

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 15, 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) #53

Dear Ms. Nelson,

On April 5, 2011, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a variance request to allow SCE to proceed with planned construction activities at the Segments 5 and 8 (Phases 1 and 4) Transmission Lines tower locations described below prior to the receipt of grading permits from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works on the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project in Los Angeles County, California. Additional information was submitted April 6th and a revised Variance Request was submitted April 14th. **This Variance Request is approved by CPUC based on the following factors:**

- SCE submitted the following information:

SCE submitted a request for a Variance to allow SCE to proceed with planned construction activities at the Segments 5 and 8 (Phase 1 and 4) Transmission Lines (T/L) tower locations described below prior to the receipt of the grading permits from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works on the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project (TRTP) in Los Angeles County, California.

Various TRTP project components require grading permits from local agencies. Mitigation Measure (MM) H-1a states the following:

“... the applicant shall submit to the CPUC and the FS evidence of possession of all required permits before engaging in soil-disturbing construction/demolition activities...”

The Notice to Proceed Requests for the transmission lines for Segments 5 and 8 (Phases 1 and 4) identify the need for grading permits. Currently, SCE is awaiting receipt of permits from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) for planned slope stabilization activities on Segments 5 and 8. Based on SCE's ongoing discussions with the DPW, SCE plans to commence initial project activities in the above-referenced construct locations prior to receipt of permits from DPW. This planned approach is based upon DPW's completion of an initial review of SCE's grading, geological and related plans, and pursuant to DPW's subsequent issuance of final approved plans and permits by the completion of the project work in those areas.

The specific tower locations with slope stabilization needed are summarized below. The Segment 8 towers listed below are grouped to correspond with the four slope stabilization areas, as identified in the letter from SCE to DPW dated March 31, 2011:

- Segment 5: 24, 25, 49, 51A, 55, 55A, 67A, and 68
- Segment 8 (Phase 1): M57-T1 and M24-T1A

- Segment 8 (Phase 4):
 - M43-T3 and M8-T1A
 - M45-T3 and M6-T3
 - M51-T4 and MA1-T4 and M51-T5
- **Biological Resources:** Biological resources were covered in the Notice to Proceed (NTP) for Segment 5 T/L (NTP #15), Segment 8 Phase 1 T/L (NTP #11), and Segment 8 Phase 4 T/L (NTP #24) for the specific tower locations described in this Variance.

No additional impacts to biological resources are anticipated with the implementation of this Variance.

- **Cultural and Paleontological Resources:** Cultural and paleontological resources were covered in the Notice to Proceed (NTPs) for Segment 5 T/L (NTP #15), Segment 8 Phase 1 T/L (NTP #11), and Segment 8 Phase 4 T/L (NTP #24) for the specific tower locations described in this Variance.

No additional impacts to cultural or paleontological resources are anticipated with the implementation of this Variance.

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

- All conditions required by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #15 for Segment 5 T/L, NTP #11 for Segment 8 Phase 1 T/L, and NTP #24 for Segment 8 Phase 4 T/L shall apply to the subject area and activities.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, NTP #15, NTP #11, and NTP #24, and this Variance shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities where applicable.

Sincerely,



John Boccio
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen