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# PROJECT MEMORANDUM SCE TRANSMISSION PROJECTS, SEGMENTS 1 - 11

**To:** John Boccio, Project Manager, CPUC **From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date:** October 22, 2010

**Subject:** Weekly Report 141 – October 3 to October 9, 2010

#### INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the following SCE transmission projects:

- Antelope-Pardee 500 kV Transmission Project, Segment 1, including Antelope Substation expansion;
- Antelope Transmission Project, Segments 2, 3A and 3B, including the Windhub and Highwind Substations; and
- Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project, Segments 4 through 11, including Whirlwind Substation and the expansion of Vincent Substation.

A summary of the Notices to Proceed with construction and Variance Request activity are also provided (see Tables 1 and 2, respectively, near the end of this report). Finally, a summary of Temporary Extra Workspace and non-compliance activity are provided in Tables 3 and 4, respectively.

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM): Stephanie Jayne, Jenny Slaughter and Allison Roth

#### SEGMENTS 1-3: ANTELOPE-PARDEE AND ANTELOPE TRANSMISSION PROJECT

# **Summary of Activity:**

- 1. Construction of Segments 1, 2, and 3A have been completed. Segment 3B, from Windhub Substation to and including Highwind Substation, has not been constructed.
- 2. Construction activities in the Antelope Substation expansion consisted of groundwork being conducted for the 500kV switchrack and construction of the MEER building. Installation of the perimeter fence around the substation is complete. No materials were stored in the laydown yard during this reporting period. The spoil pile in front of the Antelope construction trailers is being smoothed out and will be covered with gravel.
- 3. Construction activities at the Windhub Substation included ground grid work for the 500 kV. ABB is to mobilize in October to set the transformers. Material storage for the future Whirlwind Substation is also occurring at the Windhub Substations site.
- 4. Material for Segment 3B and the future Whirlwind Substation is being stored at the Highwind Yard.
- 5. Habitat restoration has not been completed in Segment 1. ECORP and Nature's Image are conducting maintenance activities including weeding in areas previously seeded. Areas still requiring treatment in Segment 1 include Wire Stringing Site 3 and Tower 9.
- 6. Revegetation for Segments 2 and 3A is scheduled for Fall 2010.

# **Environmental Compliance:**

1. SCE is working to develop a solution for the channel incision that occurred immediately downstream of the rip-rapped stream channel at the Windhub Substation site. Once a plan is developed, it will be submitted to the CPUC. SCE is also pursuing the acquisition of the stream channel property.

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No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued for Segment 3 construction activities during the subject period. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

## Agency Representatives during Construction (other than CPUC EMs):

None

#### TECHAPI RENEWABLE TRANSMISSION PROJECT (TRTP) SEGMENTS 4-11

The SCE Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project was evaluated in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and a Certification of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) was granted by the CPUC on December 17, 2009.

#### **SEGMENTS 4, 5, AND 10 - ANTELOPE VALLEY**

#### **Summary of Activity**

- 1. Electrical and 220 kV work continued within the Vincent Substation. In the expansion area, the contractor UEC, drilled and poured concrete foundations for the dead ends.
- 2. Work activities on Segment 4 at Towers 34 and 35 included tower erection, water truck, and heavy equipment use. Equipment was staged in the wire pull sites in preparation for the LADWP crossing next week.
- 3. Activities at the Racetrack Yard included equipment maintenance, installation of green screen along the yard perimeter fence, and water line excavations. Material delivery and pulling wire into the trailers was conducted at Material Yard 28.
- 4. Work continued on Segment 5 at Towers 60 and 61. Activities included equipment delivery, assembling forms for the pole foundations, setting steel rebar cages in foundation holes, and concrete pour (Figure 1). Also on Segment 5, the contractor started drilling TSP 2 (located in the Vincent Expansion).
- 5. Fence installation commenced at the Rodeo Yard on October 7, 2010. The appropriate monitors were onsite.

## **Environmental Compliance:**

- 1. On September 24, survey crews staking new tower positions damaged an archaeological feature at a tower site on the Segment 5. The CPUC was not notified of this damage for four days. An initial incident report was submitted to the CPUC and the ANF on October 4 and was followed by a treatment plan for the damage to the site. The treatment plan is currently under review by the Lead Agencies.
- 2. Two separate Level 1 non-compliances were issued by ICF (SCE's Biological Monitors), on October 9, 2010 for vehicles parking on the access road berm north of Tower 35.
- 3. The juniper brush piles on Segment 5 at Towers 58A to 62 were hauled off in dump trucks to the Palmdale Landfill (see Figure 2). A biological monitor was onsite to inspect the activity.
- 4. Access road flagging on Segment 5, Towers 30 thru 47 was clearly marked. The ESA flagging and signage for the cultural site at Tower 40 was confusing. SCE was asked to redo the signage.
- 5. The CPUC EM spoke to the Burns & McDonnell environmental coordinator and CH2M Hill monitors concerning secondary containment under equipment and BMP installation on Segment 5.
- 6. BMP's were installed at TSP's 2 through 5 and grubbing was conducted at TSP 5 (see Figure 3).

Two SCE non-compliances were issued during the subject period for TRTP construction activities. No CPUC Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued for Segment 4, 5 & 10 construction activities during the subject period. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

#### Agency Representatives during Construction (other than CPUC EMs):

None

#### SEGMENTS 6 AND 11 - ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST

#### **Summary of Activity**

1. The Final EIS was released by the Angeles National Forest (ANF) on September 14, 2010. The ANF Record of Decision was issued on October 4, 2010, and the Special Use Permit is anticipated for release in early-December. Construction is expected to begin in late-2010 or early-2011.

#### SEGMENTS 7 AND 8 - LOS ANGELES AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES

#### **Summary of Activity**

- 1. During the subject period, work on the Rio Hondo-Amador-Jose-Mesa line and Chino Substation 66 kV relocation was put on-hold while SCE crews worked on projects elsewhere.
- 2. Work on Segment 8 Telecom consisted of underground splice work in the City of Chino.
- 3. Segment 8, Phase 2: Wilson construction crews worked on the wreck-out of the Chino–Mira Loma No. 1 structures in the cities of Chino and Ontario during the subject period. Work included the removal of wire and hardware from Towers M5-T1 to M5-T4 and M6-T1 to M7-T1 (see Figures 4 and 5). Additionally, crews installed shaker plates at paved road crossings to prevent track-out from the job sites.
- 4. A DCX crew began trimming trees and vegetation on October 6<sup>th</sup> in preparation to build an interset tower (M54-T3a) on Segment 7 in the City of Duarte.
- 5. A DCX crew began preparation work at the Huntington Yard in the City of Duarte. Work included the installation of BMPs and a new access gate.
- 6. During the subject period, a DCX crew prepared the Chino Yard for use as a contractor yard (see Figure 6). Work included the installation of BMPs and fencing. DCX crews began conducting their daily tailboard meetings at the yard starting on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Environmental Compliance**:

1. An incident report including any resource damage that occurred during the wire drop at Tower M57-T2 in Segment 8, Phase I, has been requested by the CPUC.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Segment 7 and 8 construction activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

#### **Agency Representatives during Construction (other than CPUC EMs):**

None

#### CPUC NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTPS) & ANF PERMITTING

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC Notice to Proceed and ANF permitting activity for the Antelope-Pardee Transmission Project, Segments 1, 2, and 3, to date.

# TABLE 1 CPUC NTPS & ANF PERMITTING

(Updated 10/22/2010)

NTP #/	Date	Date	Segment	10/22/2010)	
Permit	Requested	Issued	#	Description	
CPUC NTPs, Segments 1-3					
For CPUC NTP and Addendum activity on Segments 1-3 prior to 2010, please see Table 1 in Weekly Reports 106-107.					
#26	12/18/09	01/05/10	1	Expansion of Antelope Substation.	
CPUC Addendum	12/21/09	01/19/10	1	Permanent AR 19 and access road to Const 34A.	
CPUC Addendum	12/21/09	01/19/10	1	Permanent refueling basin at Hydrant Yard.	
#27	12/23/09	01/05/10	3B	Oak Peak Communication Site	
CPUC Addendum	01/25/10	02/01/10	2	Reclassification of two temporary roads to permanent and relocation of transposition poles.	
Revised CPUC Addendum	02/10/10	02/19/10	2	Relocate two previously approved transposition towers from Const 110 to Const 105.	
#28	02/10/10	02/18/10	3B	Highwind Marshalling Yard	
#29	02/10/10	03/02/10	1	Relocation of the Sagebrush Transmission Line at the Antelope Substation expansion area.	
CPUC Addendum	03/17/10	03/26/10	3A	Vertical mulching, capping of a portion of the existing roadway, and making this overland route a permanent access for SCE operations and maintenance to Const 43.	
CPUC Addendum	04/06/10	04/27/10	3B	Elimination of transposition towers in Segment 3B.	
CPUC Addendum	04/16/10	04/22/10	1	Installation of fiber optics surrounding the Antelope Expansion.	
CPUC Addendum	05/25/10	06/04/10	1	Permanent overland travel routes for Operation and Maintenance inspections.	
CPUC Addendum	05/25/10	06/04/10	2	Permanent overland travel routes for Operation and Maintenance inspections.	
			CPUC N	TPs Segments 4-11	
#1	01/13/10	02/11/10	4, 5, 10	Yard 28	
#2	01/28/10	03/10/10	9	Vincent Substation Expansion	
#3	03/09/10	04/01/10	7,8	Rancho Vista Yard	
CPUC Addendum	04/09/10	04/19/10	9	Changes to Substation components.	
#4	01/27/10	04/26/10	7, 8	Segment 7 and 8 Cell Sites	
#5	01/27/10	04/30/10	7	Segment 7 Telecom	
#6	03/29/10	05/12/10	7,8	Mesa Materials Storage Yard	
#7	05/12/10	05/28/10	8	Segment 8 telecommunications.	
#7 Mod	08/20/10	08/20/10	8	Minor re-routes to Segment 8 Telecom	
#8	04/27/10	06/04/10	8	Segment 8 Contractor Yards	
#9	07/21/10	07/29/10	7	Segment 7 Contractor Yards	
#10	04/08/10	08/03/10	7, 8	66 kV re-route and relocation	
#11	05/08/10	08/12/10	8	Segment 8 Transmission Line, Chino Hills, Phase I	
#12	07/28/10	08/20/10	4, 5, 10	Segment 4, 5, 10 Contractor Yards	

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
#13	07/19/10	08/24/10	8	Segment 8 Transmission Line, Phase 2 and 3
#14	08/25/10	09/03/10	4	Partial Transmission Line work associated with an LADWP outage
#15	08/13/10	09/10/10	5	Segment 5 Transmission Line
#16	08/30/10	09/13/10	4	Segment 4 Transmission Line
#17	08/10/10	09/24/10	7	Segment 7 Transmission Line
#18	10/13/10	10/15/10	7	Potrero Grande Contractor Yard
	06/22/10	Under review	9	Whirlwind Substation
	10/08/10	Under review	10	Segment 10 Telecom.
		AN	NF PERMTT	TING – Segment 1, 6 & 11
	11/29/07	12/14/07	1	Radio Repeater – installation of a temporary radio repeater site on Sierra Pelona Ridge to provide communication during construction activities tied to the project. Improvement installation began Jan. 11
	09/27/07	12/14/07	1	Geotechnical testing – 23 geotechnical borings are authorized on National Forest lands to provide additional information that will be used in the design of the transmission towers. Notice to proceed was signed Jan 31 to begin work the week of Feb. 3
		07/14/08	1	Removal of the 66 kV conductor within the ANF, from tower 7-3 (near southern Forest boundary) to 16-3 (near Bouquet Reservoir) Phase I.
		09/23/08	1	Removal of the 66 kV conductor within the ANF, Phase II
		10/23/08	1	Construction of the 500 kV transmission line and wreck-out of the 66 kV towers in the ANF, Section 2.

# VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

Variance Requests and Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) Requests submitted to date are summarized in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

TABLE 2 VARIANCE REQUESTS (Updated 10/22/2010)

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
		V	ariance Reque	sts, Segments 1-3
For Varian	nce Request act	ivity on Segme	ents 1-3 prior	to 2010, please see Table 2 in Weekly Reports 106-107.
VR #66	01/11/10	01/19/10	1	Modify the requirements of Mitigation Measure B-1a (Provide Restoration/Compensation for Impacts to Native Vegetation Communities) to fulfill a request from the property owner.
VR #67	01/15/10	01/19/10	3A	Modify requirements of Mitigation Measure B-27b and APMs BIO-2 and BIO-7 to preserve cut Joshua trees onsite instead of off-site disposal to the extent possible for habitat creation purposes.
VR #68	04/09/10	04/12/10	1	Release restoration requirements on road to wreck-out tower 20-4 in Section 3.
VR #69	05/04/10	05/07/10	1	Contractor Yards surrounding Antelope Substation.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
VR #69 MOD	07/29/10	08/02/10	1	Additional space for storage at Antelope Substation for material being delivered for Antelope, Vincent and Whirlwind substations.
VR #70	06/02/10	06/04/10	1	Additional disturbance areas adjacent to the pole erections for the 220kV Sagebrush relocation work around the Antelope Substation.
VR #71	06/22/10	06/23/10	1	Change in construction work hours for work on the Sagebrush 220 kV transmission line.
VR #71 MOD #1	06/24/10	06/25/10	1	Expansion of construction hours for Sagebrush 220 kV T/L and foundation installation work at Antelope Substation.
VR #71 MOD #2	07/08/10	07/09/10	1	Further expansion of construction hours for Antelope Substation construction.
		Va	ariance Reques	sts, Segments 4-11
VR #1	03/25/10	03/26/10	9-Vincent	Expand grading area of Vincent substation by 15-feet for temporary turn around areas for equipment.
VR #2	05/25/10	05/27/10	7	Relocation of helicopter landing zone for Segment 7 telecommunications work.
VR #3	06/08/10	06/10/10	7	Clarification of Segment 7 Telecom construction operating hours and to work the weekend dates of June 12, 13, 19, and 20, within the City of Irwindale
VR #4	08/11/10	08/13/10	9-Vincent	Utilize a fire hydrant along an unpaved spur road and also place two 10,000-gallon elevated water storage tanks adjacent to the hydrant.
VR #5	08/20/10	08/20/10	7	Night work for Segment 7 Telecom
VR #6	08/26/10	08/26/10	8	Work on weekends for Segment 8 Telecom.
VR #7	09/10/10	09/16/10	8	New wire setup and pull sites for Segment 8 Phase 1
VR#8	09/16/10	09/16/10	8	Clarification of construction hours for Segment 8 Phase 1
VR #9	09/14/10	09/20/10	Yard 28 & Rancho Vista Yard	Hotwork (welding and cutting) at Yard 28 and Rancho Vista Yard.
verbal	10/08/10	10/08/10	8, Phases 2 & 3	Wire sites for construction on Sunday, October 10.
VR #10	10/08/10	10/13/10	8	Additional Phase 2 & 3 wire sites.
VR #11	10/01/10	10/15/10	8	Relief from focused biological survey requirements because of restricted property access, Phase I.
VR #12	10/06/10	10/15/10	8	Additional Phase I wire sites.

TABLE 3
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS

(Updated 10/22/2010)

TEWS Request	Date Requested	Date Approved	Segment #	Description		
			TEWS, Seg	gments 1-3		
For T	TEWS activity o	on Segments 1-3	3 prior to 2010	, please see Table 3 in Weekly Reports 106-107.		
	TEWS, Segments 4-11					
#1	09/30/10	09/30/10	7	Re-phasing work at a tower not previously identified on Rio Hondo-Amador-Jose-Mesa 66 kV		
#2	10/8/10	10/8/10	4	Park a boom truck on LADWP access road during the outage		
#3	1 0/12/10	10/12/10	8	Use a wire setup site not previously identified on Chino-Mira Loma No. 1		

# **NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS**

A summary of Project Memorandum, Non-Compliance Reports, and other incidents to date is provided in Table 4.

TABLE 4
NON-COMPLIANCES, PROJECT MEMORANDA, AND OTHER INCIDENTS
(Updated 10/22/2010)

(Opuated 10/22/2010)							
Type	Date	Location	Description				
	Non-Compliances, Project Memoranda & Other Incidents, Segments 1-3						
For Non-Complic	ances, Project Me		ther Incidents activity on Segments 1-3 prior to 2010, please see Weekly Reports 106-107.				
Project Memorandum	04/27/10	3A	Delivery of equipment to Tower 43 within an ESA without monitors present.				
Incident	05/10/10	2	Relocation of artifacts from archaeological site near Tower 21 during Segment 2 construction.				
Incident	05/12/10	Antelope Substation	Fugitive dust leaving grading area.				
	Non-Complian	ces, Project Me	emoranda, & Other Incidents, Segments 4-11				
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	03/24/10	Vincent Substation	Construction encroachment into California Thrasher nest buffer.				
Incident	04/20/10	Rancho Vista Yard	Equipment mobilized to site before resource fencing was verified by CPUC EM.				
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	05/12/10	Vincent Substation	Resource buffer encroachment, construction within nesting bird buffers along Rockyford road.				
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	05/13/10	Vincent Substation	Resource buffer for common raven encroachment within substation.				
Incident	05/28/10	Windhub Substation	1 gallon fuel spill outside of Windhub substation.				
Incident	06/02/10	Antelope Substation	Active nest disappeared from inside the engine compartment of a water truck at the expansion area over the holiday weekend.				

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Туре	Date	Location	Description
Incident	06/03/10	Antelope Substation	Construction activities taking place without biological clearance surveys taking place. Resource buffer staking were in place.
Incident	06/04/10	Antelope Substation	Resource buffer encroachment in the expansion area. Vehicle entered a nest buffer area, nest was not found.
Incident/Level 2 SCE NCR	06/13/10	Segment 7 Telecom	Helicopter unloaded personnel and equipment in an unauthorized area.
Incident/Level 2 SCE NCR	06/17/10	Vincent Substation	Cement truck stopped within nesting bird buffer along Rockford road.
Incident/Level 2 SCE NCR	6/22/2010	Yard 28 Materials Yard	Vehicle drove through bird buffer exclusion zone.
Project Memorandum	06/23/10	Segment 8 West CY	Vegetation clearing without preconstruction biological or clearance surveys within TRTP right-of-way.
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	06/24/10	Yard 28 Materials Yard	Verizon employee parked within a bird buffer exclusion zone.
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	7/6/10	Yard 28 Materials Yard	All Day Electric employee drove through a bird buffer exclusion zone.
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	8/3/10	Segment 7 Telecom	Crews began work without a monitor present.
Incident Level 1 SCE NCR	09/9/10	Mesa Material Storage Yard	Water truck spraying water into jurisdictional drainage.
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	9/21/10	Mesa Material Storage Yard	SCE contractor on-site before biological sweep was completed.
Incident	9/21/10	Segment 8, Phase I	Wire drop at Tower M57-T2. Incident report has been requested by the CPUC.
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	9/24/10	Segment 5	Resource damage to a cultural site by survey crews.
Incident/Level 1 SCE NCR	10/1/10	Racetrack Yard	ICF, International (Biological Monitoring) issued an NCR for parking of vehicles outside the Yard boundaries.

# PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



**Figure 1:** Segment 5, Tower 60 concrete form at new tower foundation.



Figure 2: Segment 5, juniper stockpile removal near Tower 61.



**Figure 3:** Disturbance area grubbed at TSP 5, outside of the Vincent Substation, Segment 5.



**Figure 4:** In the City of Ontario, Wilson crews work to remove a tower, Segment 8 Phase 2.



**Figure 5:** Crews remove hardware at M3-T3 adjacent to a dairy, Segment 8 Phase 2.



**Figure 6:** DCX crews prepare the Chino Yard for contractor equipment storage.