

Devers-Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project

Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Report Colorado River Substation Expansion

California SCH #2005101104

To: Readers of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

From: Billie C. Blanchard, CPUC, EIR Project Managers

Subject: Notice of Availability, Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the

Proposed Colorado River Substation Expansion Devers-Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project

Date: February 22, 2011

The California Public Utilities Commission, as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (Draft SEIR) for consideration of Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) application to build and operate an expanded Colorado Rivers Substation (CRS) for the Devers-Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project (DPV2). The CRS was originally known as the Midpoint Substation and was analyzed in the DPV2 Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS), which was published in October 2006. The original substation design included the loop-in of the Devers-Palo Verde No. 1 (DPV1) and DPV2 transmission lines covering 44 acres of land. The CPUC approved the DPV2 project in January 2007 and certified the EIR/EIS as being in compliance with the requirements of CEQA.

In November 2009, the CPUC also approved SCE's Petition for Modification to build the California-only portion of DPV2 beginning at CRS. Since then, SCE has determined that the CRS needs to be expanded to 90 acres to include 500/220 kV transformer banks and a 220 kV switchyard in order to accommodate the interconnection of renewable power generators in the Blythe area. The CRS would be located on an approximately 160-acre parcel of land located approximately 1.5 miles south of Interstate 10 and 4.75 miles east of Wiley Well Road, in the County of Riverside, California. The Colorado River Substation site, including the proposed expansion, would be located on public lands managed by the BLM that would be granted to SCE for this use.

The Draft SEIR details the components of 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 or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Draft SEIR also evaluates alternatives to the Proposed Project, including the No Project Alternative, as required by CEQA.

The Draft SEIR will be available for review at several area libraries and on the project website, as listed on page two of this notice. Additional copies of the Draft SEIR on CD and/or a separately bound Executive Summary may be requested at the addresses or telephone numbers given herein. The CPUC also has a limited number of additional copies of the complete Draft SEIR document available to the public upon request.

Written comments on the Draft Supplemental EIR must be postmarked or received by fax or email <u>no later than April 8, 2011</u>. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number.

Written comments on the Draft Supplemental EIR should be sent to:

Billie Blanchard, CPUC

c/o Aspen Environmental Group 235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935 San Francisco, CA 94104 Fax: (800) 491-6153

E-mail: dpv2@aspeneg.com.

There will be no workshops or public meetings during the Draft SEIR comment period.

Sources of Project Information

For additional information or to read the Draft SEIR online, check the Internet website at:

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

The public repository sites at which project documents may be reviewed are listed below.

Document Repository Sites		
Indio Public Library	200 Civic Center Mall, Indio, CA 92201	(760) 342-0185
Palo Verde Valley Library District	125 W. Chanslorway, Blythe, CA 92225	(760) 922-5371
BLM Palm Springs/South Coast Field Office	1201 Bird Center Drive, Palm Springs, CA 92262	(760) 833-7100