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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM  
SCE DPV2 TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

**To:** Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** January 27, 2012  
**Subject:** Weekly Report 25, January 2 to January 8, 2012

**INTRODUCTION**

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the SCE DPV2 Transmission and Red Bluff Substation Projects. This report is organized as follows:

- Transmission Line Construction
- SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADES
- Construction Yards and Other Workspaces

A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTPs) with construction and Variance Request activity are also provided (see Tables 1 and 2, respectively, near the end of this report). Additionally, a summary of Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) and non-compliance activities are provided in Tables 3 and 4, respectively.

**CPUC/BLM/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM):** Jenny Slaughter, Ryann Loomis, and Rosina Gallego

**TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION**

**Summary of Activity**

1. Colorado River Substation to Red Bluff Substation
  - No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.
2. Red Bluff Substation to Devers Substation
  - No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.
3. Devers Substation to Valley Substation
  - No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.

**Environmental Compliance**

1. SCE General Monitors conducted spot checks of the exclusionary fencing installed at Towers 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2211, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2137, 2136, 2135, 2134, 2133, 2132, 2131, 2130, 2129, 2128, 2127, 2126, 2125, 2122, 2113, 2110, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2101, and 2102. All fencing was found to be intact and undamaged. (See Figure 1.)

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Transmission Line Construction activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

**Agency Representatives during Construction (Other than CPUC EMs):**

None.



## **SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADES**

### **Summary of Activity**

1. Colorado River Substation (CRS) (BLM Lands)
  - BMPs were installed along the access road from Wiley's Well Road (see Figure 2) and around the substation perimeter.
  - At the well site, installation of the well pump began and the dirt around the well was scrapped/backdragged.
  - Minor grading occurred within the existing road bed of the main access road and speed limit signs were installed along the road (see Figure 3).
  - The laydown area within the substation was cleared of vegetation and grading of the site began (see Figure 4).
2. Red Bluff Substation (BLM Lands)
  - The well drilling contractor arrived back onsite on January 4<sup>th</sup> for the commencement of well drilling.

### **Environmental Compliance**

1. There were no non-compliance issues or special-status species observations at CRS reported by the SCE Monitors during the subject period.
2. SCE General, Biological, and Archeological Monitors were onsite throughout all construction activities associated with BMP installation along the access road to CRS
3. On January 6, CPUC EMs noted that the berms created by access road grading to CRS were too high (over 12 inches) according to the Biological Opinion regarding berm height in desert tortoise habitat (see Figure 5). The CPUC EMs were informed by the SCE Environmental Coordinator that the berms would be addressed and reduced to under 12 inches once the road grading was completed.
4. South West Pump and Drill notified the CRS site representative of a diesel spill under the crane rig. SCE and American Integrated Environmental Services representatives came on site to remove the contaminated soil. The contaminated soil was placed in drums and taken off site.
5. Biological and General Monitors were onsite throughout drilling activities at Red Buff Substation. There were no non-compliance issues or special-status species observations reported by the SCE Monitors during the subject time period.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Substation Construction and Upgrade activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

### **Agency Representatives during Construction (Other than CPUC EMs):**

None.

## **CONSTRUCTION YARDS AND OTHER WORKSPACES**

### **Summary of Activity:**

Non-Federal Lands:

1. Blythe Yard – Activities at this yard are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.

2. Desert Center 1 Yard – Activities at this yard are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.
3. Desert Center 2 Yard – Bird netting was installed in the equipment laydown area.
4. Chiriaco Summit Yard – No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.
5. Indio Yard - Activities at this yard are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.
6. Indio 2 Yard – Construction activities included office trailer skirting and removal of perimeter BMPs (Figure 6)
7. Devers Yard – KGC augured a total of 8 pits to install barrier posts around the two pull boxes located outside of the Devers Yard, along Power Line Road (Figure 7). Activities within the yard were limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.
8. Devers 2 Yard – Activities included completion of gravel spreading within the yard, asphaltting the driveway and stabilizing the yard entrance.
9. Beaumont Yard -Activities at this yard are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.
10. Beaumont 2 Yard - No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.
11. Menifee Yard - Activities at this yard are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.
12. Perris Yard - Activities at this yard are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.

**Environmental Compliance:**

1. The SCE General Monitor conducted a weekly spot check of all of the construction yards. No compliance issues were reported during the subject period.
2. Biological sweeps of the construction yards were conducted by the SCE Biological Monitors throughout the subject period. No compliance issues or special-status species observations were reported.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Construction yard activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

**Agency Representatives during Construction (Other than CPUC EMs):**

None.

## CPUC/BLM NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTPS)

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC/BLM Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for the DPV2 and Red Bluff Projects, to date.

**TABLE 1**  
**NTPS**  
(Updated 01/27/12)

| NTP #/<br>Permit | Date<br>Requested | Date<br>Issued  | Segment                           | Description  |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>CPUC NTPs</b> |                   |                 |                                   |  |
| NTP #1           | 04/28/11          | 06/23/11        | Yards                             | Authorization to proceed with the development of the Devers, Desert Center 1, Desert Center 2, Summit, Blythe, Perris, Beaumont, and Menifee Construction Yards.   |
| NTP #2           | 08/05/11          | 09/09/11        | T/L                               | Installation of exclusionary fencing, Devers to Blythe. No cultural resources affected. Bio pending.   |
| NTP #3           | 08/26/11          | 09/19/11        | Yards                             | Construction of Beaumont Construction Yard #2.   |
| NTP #4           | 09/09/11          | 09/20/11        | Yards                             | Construction of Indio Construction Yard.   |
| NTP #5           | 09/16/11          | 10/11/11        | Red Bluff<br>Distribution<br>Line | Upgrades to a segment of the existing SCE 12 kV circuit overhead distribution line to supply light and power to the Red Bluff Substation, non-BLM lands.   |
| NTP #6           | 09/16/11          | 10/17/11        | Substation                        | Authorization to proceed with improvements to the new Colorado River Substation on private lands, including extension of the existing 33 kV distribution line, installation of a new telecommunication line, and access road improvements. |
| NTP #7           | 09/09/11          | 12/01/11        | T/L –<br>DPV1                     | Construction activities associated with a minor relocation of the Devers-Valley No. 1 Line (DV1).  |
| NTP #8           | 10/08/11          | 12/01/11        | T/L – CRS<br>to Red<br>Bluff      | Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between Red Bluff and Colorado River Substations and replacement of existing DPV1 overhead ground wire; non-BLM lands.  |
| NTP #9           | 10/08/11          | 12/02/11        | T/L –<br>Devers to<br>Red Bluff   | Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between the existing Devers Substation and the new Red Bluff Substation; non-BLM lands.   |
| NTP #10          | 10/08/11          | 12/02/11        | T/L –<br>Devers to<br>Valley      | Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between existing Devers and Valley Substations; not including San Bernardino National Forest lands.   |
| NTP #11          | 11/08/11          | 12/09/11        | Yards                             | Construction of Devers 2 and Indio 2 Construction Yards.   |
|                  | 01/20/12          | Under<br>Review | Yards                             | Construction of Desert Center 3 Yard.  |
| <b>BLM NTPs</b>  |                   |                 |                                   |  |
| BLM<br>NTP #1    | 08/26/11          | 09/19/11        | DPV2<br>Substation,<br>T/L        | Authorization to proceed with construction of the DPV2 Transmission Line, Colorado River Substation, and associated project components on BLM lands.   |
| BLM<br>NTP #2    | 08/26/11          | 09/19/11        | Substation                        | Construction of Red Bluff Substation and associated project components, BLM lands.   |

## VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

Variance Requests and Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) Requests submitted to date are summarized in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

**TABLE 2**  
**VARIANCE REQUESTS**  
 (Updated 01/27/12)

| Variance Request | Date Requested | Date Issued | Segment #  | Description   |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|--|---|
| VR #1            | 05/06/11       | 05/24/11    | Devers-Valley  | Construction of traditional lattice towers instead of "Tetra" towers at two locations (Structures #1139 and #1140)  |
| VR #2            | 04/21/11       | 05/26/11    | All  | Revisions to Mitigation Measure B-7d pertaining to seasonal restrictions for Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard and flat-tailed horned lizard to support consistency with conditions provided in the Biological Opinion. |
| VR #3            | 07/12/11       | 07/18/11    | DC 1 & DC 2 Yards  | Utilize offsite well location and installation of 12,000-gallon water tank for filling trucks.  |
| VR #4            | 07/06/11       | 07/21/11    | Menifee Yard   | Expansion of Menifee Construction Yard, which would include approximately 5 acres of additional disturbance within the western portion of the parcel, for material storage and other activities.                          |
| VR #5            | 04/22/11       | 07/28/11    | CRS Devers and Valley Substations, Series Capacitor Site | Modification of APM A-7 regarding carpooling for construction at substations.   |
| VR #6            | 07/07/11       | 08/01/11    | Menifee, Beaumont, Perris Yards                          | Request to remove Mitigation Measures B-13a and B-13b, and to modify B-1a, B-1a (revised), and B-7e pertaining to Western Riverside County MSHCP compliance.  |
| VR #7            | 08/11/11       | 08/22/11    | Perris, Beaumont, Menifee, Blythe Yards                  | Request to utilize offsite water hydrants at Perris, Beaumont, Menifee, and Blythe Construction Yards.  |
| VR #8            | 08/26/11       | 08/27/11    | Beaumont Yard  | Request to install seeded jute netting along the property frontage at Beaumont Construction Yard.   |
| VR #9            | 08/24/11       | 09/01/11    | DC 2 Yard  | Request for installation of temporary power poles outside of Desert Center 2 Construction Yard.   |
| VR #10           | 08/26/11       | 09/01/11    | Devers & Summit Yards                                    | Utilize offsite water locations needed for dust suppression at Devers and Summit Construction Yards.  |
| —                | 09/21/11       | Retracted   | Perris Yard  | Request for additional workspace involving vegetation clearing, installation of BMPs, and temporary driveway installation at Perris Construction Yard.  |
| VR #11           | 09/26/11       | 09/28/11    | T/L  | Two water sources for exclusionary fencing work.  |
| VR #12           | 10/13/11       | 10/18/11    | T/L  | Request for parking/temporary staging of vehicles along existing access road within the Coachella Valley Preserve during exclusionary fencing activities.   |

| Variance Request | Date Requested       | Date Issued        | Segment #        | Description  |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|--|
| VR #13           | 10/26/11             | 11/10/11           | Devers Yard      | Request for temporary power supply to provide power to construction trailer at the Devers #1 Construction Yard.                                |
| VR #14           | 11/10/11             | 11/28/11           | Substation       | Request for increased well pumping to support civil work, including access road improvements, at Colorado River Substation.                    |
| VR #15           | 12/13/11             | 12/14/11           | Summit Yard      | Request for temporary power outside yard boundaries required to power office trailers.   |
| VR #16           | 12/22/11             | 01/04/12           | Project-wide     | Request to approve alternate/extended work hours project-wide.   |
| VR #17           | 01/04/12             | 01/09/12           | Project-wide     | Request to utilize existing approved construction yard and/or exclusionary fencing water sources for transmission line construction needs.     |
| VR #18           | 10/25/12<br>10/26/12 | Denied<br>01/13/12 | Substation       | Request to formalize changes to the Red Bluff MMCRP Mitigation Measure BIO-4 and Applicant Measure BIO-5.                                      |
| VR #19           | 01/06/12             | 01/18/12           | T/L              | Helicopter landing zone  |
| VR #20           | 01/13/12             | 01/19/12           | T/L              | Request for the use of offsite water hydrants located in the Cabazon area for dust suppression.  |
| VR#21            | 01/20/12             | Under Review       | T/L              | Request for the use of offsite water hydrants located in the Lake Tamarisk area for dust suppression   |
|                  | 01/25/12             | Under Review       | T/L              | Additional water sources.  |
|                  | 01/27/12             | Under Review       | T/L              | Additional helicopter construction   |
| <b>BLM</b>       |                      |                    |                  |  |
| BLM #1           | 10/18/11             | 10/27/11           | Substation       | Request to install a temporary guard structure along the entrance of the existing transmission line access road for Colorado River Substation. |
| BLM #2           | 10/19/11             | 10/27/11           | Substation       | Request to approve 24-hour drilling operations at the CRS site.  |
| DNA #1           | 10/27/11             | 12/07/11           | Series Capacitor | Request for a slight expansion of the Series Capacitor site due to engineering conflicts.  |
| DNA #2           | 12/21/11             | Under review       | Red Bluff        | Secondary well   |
| DNA #3           | 12/22/11             | Under review       | Series Capacitor | Imperial Irrigation District distribution line relocation  |

**TABLE 3**  
**TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS**  
 (Updated 1/27/12)

| TEWS Request | Date Requested | Date Approved | Segment #    | Description  |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| #1           | 07/20/11       | 07/27/11      | Blythe Yard  | Use of offsite hydrant and installation of water tank at location adjacent to Blythe Construction Yard   |
| #2           | 07/28/11       | 08/04/11      | Menifee Yard | Use of offsite hydrant, located along the frontage of the Menifee Construction Yard, and a flexible hose to supply water to a 4,000 gallon water truck.                  |
| #3           | 08/16/11       | 08/16/11      | Menifee Yard | Revised use of offsite hydrant, located along the frontage of the Menifee Construction Yard, approximately 200 yards north of previously approved location.              |
| —            | 09/06/11       | Retracted     | Devers Yard  | Revised use of offsite hydrant, including installation of above ground pipeline and water towers.  |
| #4           | 09/29/11       | 09/29/11      | T/L          | Use of parking areas along primary access road within 400-ft total distance exclusionary fencing locations with exception of sites within the Coachella Valley Preserve. |

**NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS**

Table 4 provides a summary of reported non-compliance incidents.

**TABLE 4**  
**CPUC NON-COMPLIANCE REPORTS & PROJECT MEMORANDA**  
 (Updated 1/27/12)

| Type                                     | Date Issued | Location          | Description   |
|--|-------------|-------------------|---|
| <b>CPUC Project Memoranda (PM)</b>       |             |                   |   |
| PM #1                                    | 10/28/11    | CRS Dist. Line    | Construction vehicles leaving marked disturbance limits at two locations along CRS distribution line.               |
| PM#2                                     | 01/18/12    | Tower 2649/CR1-2W | DPV2 Construction contractor vehicle driving outside of the approved tower and access road disturbance area limits. |
| <b>CPUC Non-Compliance Reports (NCR)</b> |             |                   |   |
| NCR #1                                   | 01/13/12    | Project-wide      | Unapproved removal of stick nests from DPV1 Transmission Line towers.   |

## Project Photographs



**Figure 1.** Intact and undamaged Exclusionary Fencing at Tower 2132. (Photo Courtesy of Mark Augustyn)



**Figure 2.** BMP installation along the access road to CRS from Wiley's Well Road.



**Figure 3.** Speed Limit signs along the access road to CRS.



**Figure 4.** Grading of the laydown area within the CRS site (Photo Courtesy of Wilson Leung)



**Figure 5.** Road berms along the access road to CRS.



**Figure 6.** Office Trailer Skirting at Indio 2 Yard. (Photo Courtesy of Mark Augustyn)



**Figure 7.** Preparation for auger drilling at the Devers Yard temporary power source.  
(Photo Courtesy of Dean Ritter)