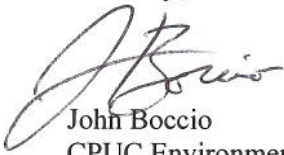
expected with the described construction. No additional impacts to biological resources are anticipated with the removal and replacement of the H-Frame pole construction.

- **Cultural Resources** – SCE submitted an email from Matthew Wetherbee (SCE Archaeologist) to Lori Rangel of SCE dated January 24, 2011. It states that no cultural resources will be affected by the replacement of 14 H-Frames on the Rio Hondo-Bradbury and Rio Hondo-Arcadia-Bradbury-Hopeful 66kV transmission lines within a developed industrial environment in the City of Irwindale, Los Angeles County, California. The right-of-way for these transmission lines were included in the previous survey for the Rio Hondo-Bradbury and Rio Hondo-Arcadia-Bradbury-Hopeful 66kV transmission line survey corridor and one cultural resource was identified (PCR 2010). This resource, the Rio Hondo-Bradbury 66kV transmission line has been determined ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historical Places (NRHP) and the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) (Urbana Preservation and Planning 2010; Office of Historic Preservation 2010). In addition, the Rio Hondo-Arcadia-Bradbury-Hopeful 66kV transmission line dates to 1964 is therefore not eligible for listing on the CRHR or NRHP. No additional impacts to cultural or paleontological resources are anticipated with the removal and replacement of the H-Frame pole construction.

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

- All conditions required by NTP #10 shall apply to the subject area and activities.
- As noted in the biological resources report submitted for the Modification, since potential bat roosts were observed, a focused pre-construction bat roost assessment survey will be completed and submitted.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, NTP #10, and this Modification to NTP #10 shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities where applicable.

Sincerely,



John Boccio  
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen