

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

# **Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects**

**Compliance Status Report: 007** 

**December 25, 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 December 12 through December 25, 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.

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#### Implementation Actions

TL 625B



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

#### TL 629E

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, and grouting occurred. During micro pile and direct-bury foundation activities, biological monitors were observed monitoring in accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22. Work limits were observed delineated (MM BIO-1) and ESA signage was observed installed in areas requiring avoidance (See Photo 1—Attachment A). Topsoil was observed salvaged at work sites and stored in accordance with MM BIO-4 and the Habitat Restoration Plan. Topsoil stockpiles were secured with orange construction fencing and/or fiber rolls and covered in accordance with the Erosion Control Plan and project SWPPP.

Archaeological and Native American monitors were observed conducting spot checks within the vicinity of previously recorded cultural resources and/or areas identified as having a high potential to contain buried deposits in accordance with the Historic Properties Management Plan, MM CUL-3, MM CUL-1, and APM CUL-04.

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 were observed staged adjacent to work areas and hazardous materials were observed stored at the staging yards in accordance with MM PHS-2 (See Photo 2—Attachment A).

Rain events occurred on December 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, and 24 and precipitation was recorded and reported by SDG&E at the substations (Loveland and Crestwood) and at the three yards (Japatul Spur, Anderson, and Kitchen Creek). Crews were observed inspecting and conducting SWPPP BMP installations and repairs throughout the reporting period, including installation of silt fencing and fiber rolls (See Photo 3—Attachment A). No unauthorized discharges were reported by SDG&E per site inspections and observations. Some work areas were observed to be inaccessible via access road and vehicles due to the rain, so crews were observed walking equipment to work sites in accordance with APM HYD-03 (See Photo 4—Attachment A). Groundwater encountered during activities was observed being contained on site through use of BMPs or being controlled through dewatering systems in accordance with APM HYD-08. Sediment rotary tanks were observed installed at work sites to assist with drilling and to alleviate pooling groundwater within workspaces (See Photo 5-Attachment A). Additionally, a sump pump attached an approximately 50-foot hose with a five-foot by five-foot filter bag at the end was observed being used to divert pooling water within one workspace to an appropriate

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area outside of the workspace in accordance with APM HYD-08. Other groundwater along the alignment was observed being controlled using a combination of sediment traps, sump pumps, and straw wattles, and excess water was pumped into filter bags and reused or discharged to land in accordance with the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board's Conditional Waivers of Waste Discharge Requirements for Low Threat Discharges in the San Diego Region (Order No. R9-2014-0041 [Waiver No. 3]).

#### 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.

A minor deviation was issued by the CPUC on December 12, 2016 as a follow up to field observations discussed in Weekly Report 6. As a corrective action, SDG&E will provide CPUC with additional work areas needed to support equipment footing beyond existing access roads and has flagged the areas noted in the minor deviation to ensure restoration and compensation for impacts in accordance with APM BIO-3, and MM BIO-4 and 5 (See Photo 6—Attachment A).

#### 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.

No work is scheduled to occur along the right of way from December 22, 2016 through January 2, 2017 other than required site or BMP Maintenance in response to SWPPP inspection/compliance.

#### TL 625B

During this reporting period ESA and BMP inspection and maintenance occurred. The estimated completion date is April 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

#### TL 629E

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, and grouting.

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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. Installation of protective exclusion fencing for arroyo toad at the Anderson Staging Yard was completed this reporting period. Protective exclusion fencing for arroyo toad was also observed installed at the Kitchen Creek Staging Yard.

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## ATTACHMENT A Photos



**Photo 1**: Crews were observed strength testing micropile foundations along TL 629E (Pole Z44169, above). Crews were observed staying within the delineated work limits (MM BIO-1) and ESAs were observed marked for avoidance in Quino Checkerspot Butterfly habitat (MM BIO-21).



**Photo 2:** Hazardous materials were labeled and stored at staging yards in accordance with MM PHS-2.



**Photo 3:** Crews were observed preparing for microile drilling activities along TL 629E (Pole Z44158, above) and installing silt fencing in accordance with the SWPPP.



**Photo 4:** During days where roads were deemed too wet to adequately support vehicles, crews accessed active construction sites (such Pole Z44159, above) on foot in accordance with APM HYD-03.



**Photo 5:** Sediment rotary tanks were observed installed at work sites to assist with drilling and to alleviate pooling groundwater within workspaces along TL 629E (Pole location Z40582, above).



**Photo 6:** Following the Minor Deviation issued by CPUC on December 12, 2016, monitors flagged areas where crane foot pads were staged in order to ensure compensation and restoration was tracked in accordance with APM BIO-3, and MM BIO-4 and 5 (above, adjacent to Pole Z44199).

# **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