

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

Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects

Compliance Status Report: 006

December 11, 2016

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 November 28 through December 11, 2016.

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 and 629E 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

<u>TL 625B</u>

Activities occurring along TL 625B this reporting period included clearing vegetation within delineated work areas, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs) (APM HYD-05, MM BIO-7, and MM HYD-1) maintenance, and Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) sign maintenance.

<u>TL 629E</u>

During this reporting period, micro pile foundation activity continued, which included drill set up, platform set up, and drilling activities, installing/capping/testing micro pile foundations, grouting, and installing ground wire occurred. Traditional direct-bury foundation activity also occurred. During micro pile and direct-bury foundation activities, biological monitors were observed clearing areas and monitoring in accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22 (See Photo 1—Attachment A). Upon completion of auguring for direct-bury foundations, open holes were observed fenced off, covered, and secured to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM BIO-23 (See Photo 2—Attachment A). Noise monitoring was observed occurring at a noise sensitive area (residence) adjacent to a direct-bury pole site where auguring was used, in accordance with MM NOI-1.

During foundation installation activities, crews were observed carrying required fire equipment in vehicles and staging required tools adjacent to work areas and fire patrols were observed along the project alignment in accordance with the CFPPP (MM FF-1). Drip pans and absorbent materials were observed under staged equipment such as generators adjacent to work sites in order to prevent soil staining in accordance with the SWPPP. Spill kits (MM PHS-2) were observed staged adjacent to work areas. During activities along Miller Valley Road, traffic flag persons were observed directing traffic around staged equipment in accordance with APM TRANS-02.

Grading at several work sites was observed this reporting period. Topsoil was salvaged in accordance with MM BIO-4 and the Habitat Restoration Plan. Topsoil stockpiles were secured with orange construction fencing and fiber rolls in accordance with the Erosion Control Plan and project SWPPP (See Photo 3—Attachment A).

Water application was continued to be observed along the TL 629E right-of-way access roads and work areas to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with MM AIR-02 (See Photo 4—Attachment A). Access roads included signage providing reminders of the project speed limits (APM AIR-03) and rock aprons/rumble plates were observed installed at intersections of unpaved access roads and paved roads to prevent sediment track out (APM AIR-05) in accordance with the SWPPP (APM HYD-05, MM BIO-7, and MM HYD-1) (See Photo 5—Attachment A).

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 monitors observed overall compliance with mitigation measures throughout the reporting period.

On Thursday, December 1, the CPUC ECM observed grading at pole location Z44199 without a biological monitor present. In accordance with MM BIO-3, an authorized biological monitor must be present at the construction sites during all initial ground disturbing and vegetation-removal activities in undeveloped areas (i.e., not roads or existing developed areas). Consistent with the MMCRP, the monitor verbally notified the SDG&E LEI of a potential minor deviation with MM BIO-3. A follow-up discussion was held between the USFS, SDG&E and CPUC on December 6 to discuss the incident. SDG&E confirmed that vegetation had previously been removed in this area and BMPs installed (initial ground disturbing activities; biological monitoring was implemented) and that biological monitoring occurred in this area during previous heavy equipment mobilization and foundation installation. As a result, agencies agreed that the grading was not subject to full-time biological monitoring.

On Friday, December 9 the CPUC ECM observed a crane staged within an existing access road along the TL 629E alignment at pole location Z44196. The LEI was notified by the CPUC EM on site of a minor deviation being issued by the CPUC due to work occurring outside of the approved work limits.

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.

<u>TL 625B</u>

During this reporting period clearing vegetation within delineated work areas and SWPPP BMP/ESA sign maintenance occurred. The estimated completion date is April 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

<u>TL 629E</u>

During this reporting period micro pile foundation activity continued, which included drill set up, platform set up, and drilling activities, installing/capping/testing micro pile foundations, grouting, and installing ground wire occurred. Poles were staged, assembled, and installed. The estimated completion date is March 2017. Approximately 15% complete.

Other Work Areas

The Anderson, Merrigan, Japatul and Kitchen Creek staging yards have all been established and being utilized to support construction activities. Protective exclusion fencing for arroyo toad was installed along the perimeter fence of the Anderson Staging Yard this reporting period per United States Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife coordination (See Photo 6—Attachment A).

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: Crews were observed auguring a new pole location along TL 629E. Biological monitoring presence was observed in accordance with MM BIO-3.



Photo 2: Upon completion of auguring along TL 629E, open holes were observed covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM BIO-23.



Photo 3: Topsoil was observed salvaged along TL 629E (adjacent to Pole Z44176, above) in accordance with MM BIO-4 and the Habitat Restoration Plan. Stockpiles were surrounded by fiber rolls in accordance with the Erosion Control Plan and project SWPPP.

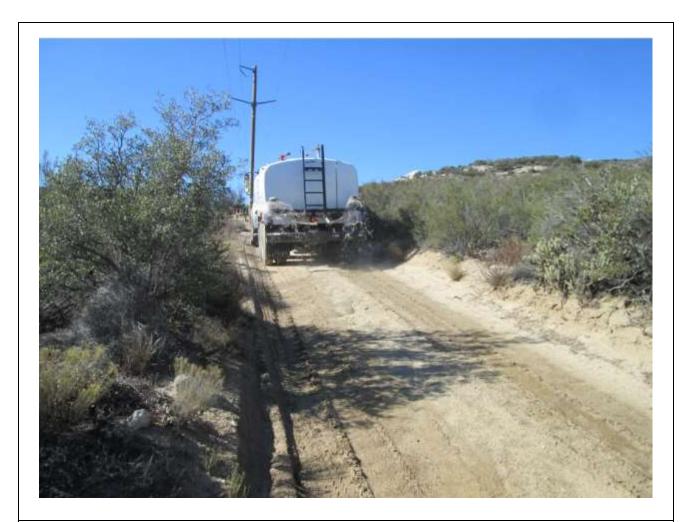


Photo 4: Water trucks were observed applying water to work areas and access roads along TL 629E to minimize fugitive dust in accordance with APM AIR-02.



Photo 5: A rock apron and rumble plate were observed at an entrance to the TL 629E ROW in order to minimize sediment track out onto paved roadways in accordance with the SWPPP (APM HYD-05, MM BIO-7, and MM HYD-1).



Photo 6: Construction crews were observed installing arroyo toad exclusion fence along the inside perimeter fence at the Anderson Staging Yard in accordance with the Streambed Alteration Agreement.

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	

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