

California Public Utilities Commission

Public Meeting for the Southern California Edison Mesa 500-kV Substation Project Draft EIR

A. 15-03-003 for a Permit to Construct
May 18, 2016



Meeting Agenda

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Purpose of the Meeting | Silvia Yáñez
<i>Ecology & Environment, Inc.</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• CEQA• CPUC Process | Lisa Orsaba
<i>CPUC</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Description• Environmental Impacts• Alternatives• How to Comment on Draft EIR• More Information | Kristi Black
<i>Ecology & Environment, Inc.</i> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Informal Discussion Session | All |
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Introductions

- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
 - CPUC is Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The CPUC must conduct an environmental analysis in accordance with CEQA in order to issue a Permit to Construct for SCE's proposed project.
- Ecology and Environment, Inc. (E & E)
 - E & E is the CPUC's environmental consultant, hired to perform the environmental analysis and prepare CEQA document.
- Southern California Edison Company (SCE)
 - SCE is the applicant of the proposed project.



Purpose of this Meeting

- Describe the Draft EIR content and analysis
- Explain public participation opportunities during the CPUC decision-making process.
- Accept written comments from the public on the Draft EIR



CEQA – Environmental Impact Report

- Purpose of EIR
 - Disclose potential impacts of SCE's proposed project and alternatives
 - Identify mitigation to reduce adverse impacts
 - Consider a reasonable range of alternatives to SCE's proposed project
 - Give the public an opportunity to provide input
 - Provide information for decision makers to consider



Process per CEQA (Public Resources Code §21000 et seq.) and CEQA Guidelines

CEQA Review Process

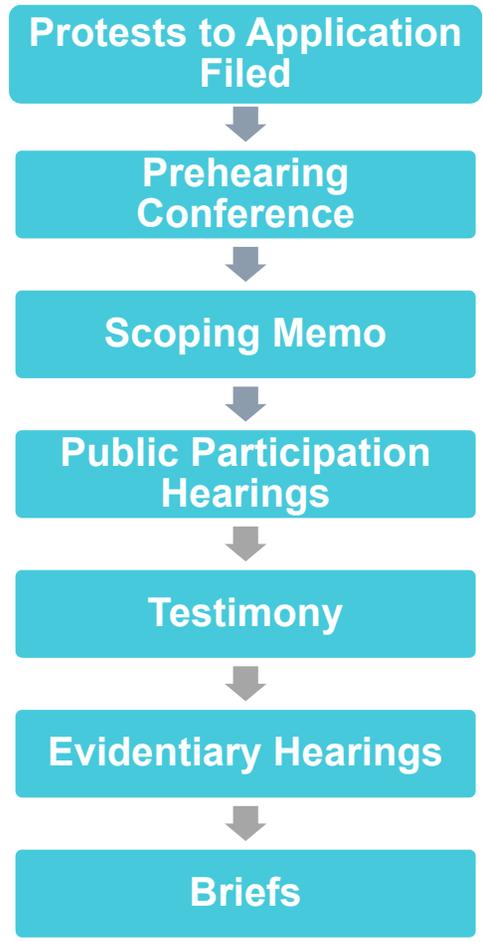


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SCE Files Application and PEA



Administrative Proceeding



Process per Public Utilities Code and CPUC Rules of Practice and Procedure

Looking Back: EIR Process

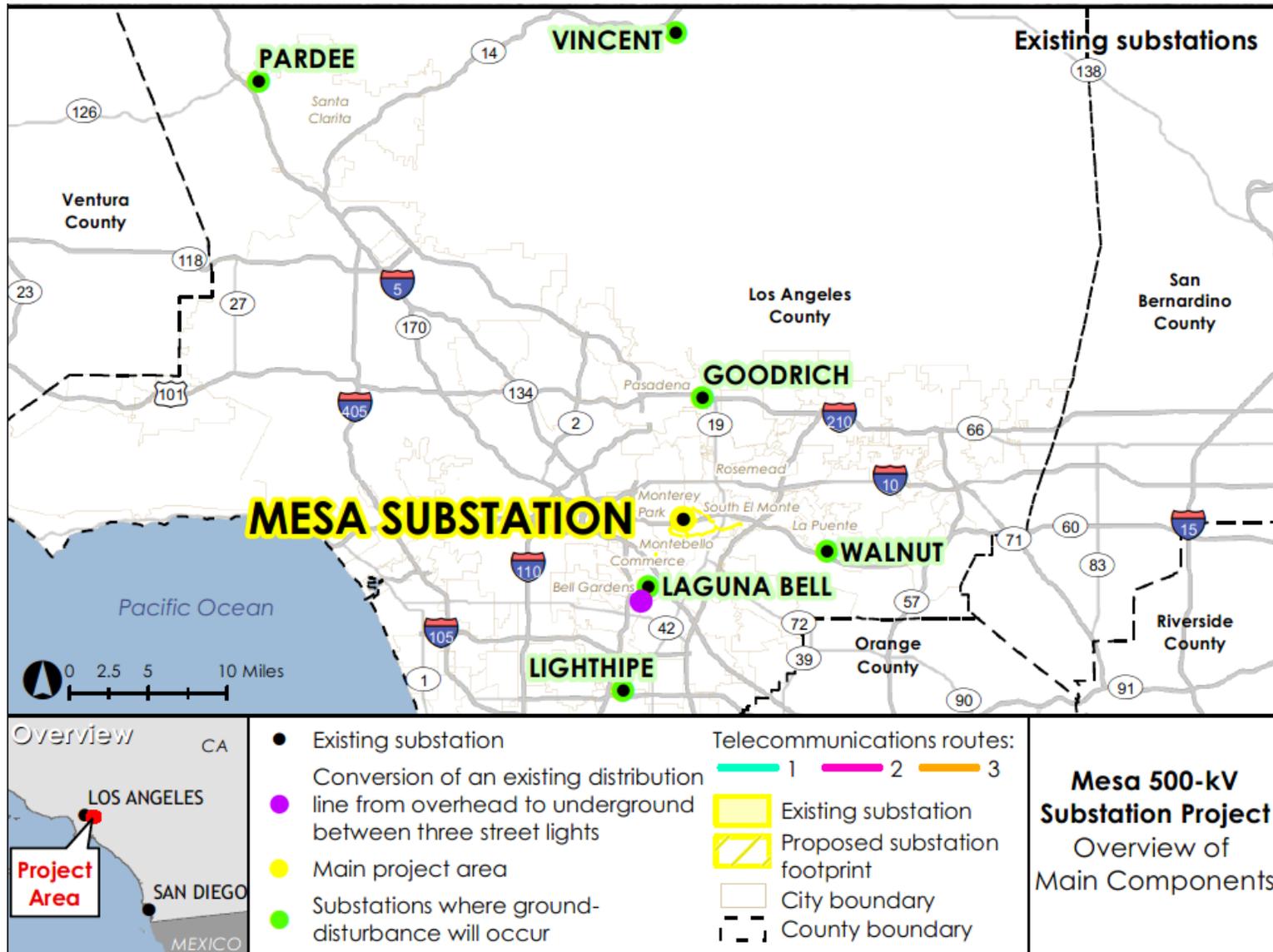
Stage	Objectives	Timeline
Notice of Preparation/ Scoping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect comments from public and agencies on scope of the EIR 	June 5 to July 5, 2015 (30 days) Meeting on June 23, 2015
Draft EIR Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct analysis of environmental impacts of SCE's proposed project. • Develop and analyze reasonable range of alternatives to SCE's proposed project. 	Draft EIR released April 29, 2016



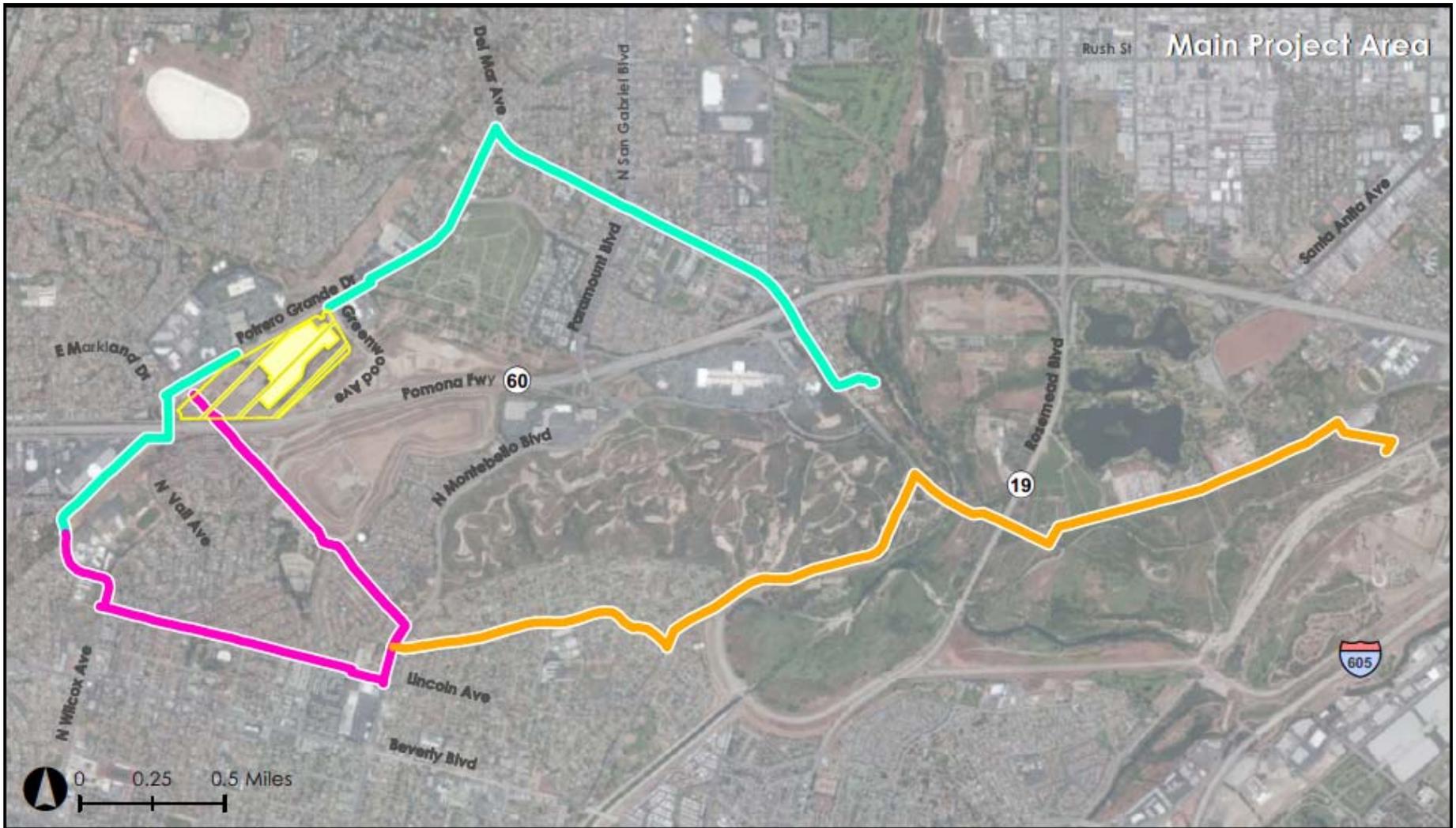
Looking Forward: EIR Process

Stage	Objectives	Timeline
Draft EIR Public Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect comments from public and agencies on analysis and alternatives in EIR • Public meeting 	April 29 to June 13, 2016 (45 days)
Response to Comments/ Final EIR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to public comments on Draft EIR • Revise Draft EIR as needed and publish Final EIR 	August 2016
Certification of Final EIR and Project Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPUC Certifies EIR • Makes decision on SCE's proposed project 	Late 2016/ Early 2017
Mitigation Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and report compliance with mitigation measures 	Prior to and during construction and operation, if project approved

Project Location Overview



Main Project Area



Description of SCE's Proposed Project: Mesa Substation

- Upgrade existing 220/66/16 kV Mesa Substation to 500/220/66/16 kV substation
 - Substation footprint would increase from 21.6 acres to 69.4 acres
 - SCE currently owns most of the substation site, approximately 86 acres
 - **Existing 220-kV substation must remain in operation while constructing new 500-kV substation**
- Remove, replace, and relocate existing Metropolitan Water District 72-inch-diameter water line with an 84-inch-diameter waterline
- SCE estimates construction will take 4.5 years



Description of SCE's Proposed Project: Mesa Substation *(continued)*

Component	Quantity/Specifications
New substation	69.4 acres on 86.2-acre site
500-kV switchrack	8.2 acres
200-kV switchrack	6.8 acres
Transformer banks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500/220kv: 3 transformer banks/11 transformers • 220/66kv: 1 bank/3 transformers • 66/16kv: 1 bank/2 transformers
Mechanical and equipment rooms	1 senior, 1 junior



SCE's Proposed Project Description: Transmission Components

Component	Actions
Transmission (500 kV & 220 kV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove 1 overhead structure • Replace approx. 20 overhead structures (3 500-kV, 17 220-kV) • 500kv: height of 140 to 200 feet • 220kV: height of 100 to 190 feet
Sub-transmission (66 kV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove approx. 65 overhead structures • Removal of 2,000 feet of underground conductor • Install 24 new overhead structures, 50 to 100 feet high, 3 to 5 feet in diameter. Concrete foundations, 5 to 7 feet in diameter • Install approx. 27,400 feet of underground duct, approx. 28 underground vaults (10' x 20' x 8')
Distribution (16 kV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install approx. 5,000 feet of underground duct and 5 underground vaults (7' x 18' x 8')



SCE's Proposed Project Description: Transmission Components *(continued)*

Component	Actions
Temporary Electric Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install temporary steel pole at Goodrich Substation in Pasadena to maintain electrical service during construction
Equipment Upgrades/ Testing (220 kV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace/upgrade 220 kV equipment at 13 existing substations
Equipment Upgrades/ Testing (66 kV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade 66 kV equipment at 16 existing substations
Tower Replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace existing transmission tower in Commerce
Underground Conversion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion of existing street light conductor from overhead to underground in Bell Gardens • Installation of approx. 3 pullboxes, approx. 300 feet of one 3-inch conduit

SCE's Proposed Project Description: Telecommunications Components

Component	Actions
Fiber optic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reroute one existing overhead line to clear Mesa Substation • Mostly on existing poles or in existing ducts
New telecommunications line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install two new lines into Mesa Substation mostly on existing poles or in existing ducts • Install new underground telecommunications within and immediately adjacent to Goodrich Substation
Telecommunications reroute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reroute existing telecommunications within fence lines of three existing substations



Environmental Impacts

- SCE's proposed project would have significant and unavoidable impacts on the following resources:
 - **Aesthetics:** Long-term visual character and quality degradation during operation at the substation site. Visual character and quality degradation during operation from views from North Vail Avenue in Montebello.
 - **Air Quality:** Temporary carbon monoxide emissions during construction. Temporary exposure of sensitive receptors to nitrogen oxides during construction.
 - **Noise:** Temporary violation of noise ordinances of several local jurisdictions. Substantial temporary ambient noise increase during construction activities.



Construction Activities: Air Quality Impacts

- Grading
 - 600,000 cubic yards of cut and fill
 - Import 100,000 cubic yards of fill
 - Export 115,000 cubic yards of cut
- Truck & vehicle “passenger car equivalent” trips (Phase I)
 - ~800 worker vehicle trips (one-way) per day
 - (1 worker vehicle trip = 1 passenger car equivalent trip)
 - ~530 medium truck trips (one-way) per day
 - (1 medium truck trip = 2 passenger car equivalent trips)
 - ~800 large truck trips (one-way) per day
 - (1 large truck trip = 3 passenger car equivalent trips)



Environmental Impacts

- SCE's proposed project would have less than significant impacts on the following resources with the implementation of mitigation measures identified in the Draft EIR:
 - Biological Resources
 - Cultural and Paleontological Resources
 - Geology, Soils, and Minerals
 - Hazards and Hazardous Materials
 - Hydrology and Water Quality
 - Public Services and Utilities
 - Traffic and Transportation



Cumulative Impacts

- SCE's proposed project would considerably contribute to significant cumulative impacts of the following resources:
 - Air quality – local exposure to NOx emissions at the Mesa Substation site
 - Noise – temporary substantial increase in ambient noise due to construction noise



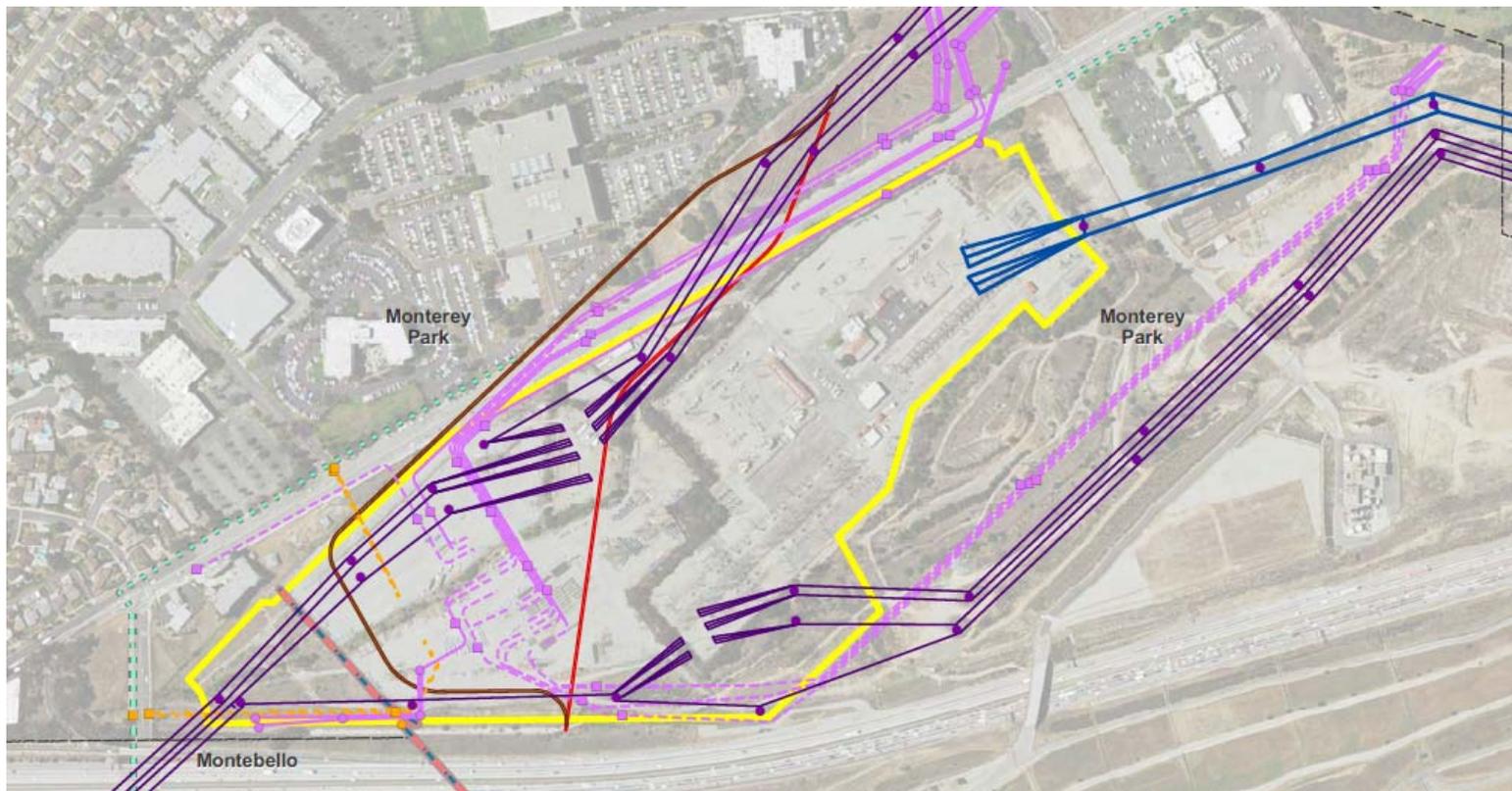
Alternatives Screening Process

- Nine alternatives were screened to determine if they could feasibly meet most of the project objectives and avoid or substantially reduce at least one significant impact of the proposed project.
- Three of the alternatives passed the screening criteria and were carried forward for evaluation in the Draft EIR.
- Chapter 3 of the Draft EIR explains alternatives considered and rationale for analysis or elimination



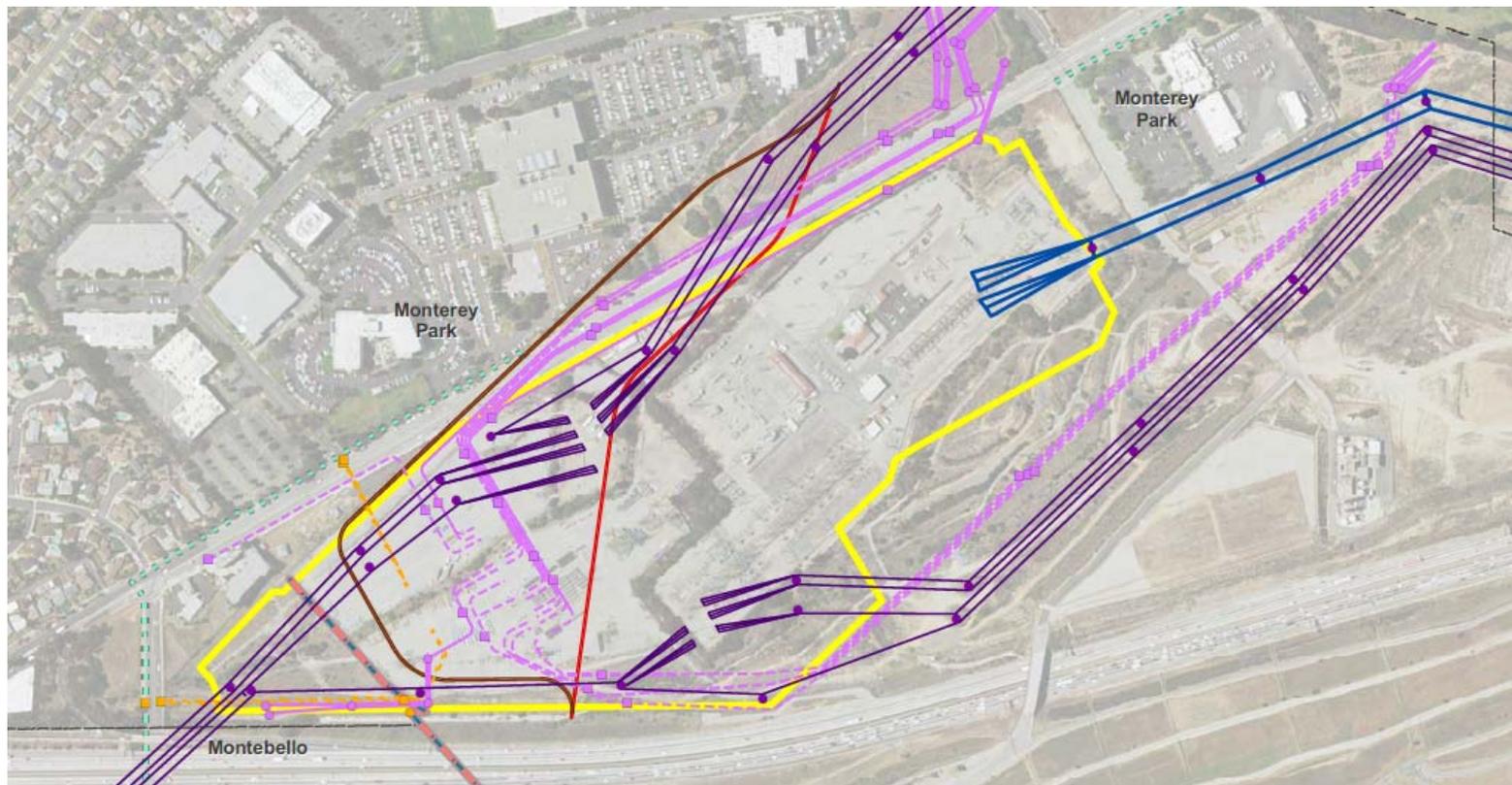
Alternatives Considered in the Draft EIR

- **One-Transformer Bank (1600 MVA) Substation**
 - Build new substation at same site with same orientation with one 1600-MVA transformer bank



Alternatives Considered in the Draft EIR

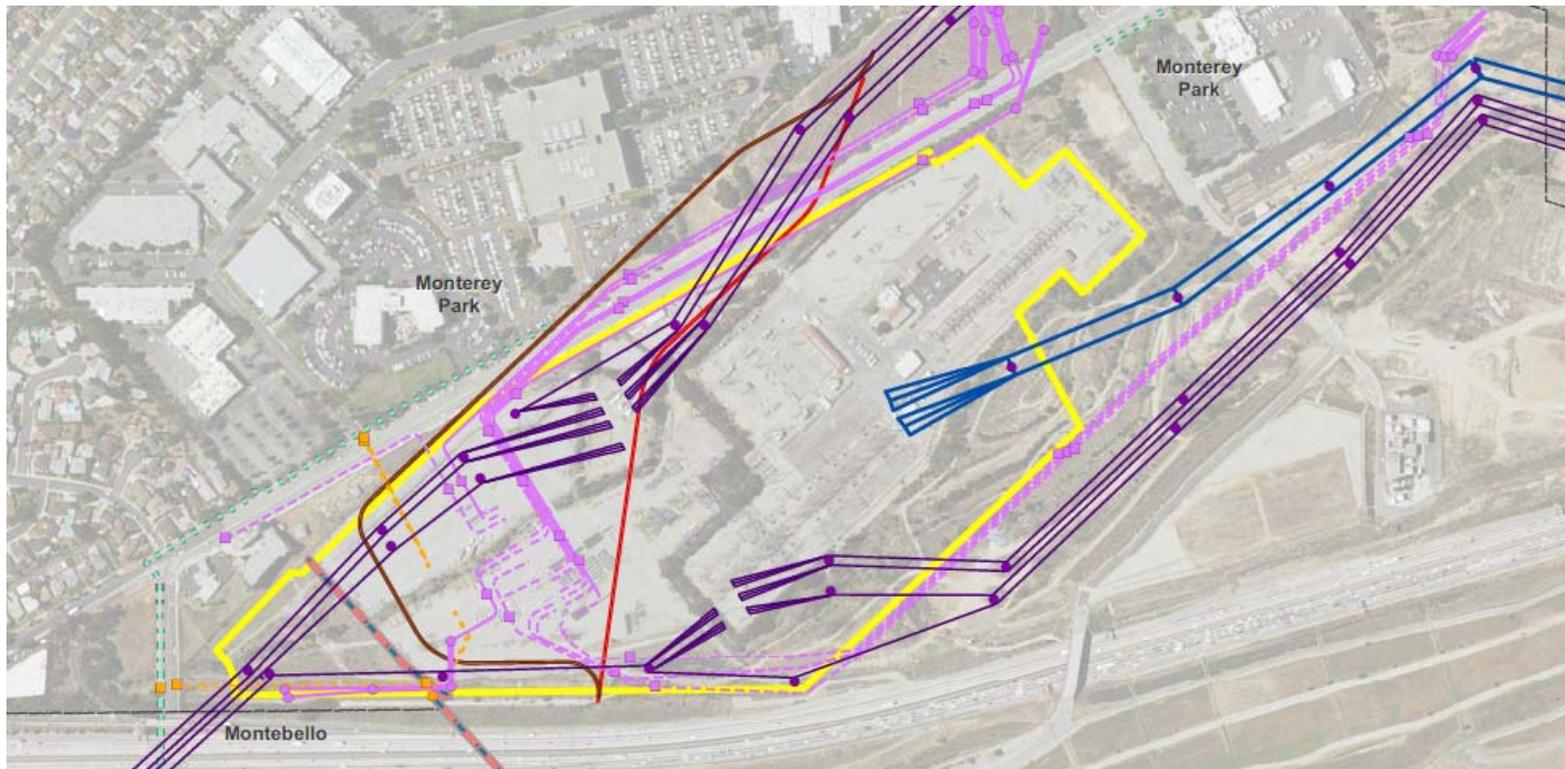
- **Two-Transformer Bank (1120 MVA) Substation**
 - Build new substation at same site with same orientation with two 1120-MVA transformer banks



Alternatives Considered in the Draft EIR

- **Gas Insulated Substation**

- Build new substation at same site with same orientation with gas insulated switchgear



Alternatives Considered in the Draft EIR

- **No Project Alternative**

- Evaluation of the No Project Alternative is required by CEQA.
- Represents scenario that would occur if SCE's proposed project is not approved
- Does not achieve all project objectives
- Includes implementation of a load shed scheme, generation procurement in the Western Los Angeles Basin, and an alternative 500-kV transmission project



Environmentally Superior Alternative

- **One Transformer Bank (1600 MVA) Alternative**
 - Substantially reduces impacts on **Air Quality**
 - Reduced fugitive dust emissions from ground disturbance
 - Substantially reduces impacts on **Biological Resources**
 - Reduces impacts on avian and special status species and habitat.
 - Reduces impacts on riparian habitat and potentially jurisdictional waters
 - Substantially reduces impacts from **Hazardous Materials**
 - Reduces the amount of transformer oil stored on site during operation



Comments on Draft EIR must be received or postmarked by **June 13, 2016**

- Written comments may be submitted at this meeting or by mail, email, or fax.
- Comments are due by **5:00pm on June 13, 2016**

Mail	Email
<p style="text-align: center;">Lisa Orsaba California Public Utilities Commission RE: Mesa 500-kV Substation Project c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc. 505 Sansome Street, Suite #300 San Francisco, CA 94111</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mesa.CPUC@ene.com</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Fax (415) 398-5326</p>



For More Information

- Visit the Project Website:
 - <http://tinyurl.com/mesasubstation>
- Information Repositories
 - Monterey Park Library: 318 S Ramona Ave, Monterey Park
 - Montebello Library: 1550 W Beverly Blvd, Montebello
- Email EIR Team:
 - Mesa.CPUC@ene.com
- Call the Project Information Line:
 - (844) 538-6992



Informal Discussion Session with EIR Preparers

