

California Public Utilities Commission Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program

Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects

Compliance Status Report: 018

May 28, 2017

SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects. The CPUC has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIR/FEIS to mitigate or avoid impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the CPUC's third-party monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the MMCRP, and anticipated construction activities. Photos of site observations are included in Attachment A of this report. A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTP) and Minor Project Refinement Requests (MPRRs) are provided in Attachments B and C, respectively.

This compliance status report covers construction activities from May 15 through May 28, 2017.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations in areas under active construction, which included Transmission Lines (TL) 625B, 629E, 6931, and Staging Yards. Areas of active and inactive construction were observed to verify implementation of the mitigation measures stipulated in the project's MMCRP. Observations were documented using site inspection forms, and applicable applicant proposed measures (APMs) and mitigation measures (MMs) were reviewed in the field.

Implementation Actions

During this reporting period, CPUC EMs observed dust prevention measures being implemented along access roads and in work sites, and during the grading of a Stringing Site along TL 6931 in accordance with APM AIR-01 (See Photo 1—Attachment A). Construction-related vehicles were observed

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maintaining the project speed limit of 15 miles per hour on unpaved roads in accordance with APM AIR-03 and MM BIO-24. Anti-dirt tracking controls such as rattle plates and rock aprons were observed where required (at points of ingress and egress with project access roads and staging yards) to prevent track out onto paved roads, dust emissions, and sediment erosion in accordance with APM AIR-05 and MM HYD-1.

In accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22, biological monitors were observed on site monitoring during initial ground disturbing activities, such as excavation for pole anchor installation and grading of stringing sites, and spot-checking non-ground disturbing activities such as pole installation and overhead wire work. In accordance with MM BIO-28 and the Project's Nesting Bird Management Plan, signage indicating active nest buffer conditions was observed posted and avoided by crews during inspections and allowable bird deterrent materials, such as netting, was observed on staged equipment in staging yards (See Photo 2—Attachment A). Construction crews were observed working within delineated workspaces in accordance with MM BIO-1, and signs notifying workers of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) for special status plants and butterfly host plant species outside the work limits (MM BIO-13, MM BIO-14, and MM BIO-16) were observed along the alignment.

Erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) along access roads and the perimeters of work sites and staging yards were observed in good condition and functional in accordance with the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (MM HYD-1, MM BIO-7, and APM HYD-09) (See Photo 3 - Attachment A). In addition, construction crews were observed implementing spill prevention BMPs including the use of drip pans beneath staged equipment (See Photo 2—Attachment A), staging spill kits at work sites, and implementing secondary containment beneath hazardous materials at staging yards in accordance with the SWPPP and MM PHS-2. During concrete pouring activities associated with the Old Highway 80 jack-and-bore underground transmission line crossing (TL 629E), a concrete leak/spill was observed by an environmental monitor and was cleaned up in accordance with APM HYD-01.

During activities along the right-of-way, construction crews were observed implementing fire prevention BMPs, and complying with activity-specific fire prevention requirements prescribed in the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (CFPPP) (MM FF-1). Construction crews were observed making sets of fire tools readily available, which included a 5 gallon backpack pump, round point shovel, Pulaski, and 2A10BC fire extinguisher (See Photo 4—Attachment A).

Implementation of traffic control measures to support overhead line work and guard structure placement continued to be observed this reporting period along TL 625B. Traffic control measures such as the placement of signage and cones as well as the use of flagpersons to direct traffic along Japatul Road were implemented in accordance with APM TRANS-02 and APM TRANS-05. During anchor hole excavation at P46217 (TL 6931), a noise barrier was erected as a courtesy to residents even though noise levels were in low enough to not require one, and the site was located more than 80 feet away from a residence (MM NOI-1, APM NOI-04).

DUDEK 2 Report 018 May 28, 2017

Archeological and Native American monitors were observed monitoring construction activities within the vicinity of previously recorded cultural resources and in areas identified as having a high potential to contain buried deposits in accordance with MM CUL-1, MM CUL-3, and APM CUL-04. Cultural ESA fencing was observed around the perimeter of workspaces and along the boundaries of access roads in accordance with Historic Properties Management Plan (See Photo 5—Attachment A). During earthwork and trenching associated with the underground transmission line at Crestwood substation (See Photo 6—Attachment A). Native American monitors were observed present and monitoring.

Mitigation Measure Tracking

Mitigation measures applicable to the construction activities were verified in the field and documented in the CPUC's mitigation measure tracking database. A complete list of mitigation measures and applicant proposed measures is included in the FEIR/EIS in the Decision for the Power Line Replacement Projects, as adopted by the CPUC on May 26, 2016 (Decision D.16-05-038) and the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP).

Compliance Status

CPUC third-party environmental monitors observed overall compliance with mitigation measures throughout the reporting period. SDG&E did have any reportable Non-Compliances occur during this reporting period.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS

SDG&E began construction activities associated with NTP-1 on September 23, 2016. All project activities are scheduled to be complete by 2020.

TL 625B

During this reporting period, construction crews maintained erosion control BMPs; conducted overhead work including marker ball installation and sagging; assembled poles; installed poles; and pulled rope in preparation for stringing conductor. The estimated completion date is July 2017. Approximately 40% complete.

TL 629E

During this reporting period, construction crews maintained erosion control BMPs; conducted mandrelling on underground conductor; conducted concrete pours; and backfilled and compacted the duct bank trench and repaired pavement at the Crestwood Substation underground site. The estimated completion date is July 2017. Approximately 90% complete.

DUDEK 3 Report 018 May 28, 2017

TL 6931

During this reporting period, construction crews installed and maintained erosion control BMPs; graded stringing sites; staged and installed poles; installed anchors; removed old poles; and conducted overhead work. The estimated completion date is June 2017. Approximately 25% complete.

TL 682

Construction personnel delineated workspaces and began the development of the Orchard Staging Yard and Nursery Staging and Fly Yard.

DUDEK 4 Report 018 May 28, 2017

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: During grading of Stringing Site 21 (TL 6931), water was applied to prevent dust emissions in accordance with APM AIR-02.



Photo 2: At Live Oak Springs Staging Area (TL 6931), drip pans were observed beneath staged vehicles in accordance with MM PHS-2, and the vehicles were covered with nest-deterring mesh netting as allowed in the Nesting Bird Management Plan (MM BIO-28).



Photo 3: Erosion control BMPs such as fiber rolls were observed around the perimeter of Live Oak Springs Staging Area in accordance with the project SWPPP (MM HYD-1, MM BIO-7, and APM HYD-09).



Photo 4: During grading of Stringing Site 21 (TL 6931), a set of fire tools was readily available within 50 feet of activity in accordance with the CFPPP (MM FF-1), APM HAZ-01 and APM HAZ-04.



Photo 5: In accordance with the Historic Properties Management Plan, cultural resource ESA fencing was observed along required project access roads along TL 625B.



Photo 6: During trenching activities associated with the installation of underground utilities near Crestwood Substation (TL 629E), all work was observed being conducted within the delineated work limits in accordance with MM BIO-1, and a Native American monitor was present in accordance with MM CUL-1.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC - 001	September 21, 2016, updated October 31, 2016	Construction activities associated with TL 625B and TL 629E	Y
CPUC-002	March 15, 2017	Construction activities associated with TL 6931	Υ
CPUC-003	March 24, 2017	Geotechnical activities associated with TL 682	Υ

ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	10/5/16, Revised 10/18/16	Request for Modifications to the Anderson, Merrigan and Japatul Spur Staging Yards	Approved	10/21/16
002	2/21/16	Modifications to TL 625B and TL 629E	Approved, with Conditions	2/10/17
003	1/18/17	Use of Additional Water Source	Approved, with Conditions	4/4/17
004	3/20/17	Use of Orchard Staging Yard and Nursery Staging and Fly Yard	Approved, with Conditions	5/16/17