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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:** May 25, 2011  
**Subject:** Weekly Report 34 – May 8 to May 14, 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:

##### Non-Federal Lands:

- Conventional structure assembly was conducted at Towers EP213 and EP220-1.
- Micropile drilling took place at EP221A.
- Grading occurred at EP220 (crane pad re-grading).

##### BLM Lands:

- Conventional foundations were drilled at EP330-1, EP337, and EP339.
- Conventional foundations were poured at EP330-1, EP337, EP339, EP344, and EP361.
- Conventional foundations were disassembled at EP330-1 and EP344.
- Concrete preparation work was conducted at EP330-1, EP337, EP339, and EP344.
- Removal of forms, stripping and concrete cleanup was conducted at EP330-1, EP337, EP338, EP343, and EP344.
- Micropile soil boring took place at EP361 and EP363-1 (see Figure 1).
- Grading occurred at EP322-1, EP322-1-N, EP327, EP327-N, EP328-1, EP339, EP339-N, EP351, EP351-N, EP353, EP353-N, EP356, EP356-N, EP359, EP360, EP360-N, EP361, EP362-1, EP362-1-N (see Figure 2), EP363-1, and EP363-1-N.
- Road work continued along the existing access road from EP331 to EP341.

#### 2. Link 2, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

##### Non-Federal Lands:

- Micropile drilling and grouting occurred at EP 84 and EP86-1.



3. Link 4, 220 kV Underground Transmission Line (non-federal lands only):
  - Potholing occurred from Vaults V5R to V7R, V12R, and V14R to V15R.
  - Excavating occurred at V10L and V14R.
  - Ins-and-outs occurred at V2L, V3L, V5L, and V9R.
  - Trenching occurred from V3L to V5L, V7L to V8L, and V8R to V9R.
  - Pre-drilling and drilling occurred from V5R to V7R and V7L to V8L.
  - Encasement pouring occurred from V3L to V5L.
  - Proofing occurred from V6L to V7L and V12L to V14L.
  - Milling and setting plates occurred from V2L to V4L, V10L, and V8R to V9R.
  - Paving occurred from V3L to V5L, V11L to V12L, V8R to V9R, and V15R.
  - Vault setting occurred at V15R.
  - Bridge work occurred at the Viejas Creek Bridge (see Figure 3).
  - Shoring occurred at the Alpine Creek bore site.
  - Cable pulling and testing occurred from V16L to V18L.
  - Redevelopment occurred on Alpine Boulevard from South Grade Road west for 600 feet.
  - Conduit package and water line installation occurred at the Interstate 8 bore site.

4. Link 5:

Non-Federal Lands, 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

- Conventional foundations were drilled at Tower CP 25-2.
- Concrete preparation work (rebar installation) and concrete pouring occurred at CP25-2.
- Foundation cleanup occurred at CP 26.

Non-Federal Lands, 69 kV Overhead & Underground Transmission Line (TL):

- One new wood cable pole and one new steel cable pole were set at Rue Biarritz.
- Trenching occurred from the paved street to the cable poles on both ends of the Rue Biarritz underground section (see Figure 4).
- On TL6919, reconductoring was completed on the section between Ironwood Road and Alliant University parking lot.
- Reframing activities occurred between Alliant University parking lot and Rue Biarritz.

**Environmental Compliance:**

1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors were present as applicable during all transmission line construction activities.
2. On May 9 and 13, 2011, unanticipated cultural discoveries were made in the vicinity of EP 351 and EP 356, respectively. The procedures and guidelines for Treatment for Unanticipated Discoveries as set forth in the Final Historic Properties Management Plan were implemented. ESA flagging was installed and no impact occurred.
3. On May 10, 2011, an incident occurred where a water truck ran out of gas and refueled within 200 feet of jurisdictional waters. Crews were addressed and corrective action was taken. No environmental damage occurred.
4. On May 10, 2011, it was noted to the Link Lead that all steel plates must have dirt mounded around the edges so that no wildlife may enter, corrective action was immediately taken.
5. On May 11, 2011, an incident occurred in which an established nest buffer on Pole 41, on the 69 kV, was violated by crews climbing the pole instead of use of the approved bucket truck to access the top of the pole. Avian biologist confirmed that the nest was unaffected by the crews operation. Notification was made to the CPUC EM and CDFG representative.

6. An unexploded ordinance (UXO) was found at EP 359. A UXO monitor inspected the device and safely removed it from the work site.
7. One Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum*) was relocated from the EP 356 access road.
8. BMPs were installed or refreshed on access roads, TSAPs, and pads associated with structures on Link 1:

Non-Federal Lands:

- Along the 12 kV relocation near the Jacumba Valley Ranch Yard.
- EP211, EP220-1

BLM Lands:

- EP327, EP328-1, and EP330.

9. BMPs were installed or refreshed on access roads, TSAPs, and pads associated with structures on Link 2:

Non-Federal Lands:

- EP79 and EP84.

BLM Lands:

- None.

10. BMP installation and/or maintenance continued along Alpine Boulevard and the Loritz property, Link 4 (non-federal lands only).
11. No activity occurred at the Bauer Bridge location, Link 4 (non-federal lands), due to active nest buffer restrictions.
12. Cleanup and BMP work occurred on TL 6916 and TL 639, Link 5 (non-federal lands).
13. A helicopter dropped water to control dust on Link 2 at EP 86-1.
14. On May 11, 2011, a release of approximately 1 quart of steering fluid from a utility vehicle occurred at 10031-10079 Scripps Ranch Boulevard (Link 5) and was immediately contained and cleaned up. The spill was reported to the City of San Diego, Storm Water Reporting.
15. On May 13, 2011, a release of approximately 2 ounces of hydraulic fluid from a dump truck occurred at 10031-10079 Scripps Ranch Boulevard (Link 5) and was immediately contained and cleaned up. The spill was reported to the City of San Diego, Storm Water Reporting.
16. Pre-Construction surveys were performed throughout Link 1, 2 and 5 with appropriate monitors.

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 (non-federal lands): Rough grading continued on the pad. Drilling and blasting continued in several locations on the pad. Rock and soil were excavated and compacted in various locations throughout the pad and compacted behind the soil retention wall in the northern drainage in order to bring up to grade. Bell Bluff Truck Trail (BBTT) continues to be brought up to grade by cutting and filling various sections. The soil retention wall in the southern drainage was completed and work was begun on the third wall in the southeastern portion of the pad. Box culvert and drainage installation is being conducted along the BBTT and connections to the northern sediment basin continued.

2. Imperial Valley Substation Upgrade (BLM lands): Conventional foundations were drilled and structures were assembled. Gas circuit breaker, potential transformer, switch stands, and bus supports were installed. Trenching occurred in Bay #4 for cable vaults to tie into the control building (see Figure 5). Wiring occurred in the control room.
3. San Luis Rey Substation (non-federal lands): A gas circuit breaker, potential transformer, and switch stand pads were installed. Grounding installation and drilling pier holes for the perimeter fence continued.
4. Encina Substation (non-federal lands): Conventional foundations were drilled. Conventional structure assembly continued.
5. Sycamore Substation (non-federal lands): Conventional foundations were drilled.
6. Scripps Ranch Substation (non-federal lands): Work on the 69 kV bus and disconnects occurred. A new gas circuit breaker was installed.

**Environmental Compliance:**

1. All applicable Biological, Cultural, Paleontological, and Native American monitors have been present during ground disturbing activities at all substations.
2. The Storm Water Pollution and Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Monitor conducted daily inspections and worked with the contractor for areas in need of repair at Suncrest Substation. One Coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*) was found predated on along the BBTT. Use of the two existing ponds on the Wilson property as a water source has been conducted in accordance with SWRCB and CDFG permits.
3. Active nest monitoring occurred at Imperial Valley, Encina, San Luis Rey, Sycamore, and Scripps Ranch Substation.

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. Material staging and tower assembly continued at the Alpine Construction Yard.
2. No ground disturbing activities were conducted at the Alpine Regional Field Office (Alpine RFO).
3. Materials staging and tower assembly continued at Rough Acres Construction Yard. Rough Acres was also utilized for helicopter activities.
4. No work occurred at Thomas Yard.
5. Material staging and tower structure assembly continued at the JVR Yard. JVR Yard was also utilized for helicopter operations.
6. Material staging and tower assembly took place at the Wilson Fly Yard.
7. Material staging and tower assembly occurred at the Helix Construction Yard.
8. Material staging and tower assembly occurred at the SWAT Construction Yard.
9. Material staging and tower assembly occurred at the Hartung Construction Yard.

10. Material staging and tower assembly occurred at the Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard. The yard was also utilized for helicopter operations.
11. Material staging and tower assembly occurred at the Kreutzkamp Construction Yard.

BLM Lands:

12. Material staging and tower assembly occurred at the Plaster City Yard.
13. Perimeter fence was completed and access road grading took place at Dunaway Yard.

**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. One Coronado skink (*Plestiodon skiltonianus interparietalis*) and three two-striped gartersnakes (*Thamnophis hammondi*) were relocated at the Kreutzcamp Construction Yard.
3. Visual screening blankets were tested for helicopter operations at Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard on May 13, 2011 per Variance #14 (see Figure 6). The material failed testing (see Figure 7). A findings memorandum was submitted on May 24 which included proposed amendments for visual screening. The amendments were approved by CPUC on May 24, subject to site validation by the CPUC Visual Expert.

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 to date.

**TABLE 1**  
**CPUC NTPs**  
(Updated 05/25/2011)

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.
BLM #2	03/28/11	04/04/11	2-12, 16-17	Links 1, 2, and 5 overhead construction on BLM Lands.

## VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

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

**TABLE 2**  
**VARIANCE REQUESTS**  
 (Updated 05/25/2011)

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. Response to inquiry received 02/23.
#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.
#9	03/29/11	04/06/11	All	Perform construction activities outside of hours allowed by local ordinances with local jurisdiction approval.
#10	04/04/11 (revised)	04/14/11	Link 4	Additional construction work space at Viejas Creek Bridge.
#11	04/06/11	04/22/11	Link 1	Additional workspace east of EP215.
#12	04/15/11	04/25/11	Link 1	Additional turnaround along the access road to EP 220-1.
#13	04/13/11	05/06/11	Links 1 & 2	Two fiber optic regeneration sites.
#14	04/28/11	05/03/11	Yards	Change visual screening at Project construction yards from slats to fabric.
#15	05/12/11	5/18/11	Link 2	Alternate access to EP 84.
#16	05/16/11	5/20/11	Link 4	Additional parking space for use during underground construction.
#17	05/18/11	5/24/11	Encina Substation	Driveway improvement.

**TABLE 3**  
**TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS**  
 (Updated 05/25/2011)

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
TEWS #2	03/17/11	03/18/11	Link 4	Parking on Puetz Valley and Alpine Blvd
TEWS #3	03/17/11	03/18/11	Link 4	Parking on Harbison Canyon and Alpine Blvd
TEWS #4	03/22/11	03/23/11	Link 5	Storage on One Father Junipero Sierra Trail
TEWS #5	03/24/11	03/24/11	Link 4	Parking at 3900 Willows Rd. West
TEWS #6	03/24/11	03/24/11	Link 4	Parking at 5840 Willows Rd. East
TEWS #7	04/14/11	04/14/11	Link 2	Northeast spur of access road to EP 84
TEWS #8	05/24/11	05/24/11	Link 5	Pull site at UCSD gate
TEWS #9	05/17/11	05/24/11	Link 1	Parking areas at SWPL towers

**NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS**

Project Memorandum, Non-Compliance Reports, and other incidents that have occurred to date are presented in Table 4.

**TABLE 4**  
**NON-COMPLIANCES (NC), PROJECT MEMORANDA (PM), AND OTHER INCIDENTS**  
 (Updated 05/25/2011)

Type	Date	Location	Description
PM #1	12/07/10	Thomas Yard	Failure to report unanticipated biological resources within 48 hours.
PM #2	02/11/11	EP 242, Link 1	Unauthorized ground disturbance at EP 242
NC #1	03/08/11	Suncrest Substation	Army Corp of Engineers issued NC for not complying with Special Conditions 19, 21 and 23 of DA Permit SPL-2007-00704-SAS.
PM #3	03/15/11	CP 67-3, Link 5	Staking crews operating and delivered by helicopters within Golden Eagle Buffer area.
PM #4	04/06/11	SWAT Yard	Unauthorized Nest Removal from a water truck at SWAT Construction yard.
PM #5	05/16/11	EP 340, Link 1	Operation of water trucks outside of approved disturbance areas at EP 340.

Other compliance incidents identified by SDG&E monitoring staff and/or crews are presented in Table 5.

**TABLE 5**  
**PROJECT INCIDENTS**  
(Updated 05/25/2011)

Type	Date	Location	Description
Incident	11/1/2010	White Star	Delivery of a rebar cage outside of the approved disturbance area.
Incident	02/17/2011	EP 244, Link 1	Nest incorrectly marked at entrance to EP 244.
Incident	02/18/2011	Alpine HQ	Emergency weather landing and storage of 3 helicopters at Alpine HQ.
Incident	03/12/2011	EP 252, Link 1	Bulldozer was delivered at site prior to CPUC clearance being given.
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.
Incident	04/06/2011	JVR 12 kV, Link 1	Confusion on approved work areas due to varying maps having been distributed to workers and monitors.
Incident	04/07/2011	JVR 12 kV, Link 1	A site was worked on prior to CPUC EM construction release having been received for the area, no resources were damaged.
Incident	05/05/2011	Link 4	Three small fires were reported on Link 4 Underground. Fire tools were used by the on-site fire patrol to immediately respond per the Sunrise Fire Plan. Notification to Alpine Fire was made.
Incident	05/10/11	Link 1	A water truck ran out of gas and needed to refuel within 200 feet of jurisdictional waters. No environmental damage occurred.
Incident	05/11/11	Link 5	Nest buffer violation on 69 kV, Pole 41. Nest was reported unaffected by the operations within the buffer.
Incident	05/17/11	Link 1	BMP crew drove off the road between EP345 and EP346 and parked within the ESA boundary.

## PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



**Figure 1:** Micropile soil boring at EP363-1, Link 1.



**Figure 2:** Grading EP362-1-N, Link 1.



**Figure 3:** Attachments of conduit to Viejas Bridge, Link 4.



**Figure 4:** Trenching at Rue Biarritz, 69 kV Underground, Link 5.



**Figure 5:** Trenching at Imperial Valley Substation, Link 1.



**Figure 6:** Testing of fence screening material with Air Crane at Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard, Link 2.



**Figure 7:** Failed results of testing screening material with Air Crane at Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard, Link 2.