

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



February 10, 2015

Revised (see pages 2 and 6).

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: Notice to Proceed (NTP) #42

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On November 17, 2014, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a Notice to Proceed Request (NTPR) for non-civil construction activities at the West Transition Station (WTS) and East Transition Station (ETS) for the underground construction of a new 500 kV underground transmission line (T/L) in Chino Hills, Segment 8 Phase I T/L for the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP), in San Bernardino County, California. Additional information was submitted on December 14 and 16, 2014.

The SCE Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (Project) was evaluated in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and a Certification of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) was granted by CPUC Decision 09-12-044, (Application #07-06-031), SCH #2007081156 on December 17, 2009. An Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report (October 2009) was prepared for the TRTP 500 kV Underground and approval of the 500 kV Underground was granted by CPUC Decision 13-07-018 on July 11, 2013. **NTP #42 is granted by CPUC for the proposed activities based on the following factors:**

- SCE submitted the following information. Clarifications to the NTPR information based on input from SCE are provided as *bold, italicized text* and *strikeouts*.

SCE has requested a Notice to Proceed (NTP) for non-civil construction activities at the West Transition Station (WTS) and East Transition Station (ETS) (Transition Stations) for the Chino Hills Underground construction of a new 500kV underground T/L on Segment 8 Phase I T/L for the TRTP, in the City of Chino Hills, in San Bernardino County, California. This Notice to Proceed Request (NTPR) provides an overview of the planned non-civil construction activities for the Transition Stations; site preparation and civil activities for the Transition Stations were approved as part of NTP #41. The Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) describes the TRTP Project, and in June 2013, an Addendum to the EIR (Addendum) was published that presents specific information for the Segment 8 Underground components and construction activities. SCE will perform these construction activities along Segment 8 as described in the Addendum (CPUC, 2013).

The applicable Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs), Mitigation Measures (MMs), and permits have been identified, and will be implemented or completed prior to commencement of the construction activities associated with this NTPR. Monitoring and reporting on implementation of APMs and MMs will be conducted in accordance with the TRTP Mitigation Monitoring Compliance and Reporting Plan. Additionally, required preconstruction surveys for biological resources will be conducted prior to start of construction activities, as applicable.

SITE LOCATION AND CONDITIONS

The Transition Stations are situated within the geographic boundaries of the Segment 8 Underground (NTP #41). The site locations and conditions for the transition stations are described below.

West Transition Station

The WTS consists of an approximately 3-acre property located in the City of Chino Hills, San Bernardino County, California. The WTS is located southwest of the corner of Eucalyptus Avenue and Canon Lane. The WTS is within the Yorba Linda U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5' topographic quadrangle. The coordinates for the approximate center of the site are Latitude 33.9700 N, Longitude 117.7742 W.

East Transition Station

The ETS consists of an approximately 3.5-acre property located in the City of Chino Hills, San Bernardino County, California. The ETS is located along Pipeline Avenue north of a drainage channel. The ETS is located within the Prado Dam USGS 7.5' topographic quadrangle. The coordinates for the approximate center of the site are Latitude 33.9867 N, Longitude 117.7143 W.

PROJECT COMPONENTS

This section describes the project components, including site facilities and operations, and site work associated with the Transition Stations. Construction equipment operating hours for the Segment 8 Underground will comply with local city municipal code noise ordinances, or as otherwise approved by the appropriate city. Construction operating hours for the HDD activities are planned to be 24 hours a day due to operational needs. SCE has established a TRTP toll-free information line (877-795-8787) and website (www.sce.com/tehachapi). The information line is the designated public notification contact for TRTP.

Construction Facilities/Activities

The following is a list of construction facilities and activities that will possibly be present or active at the transition stations throughout the duration of the project.

Construction Facilities: Transition station facilities, including Mechanical Electrical Equipment Rooms (MEERs); onsite distribution and telecommunications (telecom) facilities (the telecom and distribution located outside of the stations are not included in this NTPR), including duct banks and cables; contractor equipment and material storage areas; office and security trailers; temporary sanitary facilities, which may include aboveground water and sanitary waste holding tanks; permit requirements (e.g., Best Management Practices [BMPs]); lighting/security.

Construction Activities: Construction of transition station facilities, including installation of foundations, utilities, MEERs, and perimeter walls; installation of duct banks, underground cables, and overhead wires; installation of a cable trench system with lids/covers; operation of construction equipment and vehicles; equipment and vehicle fueling; installation and maintenance of BMPs in accordance with the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

Site Work for the West Transition Station

This section provides additional information on the specific onsite activities associated with the WTS features.

Major Underground Activities

Major underground construction activities associated with the WTS include but are not limited to:

- Installation of foundations for structures associated with the new 500 kilovolt (kV) transition station
- Installation of a ground grid
- Installation of pothead (termination) support structures
- Installation of a 500 kV power cable trench system with lids/covers
- Installation of 500 kV cable
- ~~Installation of telecom structures and cable~~
- ~~Installation of distribution structures and cable~~
- [Installation of conduit, structures, and distribution and telecom cable](#)
- Installation of a station light and power system

Major Aboveground Activities

Major aboveground activities associated with the WTS are as follows:

- Construction of a MEER
- Installation of A-frame bus dead end structures
- Installation of 500 kV bus support structures
- Installation of 500 kV cable potheads (terminations)
- Installation of 500 kV surge arrestors
- Installation of overhead conductor
- Installation of a perimeter wall and security system
- Installation of distribution transformers
- Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) facilities, as needed

Drainage

Surface runoff generated within the site will be conveyed with concrete drainage swales and/or pipes that connect to drainage improvements outside the WTS perimeter. A drainage outlet system will be installed in the 500 kV power cable trenches.

Paving

Permanent access to the WTS will occur via a new asphalt-paved road extending from Eucalyptus Avenue to the transition station (approved in NTP #41). Asphalt concrete paving will be applied to designated internal driveways over an aggregate base material and a properly compacted subgrade, as recommended by the geotechnical investigation. These paving activities will take place after major construction is completed.

Rock Surfacing

Portions of the WTS that are not paved or covered with concrete foundations or trenches will be surfaced with an approximately 4-inch-thick layer of untreated, 0.75-inch nominal crushed run rock. The rock will be applied to the finished grade surface after grading and underground construction have been completed.

Perimeter Wall and Access Gates

An 8-foot high perimeter wall will be constructed around the perimeter of the WTS. Access gates will be installed at the transition station ingress/egress locations, as described below.

- An approximately 26-foot-wide motorized rolling gate at the primary WTS entrance, situated on the east side of the WTS.
- An approximately 20-foot-wide secondary access gate on the west side of the WTS.
- An approximately 4-foot-wide pedestrian gate adjacent to the main access gate

Site Work for the East Transition Station

This section provides additional information on the specific onsite activities associated with the ETS.

Major Underground Activities

Major underground construction activities associated with the ETS include but are not limited to:

- Installation of foundations for structures associated with the new 500 kV transition station
- Installation of a ground grid
- Installation of pothead (termination) support structures
- Installation of a 500 kV power cable trench system with lids/covers
- Installation of 500 kV cable
- Installation of conduit, structures, and distribution and telecom cable
- Installation of a station light and power system

Major Aboveground Activities

Major aboveground activities associated with the ETS are as follows:

- Construction of a MEER
- Installation of A-frame bus dead end structures

- Installation of 500 kV bus support structures
- Installation of 500 kV cable potheads (terminations)
- Installation of 500 kV surge arrestors
- Installation of overhead conductor
- Installation of a perimeter wall and security system
- Installation of distribution transformers
- SPCC facilities, as needed

Drainage

Stormwater runoff generated within the site will be conveyed via concrete drainage swales and/or pipes that connect to drainage improvements outside the ETS perimeter. A drainage outlet system will be installed in the 500 kV power cable trenches.

Paving

Permanent access to the ETS will occur via a new asphalt-paved road extending from Pipeline Avenue to the transition station (approved in NTP #41). Asphalt concrete paving will be applied to designated internal driveways over an aggregate base material and a properly compacted subgrade, as recommended by the geotechnical investigation. These paving activities will take place after major construction is completed.

Rock Surfacing

Portions of the ETS that are not paved or covered with concrete foundations or trenches will be surfaced with an approximately 4-inch layer of untreated, 0.75-inch nominal crushed run rock. The rock will be applied to the finished grade surface after grading and underground construction have been completed.

Perimeter Wall and Access Gates

An 8-foot high perimeter wall will be constructed around the perimeter of the ETS. Access gates will be installed at the transition station ingress/egress locations, as described below.

- An approximately 26-foot-wide motorized rolling gate at the primary ETS entrance, situated at the northwest corner of the transition station.
- An approximately 20-foot-wide secondary access gate on the southwest side of the ETS, including drive entry improvements to Pipeline Avenue.
- An approximately 20-foot-wide secondary access gate on the southeast side of the ETS, which will provide access to Structure M64-T1Y.
- An access gate that will provide shared access with the San Bernardino Flood Control District to the access road along the flood control channel to the south of the ETS.
- An approximately 4-foot-wide pedestrian gate adjacent to the main access gate.

Biological Resources: SCE submitted a biological report titled *Segment 8 Chino Hills Underground Vegetation Removal Biological Review* from ICF International dated April 2014 with the NTPR for NTP #40, and a report titled *Segment 8 Phase 1 Chino Hills Underground Biological Review* by ICF International dated May 2014 with the NTPR for NTP #41. The Transition Station sites have already been cleared of vegetation and daily sweeps and monitoring are being conducted. The Transition Station sites provide potential nesting habitat for bird species that are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code, including raptors. Nesting bird surveys are ongoing to ensure that impacts on nesting birds or raptors do not occur. When breeding birds with active nests are found, a Biological Monitor will establish a suitable buffer per MM B-5 and SCE's Nesting Bird Management Plan around the nest for ground and helicopter-based construction activities.

Riparian habitat is located adjacent to the WTS. Riparian bird focused surveys were conducted within the WTS BSA in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 (AMEC 2009n; ICF 2010ss, 2011fx; FRED Survey Parent 00000, 000023). There is no critical or occupied adjacent habitat for listed riparian bird species at this location.

Coastal California gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica*) focused surveys conducted within the WTS BSA in 2007, 2009, 2010, and 2011, were negative for the species. An incidental observation of a foraging, non-

breeding coastal California gnatcatcher was made in 2011 during construction monitoring within the WTS portion of the Project Component (FRED Species Event 002087).

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

Cultural and Paleontological Resources: All proposed areas for the 500 kV Underground have been covered by the original cultural resources report by Pacific Legacy in 2007 and in supplemental surveys by Pacific Legacy in 2010, 2013, and 2014.

SCE has submitted the following Cultural and Paleontological Resources Survey Reports for Segment 8 Chino Hills – Phase I, which have been reviewed and approved by regulatory agencies:

- Aron, G. 2010 *Paleontological Assessment and Sensitivity Report for Southern California Edison's Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Segment 8 Chino Hills (Phase I), Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties, California*. Prepared by Paleo Solutions, Costa Mesa, CA. Prepared for SCE, Rosemead, CA.
- Greenberg, M. 2013 *Chino Hills Underground, Segment 8 Supplemental Survey for 17 Areas for the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Los Angeles County, California*. Prepared by Pacific Legacy, Santa Cruz, CA. Submitted to SCE, Monrovia, CA.
- Greenberg, M. 2014 *Chino Hills Underground, Segment 8 Supplemental Survey for Vegetation Removal for the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, San Bernardino County, California*. Prepared by Pacific Legacy, Lancaster, CA. Submitted to SCE, Monrovia, CA.
- Gust, S. and K. Scott 2009 *Paleontological Resource Management Plan for Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project Segments 4 through 11, Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties, California*. Prepared by Cogstone Resource Management, Inc., Orange, CA. Prepared for Pacific Legacy, Inc., Santa Cruz, CA.
- Office of Historic Preservation 2010 *Section 106 Compliance on a determination of ineligibility for the Chino-Mesa 220 kV Transmission Line*. Concurrence letter submitted by the Office of Historic Preservation to Jody Noiron, Forest Supervisor, Angeles National Forest Supervisor, September 15, 2010. Document submitted in response to the Urbana Preservation NRHP/CRHR Review, *Southern California Edison Company Chino-Mesa 220 kV Transmission Line*.
- Pacific Legacy 2007 *Cultural Resources Inventory of the Southern California Edison Company Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties, California*. Prepared by Pacific Legacy, Santa Cruz, CA. Submitted to SCE, Rosemead, CA.
- Pacific Legacy 2010a *TRTP Cultural Resources Survey Report with Negative Findings: Segment 8 Transmission Line Chino Hills (Phase I), Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties*. Prepared by Pacific Legacy, Santa Cruz, CA. Submitted to SCE, Rosemead, CA.
- Pacific Legacy 2010b *TRTP Cultural Resources Survey Report with Negative Findings: Segment 8 Transmission Line Phase 1 (Chino Hills; Additional Access Roads)*. Prepared by Pacific Legacy, Santa Cruz, CA. Submitted to SCE, Rosemead, CA.
- Urbana Preservation & Planning. 2013 *NRHP/CRHR Eligibility Evaluation: 14575 Pipeline Avenue, Chino Hills, CA 91709*. Prepared by Urbana Preservation & Planning, LLC. Submitted to SCE, Rosemead, CA.

As identified in the noted studies, no known historic resources or historic properties will be affected/impacted by the activities outlined in this NTPR.

A paleontological sensitivity review was conducted in 2010 (Paleo Solutions 2010) and paleontological monitoring was recommended for the 500 kV Underground in those areas that have a high sensitivity for yielding paleontological resources.

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

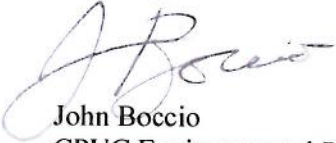
Land Use and Visual Resources: The City of Chino Hills will be issuing a building permit(s) for the Transition Stations. Coordination with the City of Chino Hills satisfies Mitigation Measures L-4 and MM V-2b.

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

- Biological survey sweeps are required to occur immediately preceding and during project area set up and occupation as part of required biological monitoring activities. Sweeps for nesting birds shall include a 500 foot buffer. If active nests are found, a Biological Monitor shall establish a required buffer around the nest and no activities will be allowed within the buffer until the young have fledged from the nest or the nest fails. For *listed riparian species*, no work will be authorized within 500 feet of an active nest and all activities will stop immediately within 500 feet of the nest (Mitigation Measure B-15). The Biological Monitor shall conduct regular monitoring of the nest to determine success/failure and to ensure that project activities are not conducted within the buffer until the nesting cycle is complete or the nest fails. The Biological Monitor shall be responsible for documenting the results of the surveys and the ongoing monitoring. The buffer may be adjusted with the approval of CDFW and USFWS, and with prior knowledge of the CPUC. If special-status plant or animal species or bird nests are observed within the project area, CDFW and the CPUC EM shall be notified immediately (within 24 hours). After complete sweeps have been submitted and approved by the CPUC EM, site occupation can occur; however, if occupation does not occur within seven calendar days of survey, biological clearance sweeps shall be re-conducted prior to site occupation, including nesting bird surveys during the breeding season.
- Consistent with APM BIO-5, ramps will be created or installed in excavations (e.g., bore pits and trenches) to allow animals that may enter an excavation to escape.
- Transition Station lighting shall consist of ~~high-pressure sodium low intensity lights~~ light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures located in racks and in areas of the yard where operating and maintenance activities may take place during evening hours for emergency/scheduled work. Maintenance lights will be controlled by a manual switch and would normally be in the “off” position. The maintenance lights would be directed downward to reduce glare outside the facility. A light, indicating the operation of the rolling gate controlling access to the transition stations, would automatically turn on once the gate begins to open and would turn off shortly after the gate is closed.
- SCE shall provide the City building permit(s) to the CPUC prior to construction.
- If unanticipated biological, cultural or paleontological resources are detected, the CPUC EM shall be notified immediately.
- Paleontological resources monitoring shall be conducted during earth moving activities associated with the Chino Hills Underground in those areas as required in the Paleontological Resources Management Plan (PRMP).
- Grading and building plans shall be made available for CPUC Environmental Monitor review upon request.
- Schedules detailing construction activity shall be provided to the CPUC Environmental Monitors on a daily basis. The daily schedules shall identify the biological and paleontological monitors scheduled each day.

- SCE shall identify any locations providing fill or receiving excess excavated soil for the CHUG project. This information, including any necessary permits, shall be provided to the CPUC prior to soil import or export.
- Prior to the start of construction, and in accordance with APM AQ-2 and MM AQ-1b, SCE shall submit the contractor equipment lists to the CPUC.
- Prior to the start of construction, and in accordance with APM AQ-2 and MM AQ-1d, SCE shall submit the contractor emission control evidence to the CPUC.
- Prior to the start of construction, and in accordance with APM AQ-2 and MM AQ-1e, SCE shall submit the contractor registration and certifications as specified to the CPUC.
- Prior to the start of construction, and in accordance with APM AQ-2 and MM AQ-1i, SCE shall submit the contractor equipment lists to the CPUC.
- Prior to the start of construction, and in accordance with MM PSU-1d, SCE will submit documentation of compliance of fire preventive construction equipment requirements to the CPUC.
- Per Mitigation Measure L-1a, SCE shall provide summary documentation to the CPUC of all complaints, comments, and concerns communicated to the liaison every two months for the duration of construction and for one year following the completion of construction.
- Cities of Chino Hills and Chino approval(s) or applicable Municipal Code reference(s) shall be provided as well for all future Sunday work or for work outside of the hours 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Monday through Saturday, including any permits or agreements with the Cities of Chino Hills and Chino. The CPUC EM shall receive immediate notification for any unplanned emergency work.
- Any necessary encroachment permits shall be provided to the CPUC prior to construction in affected areas.
- All construction activities associated with this Notice to Proceed shall follow the description, maps, and figures, that were submitted by SCE in the Notice to Proceed Request dated December 2014, and the additional information submitted on December 16, 2014.
- All applicable project mitigation measures, APMs, compliance plans, and permit conditions shall be implemented. Some measures have on-going/time-sensitive requirements and shall be implemented prior to and during construction where applicable.
- Prior to commencement of construction activities, all crew personnel including haul truck and concrete truck drivers shall be appropriately trained on environmental issues including protocols for air quality, hazardous materials, biological resources, known and unanticipated cultural materials, as well as SWPPP BMP's. A log shall be maintained on site with the names of all crew personnel trained.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, and this Notice to Proceed shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities.
- No movement or staging of construction vehicles or equipment shall be allowed outside of the approved areas. If additional temporary workspace areas or access routes, or changes to construction technique or mitigation implementation to a lesser level are required, a Variance Request shall be submitted for CPUC review and approval.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Boccio", written in a cursive style.

John Boccio
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen