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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:** June 13, 2011  
**Subject:** Weekly Report 37 – May 29 to June 4, 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:

- Micropile drilling occurred at Tower EP223-1.
- Micropile trimming and cleanup took place at EP221-2.
- Tower assembly was conducted at EP219, EP220, and EP244 (see Figure 1).
- Ground resistance testing occurred at EP209-1, EP210, EP211, EP213, EP214, and EP215.

BLM Lands:

- Tower assembly occurred at EP322, EP327, EP336, EP338, EP339, and EP343.
- Conventional drilling took place at EP318, EP319, EP320, EP333, EP356, and EP359.
- Foundation work, including capping, curing, cage installation, etc., was conducted at EP318, EP319, EP320, EP331, EP332, EP333, EP334, EP340, EP356, EP359, and EP360.
- Concrete pouring occurred at EP318, EP320, EP333, and EP359.
- Concrete cleanup took place at EP320-1, EP321, EP322-1, EP331, EP334, EP359, and EP360.
- Grading was conducted at:
  - Tower sites EP321, EP354, EP355, and EP357.
  - Existing access roads between EP313 and EP316; EP324 and EP326; and EP347 and EP363.
  - New spur roads to EP319, EP333, EP335, EP354, and EP355 (see Figure 2).

2. Link 2, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

Non-Federal Lands:

- Micropile trimming, testing, and site cleanup occurred at EP84.
- Micropile drilling occurred at EP85-2.
- Grout testing occurred at EP86-1.
- Crews completed fence installation around a communication tower at EP87-1 TSAP.



3. Link 4, 220 kV Underground Transmission Line (non-federal lands only):

- Potholing occurred at Vault V14R.
- Excavating occurred at V10L and V13R.
- Transitions (Ins and Outs) occurred at V4R, V6R, and V10L.
- Trenching occurred from V4L to V5L, V5R to V7R, V7L to V8L, V11L to V12L, and at V18R.
- Pre-drilling and drilling occurred from V3R to V5R, V9R to V10R, and V9L to V10L.
- Saw cutting occurred from V9L to V10L, V13R to V14R, and at V18R.
- Encasement pouring occurred from V6R to V7R.
- Pre-racking manholes at V6L and V7L.
- Proofing occurred from V2L to V3L and V7L to V8L.
- Milling and setting plates occurred at V4R and V5R to V6R, V6R to V7R, at V9R, at V13R, and from V14R to V18R.
- Paving (including paving prep) occurred near V6R to V7R, V7L to 8L, and at 9R.
- Vault setting occurred at V10L and V13L.
- Bridge attachment work occurred at the Viejas Creek Bridge.
- Cable pulling and testing occurred from V2L to V3L, V13L to V14L, and V13R to V14R.
- Jointing (splicing) occurred at V17L.
- Grading occurred at the Loritz Property (see Figure 3) and V19R.
- Poles for acoustic blankets were delivered and installed at Bauer Bridge (see Figure 4).
- Work continued at the jack-and-bore site, Interstate 8 (I-8) and at the receiving pit on the north side of I-8.
- Preparation for boring began at the Alpine Creek bore site.

4. Link 5:

Non-Federal Lands, 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

- Conventional structure assembly was conducted at CP17-1 (see Figure 5).

USMC Miramar (Federal) Lands, 69 kV Reconductoring Line

- Reframing work occurred in Marine Corps Air Station Miramar between Structures 171671 and 171647.

Non-Federal Lands, 69 kV Reconductoring Line

- Scripps Underground:
  - Pumped and cleaned all manholes.
  - Spliced and terminated MH 120984, MH120987, MH120988, MH120986, and the rack within the Scripps Substation.
  - Pulled new cable from Scripps Substation to MH120984.
  - Continued pulling new cable between MH120986 and MH120984, between Scripps Substation and MH120986, and between Scripps Substation and MH120988.
- Rue Biarritz Underground:
  - Continued with cleaning conduit and pulling new conductor, repairing sidewalks, backfilling the trench, and reclamation of lawn area near Structure 973033.
  - Worked on cleaning conduit and pulling new conductor.
- Alliant Pull Site:
  - Completed the clipping and sagging of conductors between Pole 771473 and Rue Biarritz (Pole 973032).
  - Pulled new conductor (restring) on the section between Pole 771473 and Rue Biarritz (Pole 973032).
  - Staged equipment at Pole 771473 in preparation for restringing of the section between Alliant Pull Site (Pole 771473) and Rue Biarritz (Pole 973032).

- Completed installation of underground riser (conduit) at Pole 973033.
- Completed clipping and sagging of new cable at Poles 774824, 774823, and 774819.
- Reframe work was completed on Structure 171647.
- The access road and work area within TL 6916 was staked out at Pole Sites 774830, 973039, 774829, 973038, 973037, and 973036.

### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors were present as applicable during all transmission line construction activities.
2. On June 2, 2011, a release of approximately 50 gallons of melted ice water (potable water) occurred from a cooler used to preserve concrete samples. The concrete samples were not in the cooler at the time of the release. The release reached a dry wash, East Coyote Wash, 13-DW-13. Electronic reporting was made to the State Water Resources Control Board and the Army Corps of Engineers. The contractor was directed to move the cooler and place in an area that would prevent a release. (Link 1)
3. On June 2, 2011, an incident occurred where a water truck got stuck near EP355. As the vehicle was being removed, minor disturbance occurred outside of the approved work area. Cultural and Native American monitors were on site to assess the impacts. No damage occurred to any sensitive resources. (Link 1)
4. An unexploded ordinance (UXO) was discovered on the existing access road between EP333 and EP344. It was properly removed and disposed of by a UXO expert. (Link 1)
5. Two flat-tailed horned lizards (*Phrynosoma mcalli*) were found dead. One near EP325 and one near EP360, which was run over by a large piece of equipment. Five flat-tailed horned lizards were relocated; one near EP320, two near EP325, one near EP355, and one at EP358. All flat-tailed horned lizards were relocated by a permitted biologist. (Link 1)
6. Dust generated by helicopter activities at EP85-2 was controlled by watering the site. (Link 2)
7. On the Bauer property, a black-chinned hummingbird was observed flushing from the nest during pole installation activity. The biologist recommended and the construction crew complied with halting activity intermittently throughout the day to allow the bird to return to the nest. A visual barrier was also erected which encouraged the hummingbird to remain on the nest for longer periods of time. Acoustic monitoring also occurred near the nest. (Link 4)
8. 69 kV Reconductoring: On 6/1/2011, approximately 6 to 8 ounces of diesel fuel was released at 9990 Rue Biarritz, San Diego. The release was from construction equipment where expansion of diesel in a full tank was released from the vent. It was immediately contained and cleaned up. Reporting was made to the City of San Diego, Storm Water Reporting. (Link 5)
9. BMPs were installed or refreshed on access roads, TSAPs, and pads associated with structures on Link 1:
  - Non-Federal Lands:
    - EP227 and EP323-1.
  - BLM Lands:
    - EP313, EP317, EP319, EP320, EP321, EP322, EP323, EP324, EP333, EP335, EP337, EP338, EP348, EP352, EP356, EP357, EP360, EP362 at watershed crossings between EP316 and EP329, at watershed crossings between EP331 and EP341, and along the Southwest Powerline (SWPL) access road between EP348 and EP363.
10. BMPs were installed or refreshed on Link 4 (non-federal lands only):
  - BMP installation and/or maintenance continued along Alpine Boulevard and the Bauer and Loritz properties.

11. Link 5 (non-federal lands):

- BMPs were maintained on spur roads leading into CP25-2, CP26, CP40-2, CP41-2, and CP42-1, and at structures CP19, CP20, CP21, and CP22.
- Hydro-mulch was applied to the slope at the base of CP26 for soil stabilization.
- BMP installation was completed in the following areas:
  - TL6916 at Structures 973035 through 678465.
  - TL639 at Structures 171647 through 775953.

12. 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 on the substation pad and along Bell Bluff Truck Trail (BBTT) continued. Select fill material was placed in the northwest portion of the pad to bring it up to final grade. Installation of the permanent drainage system on the pad continued. Hauling rock and soil to the southern portion of the pad occurred. Drilling and blasting occurred in several locations on the pad. Culvert installation along BBTT continued (see Figure 6). Installation of exclusion fencing at the top of the soil retention walls was completed.
2. Imperial Valley Substation Upgrade (BLM lands): Work on the wiring in the control house occurred. Conventional tower assembly continued.
3. San Luis Rey Substation (non-federal lands): The contractor built forms and excavated a 230 kV cable trench on the north side of the transformer and worked on the conduit excavation on north side of the new 230 kV transformer. SDG&E worked on 69 kV bus upgrades, disconnects, and retrofitting Bay 4 in the 69 kV bus.
4. Encina Substation (non-federal lands): The contractor worked on the 138 kV transformer pad near Bay 13 and drilled new holes to form new piers. SDG&E crews worked on the western bus in the 138 kV portion of the yard.
5. Sycamore Substation (non-federal lands): Forming pads for disconnects, circuit breakers, and switch stands in Bays 26 and 21 were constructed.
6. Scripps Ranch Substation (non-federal lands): Wire for 69 kV was pulled into the substation.

**Environmental Compliance:**

1. All applicable Biological, Cultural, Paleontological, and Native American monitors have been present during ground disturbing activities at all substations.
2. One coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgulata*) was found dead along BBTT into Suncrest Substation. The snake was most likely run over by a piece of equipment or vehicle. One coast patch-nosed snake was relocated from BBTT to a safer location away from the road.
3. Active nest monitoring occurred at Imperial Valley, Encina, San Luis Rey, Sycamore, and Scripps Ranch substations.

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. Alpine Construction Yard – Utilized for materials storage.
2. Alpine Headquarters – An outdoor shed, with plumbing and electrical wiring, was installed for an ice machine to service field personnel.
3. Jacumba Valley Ranch (JVR) Yard- Tower assembly and helicopter activities continued. 12 kV pole clean-up, pole removal, and wire preparation also took place.
4. Rough Acres Yard – Materials storage and helicopter activities continued. Weed clearing also occurred.
5. Thomas Yard – No work occurred at this location during this reporting period.
6. Wilson Yard – Tower assembly continued.
7. Bartlett-Hauser Yard – Tower assembly and helicopter operations occurred.
8. Hartung Yard – Tower assembly occurred.
9. Helix Yard – Tower assembly occurred.
10. Kreuzkamp Yard – Tower assembly occurred.
11. SWAT Yard – No work occurred at this location during this reporting period.
12. Sycamore Yard – No work occurred at this location during this reporting period.

BLM Lands:

13. Dunaway Yard – Tower assembly continued.
14. Imperial Valley (IV) Yard – Construction of the yard continued.
15. Plaster City Yard – Tower assembly continued. Grading and installation of rumble plates occurred.
16. S2 Yard – Fence installation continued and small equipment was mobilized.

**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 western red-diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber*) was relocated from the work area at Wilson Yard.
3. Approximately 11 juvenile western toads (*Anaxyrus boreas*), one tiger whiptail lizard (*Aspidoscelis tigris*), one striped-tail scorpion (*Vaejovis Spinigerus*), one side-blotched lizard (*Uta stansburiana*), and nine two-striped gartersnakes (*Thamnophis hammondi*) were relocated at the Kreuzkamp Construction Yard.
4. Vegetation was mowed within Kreuzkamp Construction Yard to minimize fire risk (see Figure 7).

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 06/13/2011)

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 06/13/2011)

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.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
#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	05/19/11	Link 2	Alternate access to EP 84.
#16	05/16/11	05/21/11	Link 4	Additional parking space for use during underground construction.
#17	05/18/11	05/24/11	Encina Substation	Driveway improvement.

**TABLE 3**  
**TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS**  
(Updated 06/13/2011)

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

**NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS**

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

**TABLE 4**  
**NON-COMPLIANCES (NC) AND PROJECT MEMORANDA (PM)**  
(Updated 06/13/2011)

Type	Date	Location	Description
PM #1	12/7/10	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.

Type	Date	Location	Description
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 06/13/2011)

Type	Date	Location	Description
Incident	11/01/10	White Star	Delivery of a rebar cage outside of the approved disturbance area.
Incident	02/17/11	EP 244, Link 1	Nest incorrectly marked at entrance to EP 244.
Incident	02/18/11	Alpine HQ	Emergency weather landing and storage of 3 helicopters at Alpine HQ.
Incident	03/12/11	EP 252, Link 1	Bulldozer was delivered at site prior to CPUC clearance being given.
Incident	03/15/11	EP 214, Link 1	Dewatering approximately 1 gal of groundwater from an excavation hole without having submitted a dewatering plan to the CPUC.
Incident	04/06/11	JVR 12 kV, Link 1	Confusion on approved work areas due to varying maps having been distributed to workers and monitors.
Incident	04/07/11	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	05/05/11	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	05/17/11	Link 1	BMP crew drove off the road between EP345 and EP346 and park within the ESA boundary.
Incident	06/07/11	Link 1	During the aerial delivery of a structure body to EP339, approximately 200 ft outside of Plaster City Yard, the piece fell from the Aircrane. No injuries have been reported.
Incident	06/10/11	Link 1	During the aerial delivery of a structure layback to EP 339, at the EP 339 construction site, 3 of the 4 hooks released and caused an emergency placement of the steel at the site. While in the process of placing on the ground, the 4 <sup>th</sup> hook released and the tower fell to the ground. No injuries have been reported.

**PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Figure 1:** Conventional tower assembly at EP244, Link 1.



**Figure 2:** Grading of new spur road at EP333, Link 1.



**Figure 3:** Poles for acoustic blankets were delivered and installed at Bauer Bridge, Link 4.



**Figure 4:** Grading and soil stabilization at Loritz Property, Link 4.



**Figure 5:** Conventional structure assembly at CP 17-1, Link 5.



**Figure 6:** Culvert installation along BBTT, Suncrest Substation, Link 3.



**Figure 7:** Vegetation being mowed within Kreutzcamp Construction Yard to minimize fire risk, Link 2.