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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SDG&E'S SUNRISE POWERLINK PROJECT**

To: Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: March 24, 2011
Subject: Weekly Reports 25 – March 6 to March 12, 2011

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project. 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 with construction and Variance Request activity are also provided (see Tables 1 and 2, respectively, near the end of this report). Finally, a summary of Temporary Extra Workspace and non-compliance activity are provided in Tables 3 and 4, respectively.

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM): Cassandra Garza, Brian Woodward and Valerie Yep

TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

1. Link 1, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

- Conventional foundation drilling and concrete pouring were conducted at Towers EP 217-1, EP 218-1, EP 219-1, EP 243, EP 244, EP 215, EP 210, EP 211, EP 213, and EP 214.
- Micropile foundation drilling occurred at EP 221-2, EP 221-A, EP 225-1, EP 230-1, EP 235-1, and EP 238-1.
- Micropile proof testing, grouting, trimming was conducted at EP 226-1, EP 231-1, EP 229-1, EP 238-1, EP 230-1, EP 229-1, EP 224-1, EP 231-A, and EP 226-1.
- Conventional structure assembly occurred at EP 217-1, EP 218-1, EP 200A-1, EP 201-3, EP 202-3, EP 203-3, EP 204-3, EP 205-2, EP 206-1, EP 207, EP 208, EP 209-1, EP 210, and EP 211.
- Helicopter structure assembly took place at EP 227, EP 228, EP 229-1, EP 230-1, EP 231-1, EP 232-1, EP 233-1, EP 234-1, EP 235-1, EP 236-1, EP 237-1, EP 238-1, EP 239-1, EP 244, EP 245-1, EP 246, EP 247, EP 248, EP 249, EP 250, EP 251, EP 194-2, EP 195-1, EP 197-2, and EP 199-3 (see Figure 1).
- Structure bridges were set on EP 217-1 and EP 218-1.
- Erosion control was refreshed at EP 208, EP 211 and EP 244.
- Driveway installations occurred at EP 236, EP 237-1 pull site, EP 243, EP 244, EP 245-1 thru EP 244.
- Access Road improvements were made at EP 245-1 thru EP 244.

2. Link 2, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

- Rough grading of an access road occurred at Tower EP 84-B.
- Helicopter structure assembly occurred at EP 72, EP 73, EP 81, EP 82, EP 86-1, EP 87-1, and EP 88-2.



3. Link 4, 220 kV Underground Transmission Line:
 - Vaults V2L, V2R, and V8L were set.
 - Pot-holing was conducted along Alpine Boulevard east of Tavern Road and for V8R and V9L.
 - Excavation was conducted for V3R and V7R.
 - Trenching for ins-and-outs was conducted at the following: Alpine Boulevard at South Grade Road, and V3R, V7R, V9L, V13L, V15L, V16L, V17L, V18, and V19L.
 - Drilling and saw-cutting was conducted at V5R, V6L, V7L, V9L, V10L, and V14L, and along Alpine Boulevard just west of Tavern Road.
 - Grinding and paving occurred at V14L on Alpine Boulevard from West Willows Road to the east.
 - V17L and V16L were poured and encased.
 - Drilling continues at the south jack-and-bore site.
4. Link 5, 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line:
 - Conventional foundation work occurred at CP 17-1 (see Figure 2).
 - Structure assembly occurred at Tower CP 41-2.
 - Helicopter structure assembly occurred at CP 42-1, CP 43-1, and CP 44-1.
 - Construction of a Tower Staging and Access Pad (TSAP) occurred at CP 51-2.
 - Rough grading of an access road occurred at CP 31-2.
 - Reconductoring work was conducted on Tie Lines (TL) 6916 and 639. On TL 639 maintenance was performed at Calle De Vida and Mast Boulevard, new poles installed at sites 48, 62, 74 & 75. Rollers and insulators were installed on the entire line.
5. Pre-Construction surveys were performed throughout Link 1, 2 and 5 with appropriate monitors.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors were present as applicable during all transmission line construction activities.
2. Link 1: About one gallon of hydraulic fluid was released at EP 221-A into standing water onsite. The SDG&E Link Lead was notified and absorbent pads were used to remove the sheen. Reports were sent to the appropriate authorities.

On March 12, an incident was noted due to a bulldozer having been delivered to EP 252 prior to CPUC EM clearance of the site. Track marks were noted onsite, but no resources were damaged or disturbed. The bulldozer was removed from the site on March 14, and reported to the CPUC EMs.
3. Link 2: BMPs for the access road to EP 86 were bolstered after the rains (see Figure 3).
4. Link 4: BMPs at the Bauer Bridge were found to need improvements following the rain event on March 7. BMP maintenance was performed following the rain event; additionally, the maintenance activity is the only activity taking place at Bauer Bridge due to multiple nesting birds. (See Figure 4).
5. Link 5: Work was postponed during and after rain events due to 69kV access roads being too muddy and hazardous for vehicles to pass. Roads were improved with rock before work began again. BMPs were improved at CP 17-1.

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 EMs):

None.

SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADES

Summary of Activity:

1. Suncrest Substation (Link 3): The canyon drain in the southern drainage area of the pad was installed to collect groundwater (see Figure 5). Drilling and blasting was conducted in several areas on the pad. Rough grading continued on the pad and along the access road. Fill material was hauled in to the low areas in the northern and southern portions of the pad.
2. Imperial Valley Substation Upgrade: The contractor was on site excavating for switch and breaker pads, trenching for electrical conduit, framing, and installing rebar.
3. San Luis Rey Substation: A retaining wall was constructed around 230 kV transformer. Crews were finishing a 69 kV Tie Line and worked within the control room.
4. Encina Substation: A new control shelter, breaker pads, and potential transformer pads were constructed. A drilling crew was on site to drill for switch stands and dead ends.

Environmental Compliance:

1. All applicable Biological, Cultural, Paleontological, and Native American monitors have been present during ground disturbing activities at all substations.
2. A Notice of Non-Compliance with Permit Conditions was issued by the Army Corps of Engineers on March 8 to SDG&E for non-compliance with three Special Conditions of DA Permit SPL-2007-00704-SAS at the Suncrest Substation.
3. During re-fueling at Imperial Valley Substation, a small fuel spill of less than half a gallon, was contained and cleaned-up.
4. A Biological Monitor has been at San Luis Rey Substation for all work, including monitoring the big horned owl nest and the approved buffer reduction area.

A Non-Compliance Report was issued by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) during the subject period for not successfully preventing sediment/excessive erosion from entering waters of the U.S. resulting from the Suncrest Substation site. 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:

1. Delivery of equipment, monopoles and wire reels continued at the Alpine Construction Yard. Construction of additional temporary offices commenced. Set up of additional field offices continues; primarily work inside the portable.
2. Preparation of the helicopter pad was conducted at the Alpine Regional Field Office (Alpine RFO).
3. Steel deliveries continue to be made at the Rough Acres Construction Yard.
4. Equipment delivery continues to be made at Thomas Yard.
5. Ongoing fence improvements are being made at the Jacumba Valley Ranch Yard to account for the operation of helicopters within the construction yard. Contractors continue to assemble steel.
6. Work has begun on the temporary water storage pond at the Wilson Yard. Repairs were made to the fence line that was blown down during helicopter operations. Fence slats were removed from the west-facing perimeter fence line to account for helicopter activities. Contractors repaired water filled ruts within yard to prevent a potential suitable habitat for amphibians to lay eggs into within the yard. Rutted and water filled areas were checked for wildlife and amphibian egg masses prior to filling in.

7. Steel delivery and structure assembly occurred at the Helix Construction Yard. An active bird nest affected access to the yard. The weed wash station was completed.
8. Tower assembly and helicopter operations continued at the Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard.
9. There was minimal activity at the SWAT Construction Yard
10. Fencing and a weed wash station were set up at the Kruetzkamp Construction Yard (see Figure 6).

Environmental Compliance:

1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors have worked with crews at the construction yards to define approved work areas and sites to avoid.
2. The SDG&E Link Lead was notified of a small fuel spill located on the south side of the Jacumba Valley Ranch Yard. The spill was contained and the contaminated soil was removed.
3. An active roadrunner nest was identified at the Alpine Yard and a buffer was installed.
4. BMP repairs were made at Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard following the rain event (see Figure 7).
5. A two-striped gartersnake (*Thamnophis hammondi*) was found dead during grading of the access road at Kruetzkamp Construction Yard.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memorandums were issued during the subject period for Construction Yards and other workspace activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

Agency Representatives during Construction (other than CPUC EMs):

None.

CPUC NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTPs)

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC Notice to Proceed activity for the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project through March 24.

TABLE 1
CPUC NTPs
(Updated 03/24/2011)

NTP#	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
#1	01/04/10	04/28/10	25	San Luis Rey Substation Upgrades
#2	02/08/10	04/29/10	23	South Bay Substation Upgrades
#3	02/26/10	05/20/10	Yard	Alpine Yard 18
#4	01/26/10	05/28/10	Yard	Alpine Yard 18A
#5	02/05/10	09/28/10	Yard	Rough Acres Yard, Phase 1
#6	05/26/10	09/28/10	24	Encina Substation Upgrades
#7	05/28/10	09/28/10	Telecomm	White Star Communication Facility
#8	06/09/10	10/06/10	Substation	Pomerado Substation Upgrades
#9	06/09/10	10/06/10	Substation	Scripps Switchyard/Substation Upgrades
#10	10/13/10	11/23/10	15	Link 4, Alpine 230 kV Underground Construction
#11	10/19/10	12/15/10	13	Link 3, Suncrest Substation/Wilson Construction Yard
#12	11/30/10	12/23/10	Yard	Rough Acres Yard, Phase 2
#13	11/09/10	01/14/11	2-18, 20-22	Links 1, 2, and 5, overhead construction on non-federal lands
BLM #1	01/19/11	02/03/11	1	Imperial Valley Substation upgrades.

VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

Variance and Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) requests submitted through March 24 are presented in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

TABLE 2
VARIANCE REQUESTS
(Updated 03/24/2011)

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
#1	11/04/10	11/10/10	Yard	Thomas Yard (El Centro, CA)
#2	12/22/10	03/18/11	Yard	Sycamore Estates Construction Yard.
#3	01/06/10	01/18/11	All	Modification to tree trimming requirements.
#3 MOD	01/25/11	01/26/11	All	Modification to brush clearing requirements.
#4	01/13/11	03/01/11	Yard	Helicopter Temporary Landing Pad area at the Alpine Regional Field Offices.
#5	02/01/11	02/09/11	Yard	Site improvements at the Wilson Construction yard and along Bell Bluff Trail
#6	02/01/11	03/01/11	Link 5	Variance from Mitigation Measure H-1a (CC) to allow work outside of the dry season.
#7	02/11/11	02/17/11	Link 3	Additional work areas for construction trailers, parking, etc.
#8	03/02/11	03/08/11	Link 2	Alternate access route to Structure EP 27.

TABLE 3
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS
(Updated 03/24/2011)

TEWS Request	Date Requested	Date Approved	Segment #	Description
TEWS #1	11/01/10	11/01/10	White Star	Asphalt paved area for vehicle parking and staging

NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS

Project Memorandum, Non-Compliance Reports, and other incidents that have occurred through March 24 are presented in Table 4.

TABLE 4
NON-COMPLIANCES (NC), PROJECT MEMORANDA (PM), AND OTHER INCIDENTS
(Updated 03/24/2011)

Type	Date	Location	Description
Incident	11/1/2010	White Star	Delivery of a rebar cage outside of the approved disturbance area.
PM #1	12/7/2010	Thomas Yard	Failure to report unanticipated biological resources within 48 hours.
PM #2	02/11/2011	EP 242, Link 1	Unauthorized ground disturbance at EP 242
Incident	02/17/2011	EP 244, Link 1	Nest incorrectly marked at entrance to EP 244.

Type	Date	Location	Description
Incident	02/18/2011	Alpine HQ	Emergency weather landing and storage of 3 helicopters at Alpine HQ.
NC #1	03/08/2011	Suncrest Substation	Army Corp of Engineers issued Non-Compliance for not complying with Special Conditions 19, 21 and 23 of DA Permit SPL-2007-00704-SAS.
Incident	03/12/2011	EP 252, Link 1	Bulldozer was delivered at site prior to CPUC clearance being given.
PM #3	03/15/2011	CP 67-3, Link 5	Staking crews operating and delivered by helicopters within Golden Eagle Buffer area.
Incident	03/15/2011	EP 214, Link 1	Dewatering approximately 1 gal of groundwater from an excavation hole without having submitted a dewatering plan to the CPUC.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Air crane is placing the bridge on EP 217, Link 1.



Figure 2: Drilling operations at CP 17-1, Link 5.



Figure 3: Stormwater BMPs repaired on access road to EP 86, Link 2.



Figure 4: BMPs at Bauer Bridge following the March 7 rain event, Link 4.



Figure 5: Grading and drain installation in southern portion of the Suncrest Substation pad site, Link 3.



Figure 6: Weed wash station and fencing installed at Kruetzcamp Construction Yard, Link 2.



Figure 7: BMPs improvements at Bartlett/Hauser Construction Yard, Link 2.