



SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
BALBOA PARK - SAN DIEGO SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY - ESTABLISHED 1874

23 March 2010

Dayle M. Cheever
Sunrise Environmental Services, Sunrise Powerlink
8315 Century Park Court, CP21G
San Diego, CA 92123

RE: Paleontological resources; Alpine Regional Field Offices, Construction Yard 18,
Segment 15, Section 6, Link 4 of the Sunrise Powerlink Project

Dear Dayle:

This letter report reviews the paleontological resource issues associated with construction of a temporary construction support site on private property in the community of Alpine, San Diego County, California. The proposed support site is bordered by Larkspur Drive to the North, Victoria Park Terrace to the East, and private property to the South (Figure 1). Currently the site consists of undeveloped, disturbed land, composed of two parcels (A and B), surrounded by sloped hillside areas. The site is accessed via an existing unpaved entrance at Tavern Road. Approximately 85% of the property has been graded by the current owner for use as an equipment and materials storage area. The site has largely been cleared of vegetation and consists of bare ground with some scattered soil stockpiles and regrowth of native and nonnative vegetation.

A site specific geotechnical investigation conducted by Geosyntec Consultants (November 2009) found that the proposed support site is underlain by up to 12 feet of locally derived artificial fill materials overlying plutonic igneous rocks mapped as the Alpine Tonalite. The geologic conditions discussed in the Geosyntec Consultants report are consistent with findings presented in our recently prepared Sunrise Powerlink Project Paleontological Records Search report (San Diego Natural History Museum, 2010). As discussed in our report the Alpine Tonalite (=lower Cretaceous tonalite of Alpine) lacks the potential to contain paleontological resources because of its origin directly from magma. Likewise, artificial fill materials because of their origin by grading and recompaction, also lack the potential to contain paleontological resources.

Given the lack of paleontological resources at the proposed Alpine Regional Field Offices support site, any construction activities related to development of the site will not result in any resource impacts. Consequently, paleontological resource mitigation measure PAL-1b (Develop Paleontological Monitoring and Treatment Plan) does not apply to this site. However, in the unlikely event that a paleontological discovery is made during site development, all earthwork must cease in the area of discovery until a recovery plan is prepared, reviewed, and approved by CPUC and BPM staff.

If you have any questions concerning these findings, please feel free to contact me at 619-255-0232 or tdemere@sdnhm.org.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Deméré, Ph.D.
Director, Department of PaleoServices
San Diego Natural History Museum

References Cited:

Geosyntec Consultants. 2009. Geotechnical Investigation, SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Field Headquarters Facility and Materials Storage Yards, Alpine, California. Report prepared SDG&E, November 2009.

San Diego Natural History Museum. 2010. Paleontological Records Search. Report prepared for SDG&E, February 2010.



Figure 1. Map showing the location of the proposed Alpine Regional Field Offices support site (blue square), Alpine, San Diego County, California. Larkspur Drive borders the north side of the proposed site.