

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

January 6, 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 (TRTP), Segments 4-11: Variance Request (VR) #26

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On January 5, 2011, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a variance request to allow for use of access roads and structure work areas included in the USFWS Biological Opinion, but not included in the original Notice to Proceed Request (NTPR) that was submitted and approved (NTP #17 dated September 24, 2010) by the CPUC. The Biological Opinion included defined access roads and disturbance areas within the Montebello Hills area (the area between Montebello Boulevard and San Gabriel Boulevard) of Segment 7 Transmission Line (T/L) of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP). **This Variance Request is approved by CPUC based on the following factors:**

- SCE submitted the following information:

As part of Project approval, a Biological Opinion was obtained from the USFWS. The Biological Opinion included defined access roads and disturbance areas within the Montebello Hills area of Segment 7 T/L (i.e. the area between Montebello Boulevard and San Gabriel Boulevard). These defined access roads and disturbance areas were not accurately reflected in the NTPR that was submitted to and approved (NTP #17 dated September 24, 2010) by the CPUC. SCE has revised the NTPR map sheets to be consistent with the defined access roads and disturbance areas included in the Biological Opinion.

- **Biological Resources:** Biological resources review has been completed for Montebello Hills as part of the Biological Assessment as well as various pre-construction surveys for Segment 7 T/L. For all proposed access roads and structure work areas, a clearance sweep will be performed by a CPUC-approved biological monitor within 3 working days before the start of construction, on the morning construction is to start, and daily sweeps during construction. No additional impacts to biological resources are anticipated.
- **Cultural and Paleontological Resources:** The new disturbance areas detailed on the new map sheets fall within the TRTP right-of-way corridor, and were included in the Cultural Resources surveys previously submitted for Segment 7 T/L. 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 NTP #17 shall apply to the subject area and activities.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, NTP #17, and this Variance 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 written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Boccio  
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen