

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

Tie Line (TL) 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project

**Compliance Status Report: 001** 

March 2, 2014

## SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the TL 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project. 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 MND 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. This compliance status report covers construction activities from February 17 to March 2, 2014.

## MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

## Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations along the TL 637 project where construction activities were occurring. Site observations were completed in areas of active construction during the reporting period. Observations were documented on site inspection forms and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

## Implementation Actions and Mitigation Compliance

#### Staging Yards

Construction activities associated with establishing the staging yards at the Warnock and Creelman staging yards was initiated during this reporting period. Activities included installation of perimeter chain-link fencing, installation of best management practices (BMPs) identified in the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), placement of gravel for establishing a workspace, and mobilizing construction equipment and temporary structures (i.e. construction trailers, generators, portable toilets, etc.).

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Prior to initiating construction activities, CPUC–approved biological monitors were observed flagging vernal pools in accordance with MM-BIO-7. Upon installation, opaque green screening material was observed being placed along the perimeter chain-link fence in accordance with APM AES-1 (see Photo 1—Attachment A).

Per MM HYD-1 and APM HYD-1, crews were observed installing tracking control measures (rock aprons and rumble plates) to minimize potential for track-out onto adjacent public roads (see Photo 2—Attachment A).

Crews were observed installing Mirafi fabric prior to gravel spread and conducting gravel compaction activities in order to aid with silt and erosion control (see Photo 3—Attachment A). A water truck was utilized to control potential fugitive dust emissions by watering the work area prior to grading in accordance with APM BIO-1 (see Photo 4—Attachment A).

Equipment was observed being delivered and staged throughout the reporting period. Per MM-HAZ-2, to prevent leaks or spills from being discharged into the soil, construction equipment (such as skid steers) and temporary structures (such as generators) were observed staged on visqueen (see Photo 5—Attachment A). Portable restroom facilities were also observed staged above containment bins.

During construction activities, monitors observed construction notification signage being placed along roads in accordance with APM-TRA-1, notifying the public of construction activities.

Throughout the reporting period, biologists were observed on site monitoring activities and conducting nesting bird surveys in accordance with MM BIO-4. During the latter part of the reporting period, in accordance with MM-BIO-4, a nesting bird buffer was implemented in the southeast corner of the Warnock staging yard due to an American Kestral nesting in a steel pole just outside of the yard. The buffer was delineated with wooden stakes that were painted green and had the words "do not enter without bio" (see Photo 6—Attachment A).

## Wood Pole Replacement

Wood pole replacement activities consisted of SWPPP BMP installation with biological monitoring presence in accordance with MM BIO-2. Nesting bird clearance surveys were confirmed to be conducted in accordance with BIO-4 (conducted within 72 hours) at all locations where construction crews were scheduled to work.

Crews were observed installing erosion control BMPs such as silt fencing (see Photo 7—Attachment A) and straw wattles (see Photo 8—Attachment A) in accordance with APM-HYD-1.

#### 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 MND for the Tie-Line 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project, as adopted by the CPUC on February 5, 2014 (Decision D.14-02-04).

Applicable mitigation measures were verified during site inspections and were determined to be implemented in accordance with the MMCRP.

#### **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

During the first two weeks of construction activities, approximately 60 percent of the staging yards have been set up and mobilized, and set up of the Warnock Staging Yard was completed. Approximately 5-10 percent of SWPPP BMPs have been installed along the project right-of-way. Activities associated with Micropile Foundation Drilling and Grouting, Hole Excavation (directly embedded poles), and Temporary Pole Installation are expected to begin the following reporting period.

## **CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE**

*Tie-Line 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project (CPUC NTP No. 001)* – SDG&E began clearing activities at the project site on February 19, 2014. All project activities are scheduled to be completed by September, 2014.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos



**Photo 1:** Opaque mesh screening material has been placed along the perimeter chain-link fence at the Warnock Staging Yard in accordance with APM AES-1.



**Photo 2:** Track-out control measures (rock aprons and rumble strips) have been installed at the entrance of the Warnock Staging Yard in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.



**Photo 3:** Mirafi material was observed placed on the surface of the Warnock Staging Yard prior to gravel installation in accordance with BMPs for erosion and sediment control.



**Photo 4:** Water trucks were observed at the Warnock Staging Yard applying water prior to grading activities and during gravel spread to prevent fugitive dust in accordance with APM BIO-1.



**Photo 5:** Temporary equipment at the Warnock Staging Yard (such as generators, above) were observed staged on visqueen for secondary containment in accordance with MM HYD-2.

# **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 6:** In accordance with MM-BIO-4, a nesting bird buffer was implemented in the southeast corner of the Warnock Staging Yard. The buffer was delineated with green wooden stakes and was avoided by crews in accordance with mitigation.



Photo7: Silt Fence was observed being installed around pole locations in accordance with the SWPPP.



**Photo 8:** A Straw Wattle was observed installed around a pole replacement location in accordance with the SWPPP.

## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)	
CPUC - 001	February 14, 2014	Construction of the Tie Line 637 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project	Y	

# ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A