

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



July 20, 2012

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 #13

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On June 22, 2012, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a request for Final Engineering Concurrence for two additional structures and additional work areas on Segment 8 Transmission Line (T/L) East (Phase 3) of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP), in the Cities of Ontario and Chino, San Bernardino County, California. Additional biological information was submitted on July 19, 2012. **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 two additional structures and additional work areas on Segment 8 T/L East (Phase 3) of the TRTP, in the Cities of Ontario and Chino, San Bernardino County, California. Subsequent to approval of NTPR (NTP #13 dated August 24, 2010) by the CPUC, final design was completed and two additional structures were identified to reduce EMF. Specifically, the following two structures, and associated work areas, have been identified:

Structure M0-T9A and Split Phasing (City of Ontario)

The Chino-Mira Loma #3, 220kV T/L requires split phase configuration for approximately 1-mile west of Mira Loma Substation in order to reduce EMF. These transposition structures will be installed at the proposed new Structure M0-T9A and will change the phasing back to the original configuration at M0-T3 (near the Mira Loma Substation fence line). Structure M0-T9A does not require FAA mitigation. This activity includes:

- Construction of new interset Structure M0-T9A (a lattice tower), between existing Structures M0-T9 and M1-T1, within an existing, approved, structure work area.
- Removal of all conductor and OHGW between M1-T1 and new Structure M0-T9A.
- Re-tension existing conductor between existing structures near Mira Loma Substation and M0-T9A, which includes placing travelers on existing five structures.
- Access to Structure M0-T9A will occur along existing, approved, access roads and work spaces.

Structure M66-J8 and Split Phasing (City of Chino)

The Mira Loma-Vincent 500kV T/L requires split phasing to reduce EMF. The split-phasing begins at Structure M41-J1 (east of San Gabriel Boulevard, on Segment 8 Phase 4) and ends at Structure M66-J8 (south of Edison Avenue). Structure M66-J8 does not require FAA mitigation. Structure M66-J8 was not included in the NTP, or subsequent variances, and includes:

- Construction of new Structure M66-J8 (a tubular steel pole), within a NEW proposed structure work area (approximately 200 ft. x 200 ft.).
 - Access to Structure M66-J8 will occur along existing, approved, access roads and work spaces, and via the new proposed structure work area.
- **Biological Resources:** SCE submitted biological resources information with the Request for Final Engineering Concurrence. The area for the addition of Structures M0-T9A and M66-J8 (Project Component) is located within previously surveyed portions of the Segment 8 Phase 3 transmission line work areas except the western portion of the proposed work area for Structure M66-J8. The work area expansion located at Structure M66-J8 is referred to as Site 1. The Site 1 is a developed area and no special-status biological resources are known to occur within the Project Component. Vegetation communities within 500 feet of the Project Component include additional developed land and agriculture (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 or least Bell's vireo. Potential burrowing owl features, inactive burrowing owl burrows, and Santa Barbara morning glory are known to occur within 500 feet of the Project Component and are flagged/fenced as Environmentally Sensitive Areas, as needed. Jurisdictional resources 8-50-S-2, 8-50-S-3 and 8-50-S-4 are located within 500 feet of the Project Component, but will not be impacted by the Project Component and no permit amendment is required. Construction has been on-going in this area since October 2011. Previous preconstruction surveys conducted in the area include: bat habitat assessment (August 18-19, 2010), burrowing owl surveys (September 16, 19, and 20, 2011), and biological preconstruction and sweep (March 15, 2011 and September 15, 2011).

No additional impacts to biological resources are anticipated.

- **Cultural and Paleontological Resources:** SCE submitted a memorandum dated June 22, 2012 from Koral Ahmet, MA, RPA, SCE Senior Archaeologist, regarding the TRTP Request for Final Engineering Concurrence, Cultural Clearance for Addition of Structures M0-T9A and M66-8 on Segment 8 T/L Phase 3, Chino and Ontario, San Bernardino County. The memorandum states that no cultural resources will be impacted by addition of Structures M0-T9A and M66-J8 on Segment 8 Phase 3 as part of this Request for Final Engineering Concurrence in support of the TRTP. The proposed structures fall within the cultural records search and surveyed area for TRTP (Pacific Legacy 2007). The cultural records search did not yield any resources, but three historic 220 kV transmission lines, the Chino-Soquel, Chino-Mesa, and Chino-Mira Loma No. 1 run through this area. These lines were evaluated and determined ineligible for the NRHP and CRHR in 2010. In addition, the Chino Substation lies in the vicinity of the proposed structures but will not be impacted by construction.

The paleontological literature review (Gust and Scott 2009) shows this area to lie within quaternary alluvium that has a low paleontological sensitivity.

No additional impacts to cultural or paleontological resources are anticipated.

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

- All conditions required by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #13 shall apply to the subject area and activities.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, NTP #13, and this Concurrence of Final Engineering shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities where applicable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Boccio". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "J" being particularly large and stylized.

John Boccio
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen