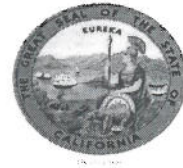


PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 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 #11

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On May 28, 2013, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a request for Final Engineering Concurrence for a new permanent access road from Everest Drive to the existing access road leading to Structure M59-T2 on Segment 8 Transmission Line (T/L) Chino Hills (Phase 1) of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP), in the City of Chino Hills, San Bernardino County, California. The location and work proposed under this Final Engineering Concurrence request falls outside of the scope of work for the alternative Chino Hills underground transmission line being considered by the CPUC. **This Concurrence to Final Engineering is approved by CPUC based on the following factors:**

- SCE submitted the following information:

SCE requests a Concurrence of Final Engineering for a new permanent access road from Everest Drive to the existing access road leading to Structure M59-T2 on Segment 8 T/L Chino Hills (Phase 1) of the TRTP, in the City of Chino Hills, San Bernardino County, California. Subsequent to approval of NTPR (NTP #11 dated August 12, 2010) by the CPUC, final design was completed and a new proposed permanent access road from Everest Drive to the existing access road leading to Structure M59-T2 was identified. The purpose of the new proposed permanent access road is to bring access extending west from Everest Drive into conformance with the easement SCE has with the property owner. Note that SCE has a temporary entry permit with the property owner to use the current (existing) access road alignment. However, the new proposed access road will make access across the property consistent with the easement description. The new permanent access road is approximately 310 feet long, ranges between 14 feet and 20 feet wide, and has a total disturbance area of approximately 0.102 acres.

- **Biological Resources:** SCE submitted biological information with the Request for Final Engineering Concurrence, which states that access from Everest Drive to Structure M59-T2 (Project Component) is located within previously surveyed portions of the Segment 8 T/L. The following surveys have been conducted in the area: bat habitat assessment (August 18-19, 2010, September 15, 2010, January 21, 2011), and biological preconstruction and sweep (December 28, 2010, January 4, 2011, March 28-29, 2011). Construction/access has been on-going in this area since November 2010 (i.e., wire removal at M59-T2).

The Project Component is developed. Vegetation communities and biological resources located within 500 feet of the Project Component include additional developed land and ruderal grassland, coast live oak woodland, California walnut woodland, and coastal sage scrub (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 (*Poliptila californica*) or least Bell's

vireo (*Vireo bellii pusillus*). No permit amendment is required. As of May 26, 2013, no active bird nests have been located within 500 feet of the Project Component. A San Diego desert woodrat (*Neotoma lepida intermedia*) species event, intermediate mariposa lily, California walnut, coast live oak trees, and general bat habitat occur within 500 feet of the Project Component. Special-status biological resources are demarcated in the field by Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) staking where applicable.

Jurisdictional resources are not located within or adjacent to the Project Component and will not be impacted by the Project Component.

No additional impacts to biological resources are anticipated.

- **Cultural and Paleontological Resources:** SCE submitted a memorandum dated May 20, 2013 regarding the TRTP Cultural and Paleontological Resource Guidelines for Segment 8 T/L Phase I, Request for Final Engineering Concurrence – Access from Everest Drive to Structure M59-T2. The memorandum states that the proposed permanent access road provided in this request for final engineering concurrence was included in the previous survey for the TRTP and no cultural resources were identified (Pacific Legacy 2010).

Previous paleontological assessments for TRTP indicate that the proposed permanent access road is located within the Miocene Puente Formation, which has a high sensitivity for yielding paleontological resources (Gust and Scott 2009; Aron 2010). In accordance with the Paleontological Resource Management Plan (Gust and Scott 2009), paleontological resource monitoring is required during any ground disturbing activities for this request for Final Engineering Concurrence.

No additional impacts to cultural or paleontological resources are anticipated.

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

- Due to the Miocene Puente Formation having high sensitivity for yielding paleontological resources, and per the Paleontological Resource Management Plan, paleontological monitoring shall be conducted during any ground disturbing activities associated with this request for Final Engineering Concurrence.
- All conditions required by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #11 shall apply to the subject area and activities.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, NTP #11, and this Concurrence of Final Engineering shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities where applicable.

Sincerely,



John Boccio
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen