

# CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST POWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS



# A Sempra Energy utility MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT REQUEST FORM

Date Submitted:	10-29 <b>-</b> 19 (Revised 11	1-08-19)	Request #:	<b>Request #:</b> 042		142	
Date Approval Required:	11-08-19					rnia Department of portation (Caltrans)	
APN:	Not Applicable <sup>1</sup>						
Refinement from (check all	that apply):						
☐ Mitigation Measure	□ АРМ	⊠ Pro	oject Description		Drawing	$\boxtimes$	Other
Identify source (mitigation	on measure, project description, etc.):						
Notice to Proceed (NTP) request #20/Minor Project Refinement (MPR) request #26 for Transmission Line (TL) 629A of the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects (Project) was approved by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and United States Forest Service on April 19, 2019. Since this approval, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) has identified additional temporary access/entry/turnaround areas and additional temporary pole work areas along TL629A that will minimize impacts to private property. A brief description and justification of the refinements are provided on page 2 of this MPR request.					this mpacts		
Attachments (check all that	t apply):	Ī					
<ul> <li>☒ Refinement Request         Screening Form     </li> <li>(see Attachment A: Minor Project Refinement Request Screening Form)</li> </ul>	Form						
Under Order 2 of the Decision Granting SDG&E Permit to Construct the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects (D.16-05-038), the CPUC may approve minor project refinements under certain circumstances. In accordance with Order 2 of the Decision, respond "yes" or "no" to the following questions (a) through (d).							
(a) Is the proposed refinem area?	ent outside the geogra	aphic bou	undary of the EIR/	EIS st	tudy		
The requested refinements are located within the geographic boundary of the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Study (EIR/EIS) study area, which is depicted in Figure ES-1 Regional Overview Map in the Final EIR/EIS. The refinements occur partially within the baseline biological, cultural, and hydrological survey areas. Supplemental hydrological, biological, and cultural resources surveys were conducted in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Additional details regarding the specific surveys conducted are provided in each applicable resource section in Attachment A: Minor Project Refinement Request Screening Form.				☐ Yes	⊠ No		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The requested refinement areas are located within Caltrans' right-of-way (ROW) along the Pine Valley Road off-ramp for Interstate 8.

(b) Will the proposed refinement increase in the severity of a purished in the EIR/EIS?  A discussion of changes in signification of changes in signification are fully analyzed in Attaction.	□ Ye	s ⊠ No			
(c) Does the proposed refinen or policy?	aw	s 🛮 No			
(d) Does the proposed refinen	nent trigger an additio	onal permit requiren	nent?	□ Ye	s 🛮 No
Describe refinement being re-	quested (attach drawi	ngs and photos as ne	eded):	·	·
As depicted in Attachment B: Comparison Map, SDG&E is requesting to add temporary access/entry/turnaround areas, temporary pole work areas, and footpaths at Poles Z774861, Z774862, Z774863, and Z774864 on TL629A. <sup>2</sup> Vegetation removal and some minor grading will be required for use of the refinement areas. The requested refinements will result in an increase of approximately 0.24 acre of temporary impacts to native vegetation and a decrease in approximately 0.01 acre of temporary impacts to agricultural/disturbed/developed/bare ground habitat. <sup>3</sup> The breakdown of the temporary impacts is summarized in Attachment C: Impacts Table. The activities associated with the construction and utilization of the refinement areas will occur in the same manner as described in the Final EIR/EIS for construction of the Project.					
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Provide need for refinement (		•			
Provide need for refinement ( The approved work areas assoc property and will require drives and vehicle access to these poles SDG&E accessing these poles ROW will be allowable. The realso minimizing grading, dama	ciated with Poles Z7748 way modifications, extees. During the final desfrom its ROW; howeve equested work areas wi	861, Z774862, Z77486 ensive tree trimming, a sign of TL629A, Caltrer, more recent discuss ill allow access to thes	and/or extensiver ans specified the sions with Caltrage be poles through	e grading to al nat it did not w ans indicate th n Caltrans' RC	low crane rant at use of its
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Temporary Access (TA-) 4, TA-6, and a portion of the approved temporary pole work areas for Poles Z774862 and Z774861 will no longer be needed. This will result in a reduction of 0.16 acre of temporary impacts to urban and developed/ornamental landscaping.

The acreage for components that are no longer needed has been subtracted from these totals.

ATTACHMENT A: MINOR	R PROJECT REFINEMEN	T REQUEST SCREENING FOR	М

### MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT REQUEST SCREENING FORM

### RESOURCE EVALUATION

The requested refinements were evaluated to verify that they will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on the criteria used in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the San Diego Gas & Electric Company Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects (Project). The following Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist answers the consistency questions for each resource category and includes a description and justification below each resource category, as necessary. The consistency questions were developed using the California Environmental Quality Act Checklist provided in the Final EIR/EIS. Refer to the Final EIR/EIS for details on the Project's impact evaluation.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	N/A
Visual Resources (e.g., adversely affect scenic vistas, damage scenic resources within a state scenic highway, degrade the existing visual character of the site and its surroundings, create sources of light or glare, or result in an inconsistency with applicable scenic integrity objectives)?  Final EIR/EIS evaluation <sup>4</sup> : Significant and unavoidable (Class I)/Adverse and unavoidable			

### **Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Visual Resources:**

The requested refinements will be consistent with the visual resource analysis defined in the Final EIR/EIS and will not impact scenic vistas or substantially affect existing views from an eligible State Scenic Highway (i.e., Interstate [I-] 8) or County of San Diego Scenic Routes. The addition of temporary access/entry/turnaround areas and temporary pole work areas may impact the visual character of the surrounding areas due to minor grading and/or vegetation removal. However, temporary impacts will be reduced with the implementation of Applicant-Proposed Measure (APM) VIS-01 and APM VIS-02. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to visual resources as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Final EIR/EIS evaluations of impact significance are provided for each resource; this table notes the most significant determination within each resource section identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	N/A
Air Quality (e.g. produce additional emissions, conflict with applicable local air quality plans, or expose sensitive receptors to additional pollutants)?  Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Significant and unavoidable (Class I)/Adverse and unavoidable			

### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Air Quality:

Activities associated with utilization of the requested refinement areas (e.g., the type of equipment used and the number of truck trips) will be consistent with those discussed in the Final EIR/EIS and will not increase air emissions beyond what was analyzed. The refinement areas are located within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors. Potential air quality impacts to sensitive receptors within 1,000 feet of Project components were analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. The additional minor grading and/or vegetation removal required for use of the refinement areas may result in a minor increase in air quality impacts in localized areas; however, these activities will be short-term and temporary. With the implementation of APM AIR-01 through APM AIR-05, use of the refinement areas will not expose nearby sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations, which is consistent with the analysis in the Final EIR/EIS. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to air quality as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<b>Biological Resources</b> (e.g., result in temporary or permanent loss of native vegetation, preserve areas, native wildlife and/or their habitats; cause an adverse effect to jurisdictional waters or sensitive or special-status species; result in the introduction of invasive, non-native, or noxious plant species; conflict with local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan; or interfere with the movement of any resident or migratory wildlife)? Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse			
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### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Biological Resources:

The requested refinement areas were partially surveyed for sensitive vegetation communities and special-status plant and wildlife species during initial Project surveys. In addition, supplemental surveys conducted in 2017, 2018, and 2019 along Transmission Line (TL) 629A included a bat roost assessment and follow-up surveys for Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) and other special-status bat species; protocol-level surveys for Hermes copper butterfly (*Lycaena hermes*); and focused surveys for special-status plants.

The requested refinements will result in a total of approximately 0.23 acre of temporary impacts. This includes an increase of approximately 0.24 acre of temporary impacts to Diegan coastal sage scrub<sup>5,6</sup> and a decrease in approximately 0.01 acre of temporary impacts to agricultural/disturbed/developed/bare ground habitat.

No special-status plants, special-status butterfly host plants, United States (U.S.) Fish and Wildlife Service-designated critical habitat, or U.S. Forest Service occupied habitat occur within or adjacent to the requested refinements. All APMs and mitigation measures (MMs) defined in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program—as well as other permit and plan conditions—will be implemented as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Diegan coastal sage scrub falls in the Native Vegetation impact category for SDG&E's Subregional NCCP.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Sixteen different vegetation communities are described and analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS based on the County of San Diego's Vegetation Community Element Code. While the dominant plant species within the refinement areas is big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentate*), the closest vegetation community analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS is Diegan coastal sage scrub. Therefore, the impacts will be classified under Diegan coastal sage scrub.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	N/A
applicable to minimize or mitigate for any additional impacts. T result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the biological resources as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.			
Cultural and Paleontological Resources (e.g., cause an adverse change to Traditional Cultural Properties or historical, archeological, or paleontological resources; or disturb any human remains)?  Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse			
The requested refinement areas occur within the Project's area of Programmatic Agreement. The refinement areas were surveyed the Project in 2009. In addition, intensive supplemental pedestriconducted by ASM Affiliates, Inc. in 2017, 2018, and 2019. No previously recorded cultural resources were identified during the refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substanalyzed impact to cultural resources as identified in the Final Elements. The requested refinement areas are underlain by geologic rock up to the project's area of the project in 2009. The project in 2009 in addition, intensive supplemental pedestriction areas are underlain by geologic rock up the project in 2009.	for cultural resour an surveys of the new cultural reso supplemental sur antial increase in tarkets.	rces during initial refinement areas surces were recorveys. Therefore the severity of a page signed a rank of	I surveys for were ded, and no , the requested previously
The requested refinement areas are underlain by geologic rock upon Fossil Yield Classification (PFYC) Class 1 (i.e., very low sensiti excavation underlain by rock units with a PFYC Class 3 (i.e., most additional paleontological monitoring and an update to the Paleo be required. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to paleon EIR/EIS.	vity). Because the oderate or unknown tological Monito in a new significa	e refinements do on sensitivity) ran oring & Treatment ant impact or a su	not require nking, nt Plan will not ubstantial
<b>Greenhouse Gases</b> (e.g., result in a net increase of greenhouse gas emissions, or conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation that reduces greenhouse gas emissions)?			
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant (Class III)/Not adverse			
Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts or	Greenhouses G	ases:	
Activities associated with the utilization of the requested refinem (GHG) analysis in the Final EIR/EIS. Although additional mino			

Activities associated with the utilization of the requested refinement areas are consistent with the greenhouse gas (GHG) analysis in the Final EIR/EIS. Although additional minor grading and/or vegetation removal will occur, these activities will not trigger an exceedance of the GHG threshold of 10,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year or the County of San Diego Climate Action Plan criteria for annual grading and land clearing. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to GHG emissions as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	N/A
Public Health and Safety (e.g., result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials; emit hazardous waste within one-quarter mile of a school; be located on a hazardous materials site; result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area; interfere with an adopted emergency plan; or create safety hazards due to structural failure)?  Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse			

### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Public Health and Safety:

The requested refinements occur within the area assessed in the *Report on ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Cleveland National Forest Electric Safety and Reliability Project San Diego County, California*. No known hazardous materials sites are located within the refinement areas. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to public health and safety as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<b>Fire and Fuels Management</b> (e.g., increase the probability of a wildfire, reduce the effectiveness of firefighting, or introduce non-native plants that would contribute to ignition potential)?	×	П	П
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse			

### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Fire and Fuels Management:

The requested refinements are located within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, which was included in the Fire and Fuels Management analysis in the Final EIR/EIS. The potential risk of wildfire ignition and spread associated with the refinement areas will be managed in compliance with the Project's Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to fire and fuels management as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	N/A
Hydrology and Water Quality (e.g., result in increased levels of turbidity, introduce contaminants, deplete groundwater supplies, or degrade water quality)?  Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Significant and unavoidable (Class I)/Adverse and unavoidable			

### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Hydrology and Water Quality:

The refinement areas were partially surveyed for the presence of waters of the state and/or the U.S. (i.e., jurisdictional wetlands or non-wetland waters) during initial Project surveys. Supplemental water resource surveys of the refinement areas were conducted in 2018 and 2019. A concrete-lined brow ditch crosses the north edge of Temporary Access (TA-) 15 and through the center of TA-16. However, the ditch will be spanned with mats or steel plates to avoid impacts and no jurisdictional water permitting will be required. To minimize potential impacts from erosion and off-site sedimentation during construction, the refinement areas will be included in a Change of Information for the Circuit 79A, TL625C, and TL629A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (Waste Discharge Identification #9 37C386349) and submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board's Stormwater Multiple Applications and Report Tracking System. In conclusion, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to hydrology and water quality as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Land Use (e.g., disturb land uses at or near the Project components, divide an established community, or conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the Project)?	$\boxtimes$	
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Significant and unavoidable (Class I)/Adverse and unavoidable		

### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Land Use:

In accordance with the Construction Notification Plan and MM LU-1, property owners within 1,000 feet of TL629A were notified of construction activities associated with Notice to Proceed #20 on March 18, 2019. The property owners within 1,000 feet of the requested refinements were included in that notification process. The requested refinements will not introduce a new land use, establish a permanent barrier or obstacle between uses, or create a physical division or separation of use. In addition, the requested refinements will not conflict with the applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the Project, as they are located in the same County of San Diego land use and zoning designations that were analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to land use as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	N/A	
<b>Noise</b> (e.g., disturb sensitive receptors and violate local rules, standards, and/or ordinances; or cause ground borne vibration)? Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse				
Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on	Noise:			
analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. Use of the refinement areas may however, the construction activities will be short-term and temporelated MMs and APMs, noise impacts from construction activitie equivalent to those analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. Therefore, the significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a prothe Final EIR/EIS.	orary. In addition les associated with e requested refine	with implement the refinement ments will not re	tation of noise areas will be esult in a new	
Public Services and Utilities (e.g., result in construction of new, or expansion of existing, facilities for fire protection, municipal water supplies, telecommunications, and solid waste; or disrupt electric service)?  Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation				
(Class II)/Adverse				
	Public Services		nal EIR/EIS	
Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on The requested refinements will be consistent with the public servand will not require new or expanded public facilities or services result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the public services and utilities as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.	. Therefore, the r	equested refinen	nents will not	
The requested refinements will be consistent with the public servand will not require new or expanded public facilities or services result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the public services and utilities as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.  Recreation (e.g., reduce access and visitation to recreation areas, preclude recreational activities, or result in increased, unauthorized access to specially designated or restricted areas)?	. Therefore, the r	equested refinen	nents will not	
The requested refinements will be consistent with the public servand will not require new or expanded public facilities or services result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the public services and utilities as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.  Recreation (e.g., reduce access and visitation to recreation areas, preclude recreational activities, or result in increased, unauthorized access to specially designated or restricted	. Therefore, the r severity of a prev	equested refinen iously analyzed	nents will not impact to	

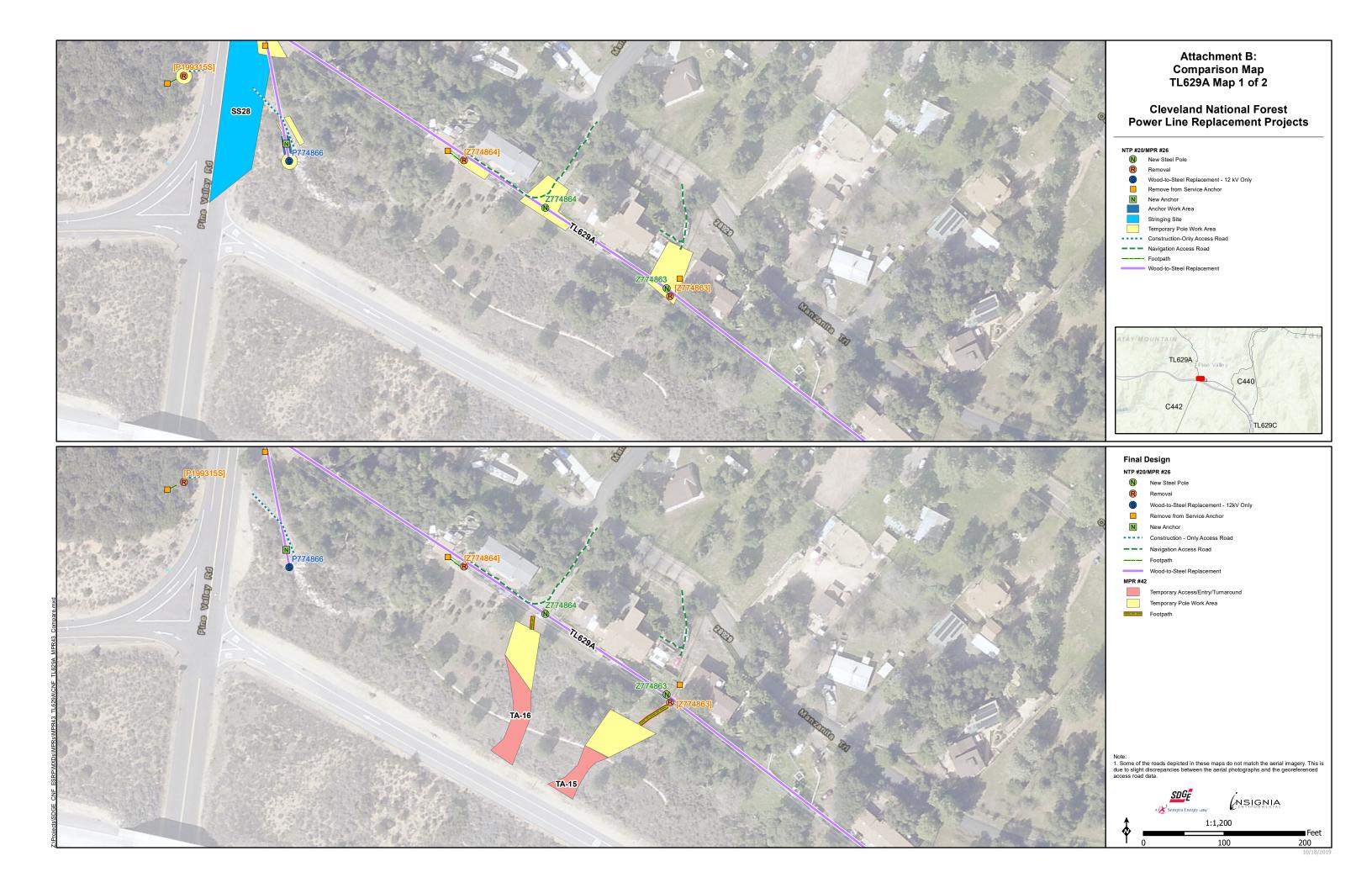
The requested refinement areas are located adjacent to the approved TL629A alignment and near the Bear Valley Off-Highway Vehicle Trailhead and Pine Valley County Park. Consistent with the analysis in the Final EIR/EIS, use of the refinement areas will not reduce or preclude access or visitation to these recreational areas, nor will it increase the possibility of unauthorized access to specially designated or restricted areas. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to recreation as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

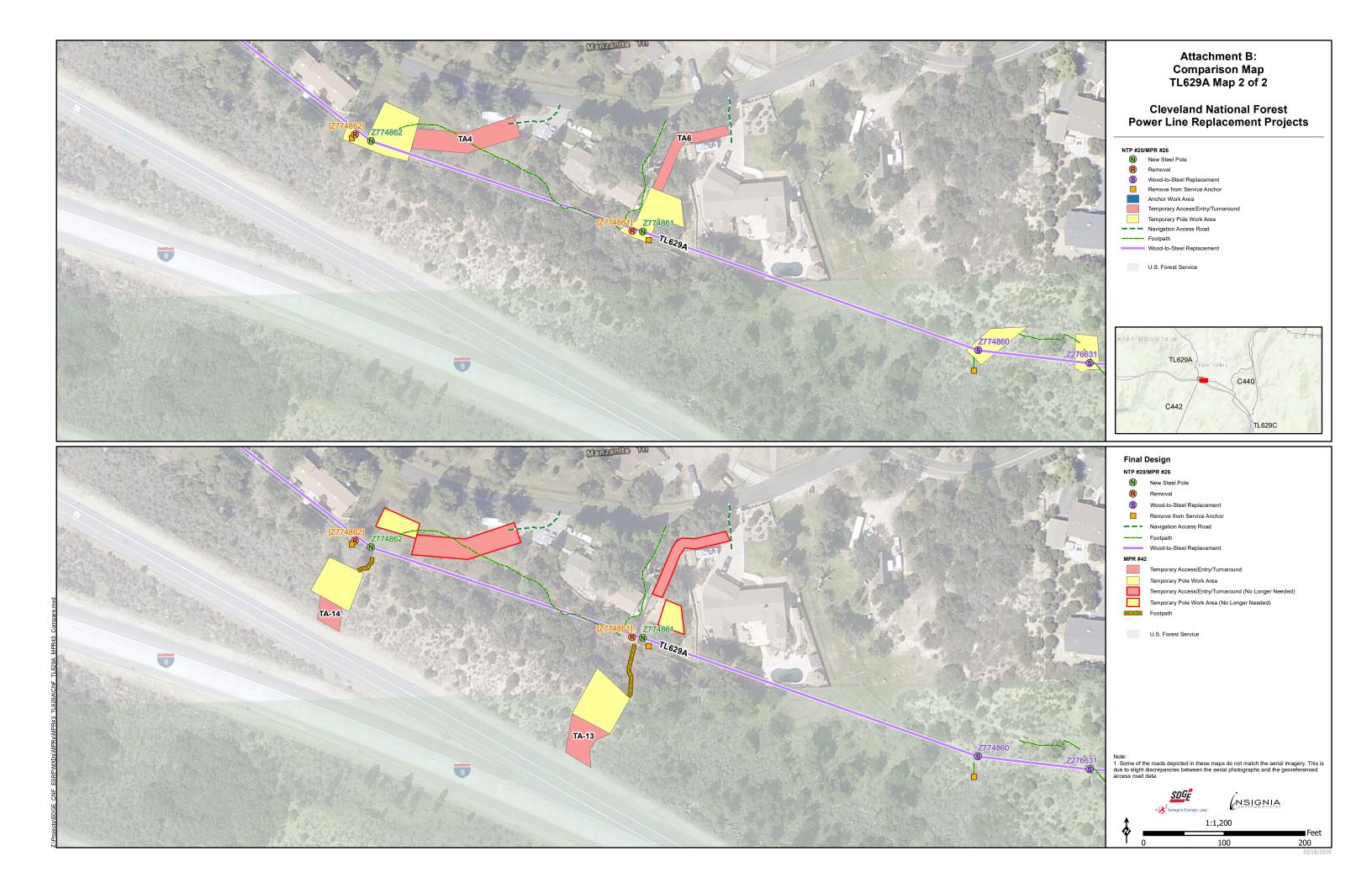
Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist				
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	N/A	
Transportation and Traffic (e.g., conflict with an applicable congestion management program or a plan, ordinance, or policy associated with the circulation system or alternative transportation; increase hazards due to a design feature; or result in inadequate emergency access)?  Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse				

### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Transportation and Traffic:

The requested refinements will not require additional or different types of construction vehicles and equipment than those discussed in the Final EIR/EIS. In addition, the total number of truck trips associated with construction of the Project will not change. The requested refinement areas are located within the California Department of Transportation's (Caltrans) right-of-way and will be accessed via the Pine Valley Road off-ramp for I-8. A Caltrans Encroachment Permit will be obtained prior to utilization of the refinement areas. With the implementation of APM TRANS-01 through APM TRANS-05 and conditions from the Encroachment Permit, potential temporary impacts to the flow of traffic will be adequately addressed. Therefore, the requested refinements will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to transportation and traffic as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

# ATTACHMENT B: COMPARISON MAP





# ATTACHMENT C: IMPACTS TABLE

## ATTACHMENT C: IMPACTS TABLE

Table 1: Impacts Table lists the temporary impacts<sup>1</sup> of this Minor Project Refinement (MPR) request by vegetation type and workspace type.

**Table 1: Impacts Table** 

Impact Lagation	Approximate Temporary Impacts (acres)			
Impact Location	Native Vegetation	Non-Native Grassland	Agricultural/Disturbed/ Developed/Bare Ground	
Pole Work Areas	0.13		0.06	
Access/Entry/Turnaround Areas	0.11	-	-0.07	
MPR #42 Total	0.24		-0.01	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The acreage for components that are no longer needed has been subtracted from these totals.