



Devers–Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project

California SCH #2005101104

EPA OEPC Control No. DES-06-20



To: Readers of the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement
From: Billie C. Blanchard, CPUC, and John Kalish, BLM – EIR/EIS Project Managers
Subject: **Notice of Availability**, Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Devers–Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project
Date: May 4, 2006

The California Public Utilities Commission, as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as Lead Agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) have prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIR/EIS) for consideration of Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) application to build and operate the Devers–Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project.

SCE proposes to construct a new 230-mile, 500 kV electric transmission line between Devers Substation in California and Harquahala Generating Substation in Arizona (referred to as “Devers-Harquahala” or D-H) and also to replace 48.2 miles of 230 kV transmission lines in California (referred to as “West of Devers” or WOD upgrades). The upgraded lines would connect directly to the Devers 230 kV bus. The entire project would span 278 miles, with approximately 176 miles in California and 102 miles in Arizona.

The Draft EIR/EIS details the Proposed Project, evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction and operation of SCE's Proposed Project, identifies those impacts that could be significant, and presents mitigation measures, which, if adopted by the CPUC, BLM, or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Draft EIR/EIS also evaluates alternatives to the Proposed Project, including the No Project/No Action Alternative, as required by CEQA and NEPA. The Draft EIR/EIS was released for public review on May 4, 2006. The 2,000+ page three-volume Draft EIR/EIS will be available for review at several area libraries and on the project website, as listed on page three of this notice. Copies of the Draft EIR/EIS on CD (without detailed tower maps due to SCE security restrictions) or a separately bound Executive Summary may be requested by phone or fax at (800) 886-1888 or by e-mail at dpv2@aspeneq.com. The CPUC also has a limited number of copies of the complete Draft EIR/EIS document available to the public upon request at the addresses/numbers given herein.

Written comments on the Draft EIR/EIS must be postmarked or received by fax or e-mail no later than July 5, 2006. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number. Written comments on the Draft EIR/EIS should be sent to:

CPUC/BLM

c/o Aspen Environmental Group
235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935
San Francisco, CA 94104
Fax: (800) 886-1888
E-mail: dpv2@aspeneq.com

In order to help affected communities understand the Proposed Project and the Draft EIR/EIS, and to explain how the public can participate in the CPUC and BLM’s decision-making processes, the CPUC and BLM will hold informational workshops on June 6, 7, and 8, 2006. These informal workshops are an opportunity to speak with the specialists who wrote the Draft EIR/EIS and ask questions; the specialists will be available at the times listed below for workshops, on the dates and at the locations given. While written comments may be submitted during these workshops, there will be no facilities to record oral comments.

The Public Participation Hearings will be held on the dates listed below to receive oral and written comments from interested parties. CPUC Administrative Law Judge Charlotte TerKeurst will conduct the Public Participation Hearings, and receive comments on the Draft EIR/EIS and any other issues of concern related to the SCE CPCN application. These oral comments will be recorded and entered into the public record. Details on the informational meetings and Public Participation Hearings are as follows:

Table 1. Informational Meetings and Public Participation Hearings			
Location	Tonopah, AZ	Beaumont, CA	Palm Desert, CA
Day/Date	Tuesday, June 6, 2006	Wednesday, June 7, 2006	Thursday, June 8, 2006
Time	2-4 pm Workshop 7-8:30 pm Workshop	2-4 pm and 5-7 pm Workshops 7-8:30 pm Public Part. Hearing	3-5 pm Workshop 7-8:30 pm Public Part. Hearing
Address	Harquahala Valley Irrigation District 402 S. Harquahala Valley Road Tonopah, AZ 85354	City of Beaumont Civic Center Council Chambers 550 E. 6th Street Beaumont, CA 92223	UC Riverside Palm Desert Campus Room B-114 and B-117 75080 Frank Sinatra Drive Palm Desert, CA 92211
Area Covered	Easternmost California and Arizona	San Gorgonio Pass area; San Timoteo Canyon; Beaumont, Banning, Calimesa, San Jacinto, Romoland, Hemet	Coachella Valley (Coachella, Indio, Cathedral City, Palm Springs)
Directions	Exit I-10 at Exit #81/Salome Road. Turn east/south on W. Salome Road. Turn south on Harquahala Valley Road.	Exit I-10 at Beaumont Avenue and turn north for 2 blocks to East 6th Street. Turn right (east) for 2 blocks to the Civic Center.	Exit I-10 at Cook Avenue Turn left onto Frank Sinatra Dr. Facility is on north side of street.

Sources of Project Information

For additional information or to read the Draft EIR/EIS online, check the Internet website at:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/dpv2/dpv2.htm>

Table 2 lists the public repository sites at which project documents may be reviewed.

Table 2. Repository Sites

Devers to Harquahala – Library Sites

Buckeye Public Library	312 N. 6th Street, Buckeye, AZ 85326	(623) 386-2778
Cathedral City Branch Library	33520 Date Palm Drive, Cathedral City, CA 92234	(760) 328-4262
City of Palm Springs Library	300 S. Sunrise Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262	(760) 323-8298
Coachella Branch Library	1538 7th Street, Coachella, CA 92236	(760) 398-5148
Desert Hot Springs City Public Library	11691 West Drive, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240	(760) 329-5926
Indio Public Library	200 Civic Center Mall, Indio, CA 92201	(760) 342-0185
Palm Desert City Library	73300 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92260	(760) 346-6552
Palo Verde Valley Library District	125 W. Chanslorway, Blythe, CA 92225	(760) 922-5371
Quartzsite Public Library	465 N. Plymouth Ave, Quartzsite, AZ 85346	(928) 927-6593
Rancho Mirage City Library	42520 Bob Hope Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270	(760) 341-7323

Devers to Harquahala – U.S. Bureau of Land Management Offices

California Desert District Office	22835 Calle San Juan de los Lagos, Moreno Valley, CA 92553	(951) 697-5200
Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office	690 W. Garnet Avenue, N. Palm Springs, CA 92258	(760) 251-4800
Phoenix Field Office	21605 N. 7th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027-2099	(623) 580-5500
Yuma Field Office	2555 East Gila Ridge Road, Yuma, AZ 85365-2240	(928) 317-3200

West of Devers – Library Sites

A. K. Smiley Public Library	125 West Vine Street, Redlands, CA 92373	(909) 798-7565
Banning Public Library	21 W Nicolet Street, Banning, CA 92220	(951) 849-3192
Beaumont Library District	125 East 8th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223	(951) 845-1357
Calimesa City Library	974 Calimesa Boulevard, Calimesa, CA 92320	(909) 795-9807
City of Loma Linda Library	25581 Barton Road, Loma Linda, CA 92354	(909) 796-8621
City of Riverside Library	5505 Dewey Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504	(951) 359-3906
Colton Public Library	656 N. Ninth Street, Colton, CA 92324	(909) 370-5083
Grand Terrace Library	22795 Barton Road, Grand Terrace, CA 92313	(909) 783-0147
Mentone County Library	1870 Mentone Boulevard, Mentone, CA 92359	(909) 794-2657
Morongo Community Library	11581 Potrero Road, Banning, CA 92220	(951) 849-5937
San Bernardino County Library	104 W. Fourth Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415	(909) 387-5723
Yucaipa Branch Library	12040 5th Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399	(909) 790-3146