

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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August 8, 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 #15

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On July 27, 2012, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a request for Final Engineering Concurrence for guard rail installation at Construct 19 on Segment 5 Transmission Line (T/L) of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP), in Los Angeles 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 guard rail installation at Structure 19 on Segment 5 T/L of the TRTP, in Los Angeles County, California. Subsequent to approval of NTPR (NTP #15 dated September 10, 2010) by the CPUC, project site conditions have been further evaluated. For safety purposes, a guard rail is included in the final engineering design for Segment 5 Construct (CT) 19.

As part of the construction activities for the access road along the northwest side of CT 19, a retaining wall was constructed. For safety purposes, a guard rail is needed along the northwestern edge of the road. The guard rail would measure approximately 160 linear feet long and consist of wood posts with galvanized corrugated steel rail (i.e. similar to guard rails used by Caltrans on California highways). The height of the guard rail, including the approximate 6-inch high soil berm along the base of the guard rail, would be approximately 3 feet above the top of the existing retaining wall.

- **Biological Resources:** SCE submitted biological resources information with the Request for Final Engineering Concurrence. The proposed guard rail is situated within an existing CPUC-approved disturbance area and previously surveyed portion of the Segment 5 T/L work area.

No additional impacts to biological resources are anticipated.

- **Cultural and Paleontological Resources:** SCE submitted a memorandum regarding the TRTP Request for Final Engineering Concurrence – Guard Rail Installation at Construct 19 Cultural Clearance on Segment 5, Palmdale, Los Angeles County. The memorandum states that no cultural or paleontological resources will be impacted by the guard rail installation at Construct 19, on Segment 5 as part of this Request for Final Engineering Concurrence in support of the TRTP. A cultural record search and survey (Pacific Legacy 2007), and a paleontological literature review (Gust and Scott 2009) have been previously conducted for this area of Segment 5. This research indicates that the requested guard rail area is located within an area previously surveyed for the TRTP and shows that no cultural resources will be impacted. Two historic

transmission lines cross the requested area (Antelope-Mesa 220 kV and Antelope-Vincent 220 kV). The Antelope-Mesa 220 kV transmission line was evaluated and determined ineligible for the NRHP and CRHR in 2010. The Antelope-Vincent 220 kV transmission line is a contributing element to the NRHP Big Creek system. The removal of this line is currently being addressed in a Historic Properties Treatment Plan that is part of ongoing agency consultation. Both lines have been removed from this portion of Segment 5 and cannot be affected by the guard rail installation. This research also shows that the additional disturbance area overlies Portal Schist that is classified as having 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) #15 shall apply to the subject area and activities.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, NTP #15, 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