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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:** July 18, 2011  
**Subject:** Weekly Report 42 – July 3 to July 9, 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 Work-space 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 drilling was conducted at Tower EP240.
- Various foundation work including capping, curing, cage installation, etc., occurred at EP240 (see Figure 1).
- Grounding work took place at EP208.
- Drilling, rebar, concrete, grounding, and cleanup occurred at the Rough Acres test tower, per Variance #19 (see Figure 2).

BLM Lands:

- Grading occurred at:
  - Tower sites: EP300-1, EP302-1, EP303-2, EP304, EP305 TSAP, EP306-1, EP308, EP309, EP311 TSAP, EP317 TSAP, EP322/EP323 pull site, EP323 TSAP, EP324 TSAP, and EP355/EP356 pull site.
  - Spur roads associated with tower sites EP302-1, EP303-2, EP304, EP306-1, and EP355/EP356 pull site.
  - Existing Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) access roads: from EP303 through EP306, SWPL access road from Dunaway Yard to IV Substation, EP299 through EP312, EP322 pull site, EP323 pull site, and EP330 through EP350.
- Soil boring took place at EP301, EP302-1, EP303-2, and EP304.
- Micropile drilling was conducted at EP310, EP311-1, EP312, and EP324.
- Grouting occurred at EP324.



- Conventional drilling took place at EP295, EP296, and EP297.
- Rebar installation was conducted at EP295, EP296, and EP297.
- Caisson installation and welding occurred at EP240.
- Various foundation work including capping, curing, cage installation, etc., took place at EP295, EP296, and EP297.
- Concrete pouring was conducted at EP296 and EP297.
- Form removal and cleanup took place EP296 and EP297.
- Grounding occurred at EP295 and EP296.
- Equipment removal was conducted at EP362 and EP363.
- Steel delivery occurred at EP313 and EP328.
- Tower assembly took place at EP329, EP330, EP331, EP333, EP336, EP337, EP338, EP339, EP340, EP345, EP347, EP348, EP349, EP350, EP351, EP352, EP353, EP354, EP355, EP356, EP357, EP358, EP360, EP361, and EP362.
- Ground resistance testing and drilling were conducted at EP342, EP348, EP350, EP351, EP353, EP355, and EP356.
- Raven perching deterrents were installed at EP346, EP348, EP350, EP352, and EP354.

2. Link 2, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

Non-Federal Lands:

- No work activity occurred on Link 2 during this reporting period.

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

- Potholing/Redevelopment/Revitalization occurred at Vault V10R and Alpine Boulevard (near Alpine Elementary School).
- Excavation occurred at V19R and V20L.
- Transitions (Ins and Outs) occurred at V5R, V14R, and V15R.
- Trenching occurred between V6R to V7R, V9L to V11L, V12R to V13R, and V16R to V17R.
- Pre-drilling/drilling occurred between V10R and V19R and near Viejas Bridge.
- Pouring of encasement occurred from V9L to V10L and V16R to V17R.
- Pre-racking and cleaning manholes occurred at V2R, V3R, V8L, V15L, V16L, and V18L.
- Proofing occurred from V2R to V3R, V4L to V5L, and V5R to V6R.
- Milling and setting plates occurred at V4R to V5R, V10L to V11L, V12R to V14R, and V15R to V16R.
- Paving (including preparation) occurred near V5R, V12R to V13R, and V15R to V18R.
- A vault was set at V19R.
- Doweling occurred at V12R to V13R.
- A halo was installed at V2R, V3R, V4R, V14R, and V15R.
- Grading and foundation work occurred at the Loritz Property.
- A bore head and backhoe were retrieved after completion of work on bore and jacking/receiving pits at the Interstate 8 bore site (Caltrans bore site).

4. Link 5:

Non-Federal Lands, 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

- Grading occurred on the access road leading to CP20 through CP24.
- Conventional drilling occurred at CP41-2 (see Figure 3).
- Rebar was installed and concrete poured at CP40-2 and CP41-2.
- Forms were stripped and cleaned up at CP40-2.
- Micropile drilling occurred at CP42-1.
- Tower assembly occurred at CP19-1 (see Figure 4).
- Grounding was installed at CP40-2.

MCAS Miramar (Federal) Lands, 69 kV Reconductoring Line

- TL639: No work occurred on the TL639 during this reporting period.
- TL6916: No work occurred on the TL6916 during this reporting period.

**Environmental Compliance:**

1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors were present as applicable during all transmission line construction activities.

2. BMPs were installed or refreshed on access roads, TSAPs, and pads associated with structures on Link 1:

Non-Federal Lands:

- EP208, EP209, EP210, EP211, EP312, EP214, EP220, EP227, EP232-1, and EP243 (see Figure 5).

BLM Lands:

- From EP295 through 309, EP310, EP312, EP313/EP314 pull site, EP314, EP317, EP323-1, EP324, EP330 pull site east and west, EP343/EP344 pull site, EP355/EP356 pull site, along the SWPL access road from EP295 through EP312 and from EP331 through EP363.

3. BMPs were installed or refreshed on access roads, TSAPs, and pads associated with structures on Link 2 (non-federal lands only):

- BMPs were maintained from EP79 to EP93.
- BMPs were maintained on access roads associated with EP79 to EP93.

4. BMPs were installed or refreshed on Link 4 (non-federal lands only):

- No BMP work occurred on Link 4 during this reporting period.

5. BMPs were installed or refreshed on access roads, TSAPs, and pads associated with structures on Link 5 (non-federal lands):

- 69 kV:
  - A crew maintained BMPs along the entire alignment of TL639 from Location #1 to Location #85.
  - A crew completed BMP maintenance along TL6916 at 28 locations.
- 230 kV:
  - Dust at CP42-1 was controlled by a helicopter dropping water on site.

6. Three unanticipated paleontological fossil discoveries were made on Link 1. Samples were collected and the appropriate agencies were notified in accordance with the approved Paleontological Monitoring and Discovery Treatment Plan.

7. One flat-tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma mcalli*) was found dead within construction limits on the SWPL access road near EP362 and EP363. Three adult flat-tailed horned lizards (*Phrynosoma mcalli*) were relocated from EP324, EP354, and EP355. (Link 1)

8. On Link 4, one California vole (*Microtus californicus*) was found within the right-of-way and work limits on Alpine Boulevard near V5R. Five Pacific tree frogs were relocated from V19R.
9. At CP40 and CP41, several vehicles were observed by the CPUC EM parked outside of the construction limits. The CPUC EM notified the Link Lead and vehicles were moved within the construction limits (see Figure 6). (Link 5)
10. 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) took place. Crushing of rock for select fill material occurred. Materials were hauled from various sections of the pad to the northeast and southern sections of the pad. Select fill material was hauled from the center of the pad to the northeast quadrant of the pad. Installation of the permanent drainage system in the northeast quadrant of the pad and along BBTT took place. Pier drilling for foundations was conducted. Foundation forms were constructed and concrete was poured for foundation pads. Drilling on the southeastern section of the pad occurred with blasting in the same locations in the afternoons.
2. Imperial Valley Substation Upgrade (BLM lands): Work on the wiring in the control house in the 500 kV portion of the substation occurred. Conventional tower assembly was conducted and moved outside of the substation.
3. San Luis Rey Substation (non-federal lands): A 230 kV cable trench for conduit installation and concrete slurry was poured over the conduit inside the trench. A retaining wall was constructed behind Bank 70. Wood frames for concrete were built in the 230 kV area. Spoils were cleared and stockpiled in the southwest corner of the yard. A crew laid asphalt and worked on wiring in the control house.
4. Encina Substation (non-federal lands): Excavation around pads was conducted for wire pull boxes between Bays 1 and 8 (see Figure 7). Trenching and concrete pouring occurred between wire pull boxes to install conduit (see Figures 8 and 9). Wiring, conduit installation, and grounding occurred. Crews were working on water valve testing in the western portion of the yard. Water valves were relocated and piping was installed.
5. Sycamore Substation (non-federal lands): Work was conducted below grade at Bays 21 and 26.
6. Scripps Ranch Substation (non-federal lands): No construction activity occurred during this reporting period.

**Environmental Compliance:**

1. All applicable Biological, Cultural, Paleontological, and Native American monitors have been present during ground disturbing activities at all 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. Materials staging, steel deliveries, and hand clearing/vegetation maintenance with Avian Biological Monitors as needed.
2. Alpine Headquarters – No significant activity occurred during the reporting period.
3. Bartlett-Hauser Yard – Utilized for helicopter operations, foundation work staging, and tower assembly.
4. Jacumba Valley Ranch (JVR) Yard – Foundation work staging took place (see Figure 10).
5. Hartung Yard – No significant activity occurred during the reporting period.
6. Helix Yard – Utilized for helicopter operations, foundation work staging, and tower assembly.
7. Kreutzkamp Yard – Utilized for tower assembly.
8. Rough Acres Yard – Helicopter operations, tower assembly, materials staging, and steel deliveries occurred in the yard.
9. SWAT Yard – Utilized for tower assembly.
10. Sycamore Yard – Utilized for foundation work staging.
11. Thomas Yard – Materials staging and steel deliveries were made.
12. Wilson Yard – Tower assembly and QC took place and materials were staged for Suncrest Substation.

#### BLM Lands:

13. Dunaway Yard – Helicopter operations and tower assembly and QC were conducted.
14. Imperial Valley (IV) Yard – Used as a water supply for surrounding areas only.
15. Plaster City Yard – Helicopter activities, foundation work staging, and tower assembly and QC occurred.
16. S2 Yard – Tower assembly and QC occurred.

### **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. Rumble plates were cleaned at Plaster City and S2 Yards. (Link 1)
3. One Brewer's blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) was found dead on the sidewalk at Rough Acres Ranch. The death was not project related. (Link 1)
4. A release of approximately 1,000 gallons of potable water was made by a subcontractor's water delivery truck. The release was reported to the Army Corps of Engineers, State Water Resources Control Board, and California Department of Fish and Game. After pulling off of Evan Hewes Highway, the truck became stuck in soft sand and the operator released some of the load from the truck. The release occurred near Evan Hewes Highway, approximately one quarter mile west of Painted Gorge Road in Ocotillo, California. The potable water release reached the Coyote Wash. (Link 1)
5. Seven Two-striped garter snakes (*Thamnophis hammondi*), seven juvenile western toads, four coastal tiger whiptail lizards, and three Baja California chorus frogs were relocated from the Kreutzkamp Construction Yard. One Barn owl (*Tyto alba*) was found dead due to predation within the Kreutzcamp Construction Yard. (Link 2)

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 07/19/2011)

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.
Miramar	01/20/11	06/28/11	22	Overhead and substation construction.

## 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 07/19/2011)

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	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.
#18	06/27/11	07/14/11	Link 1	Gate installation between mile markers 38.5 and 39.5.
#19	06/27/11	06/29/11	Link 1	Installation of training tower at Rough Acres Construction Yard.
#20	06/28/11	Under Review	Link 5	Additional disturbance for access, pull sites and topsoil stockpile at CP48-2 to CP51-2.
#21	07/07/11	07/15/11	Link 1	Guard structure from EP255 to Imperial Valley Substation.
#22	07/08/11	Under Review	Link 1	Fromm Construction Yard.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
BLM VR #1	07/19/11	Under Review	Link 1	Minor modifications to portions of the Project on Bureau of Land Management lands.

**TABLE 3**  
**TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS**  
(Updated 07/19/2011)

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	04/06/11	04/07/11	Link 2	Northern access road to EP 79
TEWS #8	04/14/11	04/14/11	Link 2	Northeast spur of access road to EP 84
TEWS #9	05/17/11	05/24/11	Link 1	Use of SWPL tower sites for parking (EP331-341)
TEWS #10	05/24/11	05/24/11	Link 5	Parking and pullsite adjacent to Alliant University
TEWS #11	06/16/11	06/16/11	Link 1	Use of alternative access to EP 240, per the request of the landowner at JVR
TEWS #12	06/20/11	06/20/11	Link 1	Use of SWPL tower sites for parking (EP295-299)
TEWS #13	06/30/11	07/01/11	Link 1	Use of SWPL tower site for parking (EP324)
TEWS #14	07/01/11	07/01/11	Link 1	Use of SWPL tower sites for parking (EP300, EP302, EP306, EP307, EP312)
TEWS #15	07/06/11	07/06/11	Link 1	Use of SWPL tower sites for parking (EP294, EP303, EP304, EP305)
TEWS #16	07/11/11	07/12/11	Link 5	Parking near CP20
TEWS #17	07/11/11	07/12/11	Link 5	Parking near CP24
TEWS #18	07/11/11	07/12/11	Link 5	Parking near CP29

**NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS**

CPUC Project Memorandum (PM) and Non-Compliance Reports (NCR), and Corps Non-Compliances (NC) that have been issued to date are presented in Table 4.

**TABLE 4**  
**NON-COMPLIANCES (NC) AND PROJECT MEMORANDA (PM)**  
(Updated 07/19/2011)

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.

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 07/18/2011)

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 Airplane. 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.
Incident	07/07/11	Link 1	A project water tanker was stuck on the side of Evan Hughes Highway and released approximately 1,000 gallons of potable water into Coyote Wash, after pulling over to evaluate a bridge crossing. All necessary notifications were made.

Type	Date	Location	Description
Incident	07/07/11	Link 5	Construction vehicles, including project fire truck, were noted to be outside of approved disturbance areas at CP40 and CP41. Link leads were notified and immediate corrective action was taken.

**PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Figure 1:** Drilling and caisson hammering at EP240, Link 1.



**Figure 2:** Practice tower at Rough Acres Yard, Link 1.



**Figure 3:** Drilling operations at CP41-2, Link 5.



**Figure 4:** Tower assembly at CP19-1, Link 5.



**Figure 5:** BMP repair and maintenance along McCain Valley Road, Link 1.



**Figure 6:** Fire truck parked on vegetation outside of construction limits near CP41-2, Link 5.



**Figure 7:** Wood work for pouring concrete foundation at Encina Substation.



**Figure 8:** Concrete poured over conduit at Encina Substation.



**Figure 9:** A wildlife escape ramp in a conduit trench at Encina Substation. The biologist reported a mouse used this ramp to escape after falling in the trench during construction.



**Figure 10:** Overview of Jacumba Valley Ranch Yard operations, Link 1.