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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM  
SCE DPV2 TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

**To:** Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** January 31, 2012  
**Subject:** Weekly Report 26, January 9 to January 15, 2012

## **INTRODUCTION**

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the SCE DPV2 Transmission Line 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 Jamie Miner

## **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.
  - Ten nests were removed from nine existing DPV1 towers on January 12, 2012.
3. Devers Substation to Valley Substation
  - No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.

### **Environmental Compliance**

1. Non-Compliance Report (NCR) #1 was issued Project-wide on January 13, 2012 for unapproved removal of stick nests from DPV1 Transmission Line towers. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.
2. Exclusionary fencing was checked at towers 2240-2243, 2012, 2013, 2015-2020, 2100-2102, 2110, and 2113. All fencing was found to be intact and undamaged (see Figure 1).

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

None.



## **SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADES**

### **Summary of Activity**

1. Colorado River Substation (CRS) (BLM Lands) – BMP installation and vegetation clearing occurred along the access road from Wiley’s Well Road to the Substation site. BMP installation, vegetation clearing, and grading continued in the laydown area within the Substation (see Figure 2).
2. CRS Telecomm Line (BLM and Private Lands) – Cables were installed along the northern telecomm line and on two poles within the CRS site boundaries (see Figure 3).
3. Red Bluff Substation (BLM Lands) – Well drilling continued and was completed on January 12<sup>th</sup> and casing of the well was started. On January 13<sup>th</sup> well casing was completed and gravel packing commenced and ran through the 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **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, and vegetation clearing and grading within the CRS site. No compliance issues or special-status species observations were reported.
3. During vegetation clearing activities on the south side of the access road to CRS, the General Monitor observed a non-project associated vehicle working on an adjacent project speeding by construction activities. The foreman for the crew was notified and concerns for worker safety, biological resources, and fugitive dust were discussed.
4. During the biological sweep for the northern telecomm line, the Biological Monitor noted that the crew had driven outside of the approved access area during the previous day’s work for a turnaround area. The Biological Monitor informed the foreman, who then discussed the issue at length with the crew.
5. Biological and General Monitors were onsite throughout drilling and casing 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 – No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.
7. Devers Yard – The conduit for the temporary power source was dug back up to be repaired then was backfilled by the end of the day.
8. Devers 2 Yard – Activities included the delivery of an office trailer.
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 – No construction activities were conducted during the subject period.

**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.
3. General, Biological and Archaeological Monitors were onsite for all ground disturbing work at Devers 1 Yard. 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 1/31/12)

| 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 #/<br>Permit | Date<br>Requested | Date<br>Issued | Segment                           | Description  |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 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.   |
| NTP #12          | 01/16/12          | Under review   | Yards                             | Construction of Desert Center 3 Construction 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 1/31/12)

| Variance<br>Request | Date<br>Requested | Date<br>Issued | Segment<br>#         | Description   |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------------|---|
| VR #1               | 05/06/11          | 05/24/11       | Devers-<br>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<br>Yards | Utilize offsite well location and installation of 12,000-gallon water tank for filling trucks.  |

| Variance Request | Date Requested       | Date Issued        | Segment #  | Description  |
|------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| 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.  |
| 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.  |

| Variance Request | Date Requested | Date Issued  | Segment #        | Description  |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|--|
| VR #19           | 01/06/12       | 01/18/12     | T/L              | Request to allow the usage of helicopter landing zone H9-DV as a replacement for H8-DV.  |
| 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   |
| VR #22           | 01/25/12       | Under review | T/L              | Request to install 10,000-gallon standing water tanks at three locations.  |
| VR #23           | 01/27/12       | Under review | T/L              | Request to modify NTP #10 and MM AQ-1g for additional t-line 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        | Request to install secondary well at Red Bluff Substation site.  |
| DNA #3           | 12/22/11       | Under review | Series Capacitor | Request to relocate a portion of the Imperial Irrigation District distribution line located at the Series Capacitor site.                      |
| DNA #4           | 01/24/12       | Under review | Red Bluff        | Request to authorize the use of rock crushing and screening equipment to balance native cut material with fill quantities required onsite.     |

**TABLE 3**  
**TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS**  
(Updated 1/31/12)

| 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 1/31/12)

| Type                                     | Date Issued | Location             | Description   |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---|
| <b>CPUC Project Memoranda (PM)</b>       |             |                      |   |
| PM #1                                    | 10/28/11    | CRS Dist.<br>Line    | Construction vehicles leaving marked disturbance limits at two locations along CRS distribution line.               |
| PM#2                                     | 01/18/12    | Tower<br>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.** Exclusionary fencing at Tower 2241. (Photo Courtesy of Dean Ritter)



**Figure 2.** CRS laydown area. (Photo courtesy of Wilson Cheung)



**Figure 3.** Area on CRS telecomm line where construction crews drove outside of approved work areas. (Photo courtesy of Mike Zerwekh)