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PROJECT MEMORANDUM

### ANTELOPE PARDEE PROJECT, SEGMENTS 1 AND 2

**To:** John Boccio, Project Manager, CPUC

Justin Seastrand, Project Manager, ANF

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date:** October 13, 2008

**Subject:** Weekly Reports #37 and #38, September 21 to October 4, 2008.

The Antelope-Pardee Project, Segment 1, is comprised of three sections:

• Section 1: Pardee Substation to the ANF boundary.

• Section 2: ANF

• Section 3: ANF Boundary to the Antelope Substation

During the subject period, construction activity continued under Notice to Proceed (NTP) #7 for construction of Section 1 and NTPs #2 and #11 for construction of Section 3, including the Antelope Substation. With the exception of 66 kV conductor removal, no work was conducted in Section 2, on the Angeles National Forest, pending the issuance of construction permits. Equipment, materials, and office trailers are being staged in approved construction yards.

#### **SECTION 1**

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM): Jenny Slaughter and Arturo Ruelas.

#### **Summary of Activity:**

The Shoofly (temporary bypass line) of the Antelope Pardee Transmission Line Project authorized under NTP #5 was energized on May 10<sup>th</sup>. The lattice tower structures originally supporting the line are being replaced to accommodate construction of the new Antelope Pardee 500 kV structures within the Shoofly corridor.

NTP #7 for Section 1 of Segment 1 was issued by the CPUC on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Construction activities approved under NTP #7 in Section 1 include the removal of the Saugus–Del Sur 66 kV line and towers, the construction of the new 500 kV lattice towers, and the removal of the existing 220 kV Santa Clara Vincent line and towers. Construction activities under NTP #7 during the subject week consisted of the following activities.

- 1. Wire stringing in Section 1 started on October 3<sup>rd</sup> between towers NC 2 and NC 11. A helicopter was used to install a sock line into tower phases, which is then used to pull conductor through the towers.
- 2. During the subject period, work began on NC 28. Access road improvement and equipment turnaround area were completed. Tower foundations were poured on October 2<sup>nd</sup> (see Figure 1).
- 3. Along the Saugus–Del Sur 66 kV line, all but two towers have been dismantled and removed in Section 1. These are planned to be removed concurrent with the tower removal in Section 2 later this year.
- 4. Biological monitoring and associated biological clearance surveys of Section 1 construction areas are being conducted by Burns and McDonnell and BRC biologists. Paleontological monitors were present to monitor new ground disturbing construction activities.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

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1. Erosion controls are being installed once construction crews have completed ground disturbing activities, such as new road construction. At NC 28, access road improvement created sidecast of loose soil. This access road is situated adjacent to a drainage. SCE was reminded that the implementation of erosion controls would be necessary prior to the forecasted rain event on Saturday, October 4.

No Non Compliance Reports (NCR) or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Section 1 project activities. Non-Compliance reports issued to the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

#### **Agency Representatives:**

None.

#### **SECTION 2, ANF & ADJACENT YARDS**

**ANF Representative:** George Geer

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitor (EM): Jenny Slaughter and Arturo Ruelas.

#### **Summary of Activity:**

On July 14, 2008, the Forest Service issued a fully executed copy of the Special Use Permit that authorizes SCE to remove the 66-kV conductor, know as the Saugus–Del Sur, from National Forest System lands. The Forest Service also provided written notice that SCE can proceed with the implementation of Phase I of the 66-kV conductor removal, from tower 7-3 (near southern Forest boundary) to 16-3 (near Bouquet Reservoir). A Notice to Proceed (NTP) from the CPUC for the Phase I activity was issued on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

On September 23, the ANF issued Amendment #2 to Special Use Permit allowing the Phase II activities. An NTP for the Phase II work was issued by CPUC on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Conductor removal activities are taking place on the ANF (Section 2) when the Project Activity Level (PAL) allows. PAR, the SCE construction contractor, is responsible for obtaining the PAL level relating to fire risk for the following day.

- 1. On August 28<sup>th</sup>, the ANF issued a variance to PAR allowing them a thirty-day window of work in order to remove all the remaining copper conductor still left on the 66 kV lattice towers (Phase I of Section 2). This is in response to the ongoing illegal cutting and theft of the conductor, and the related danger of fire and impacts to resources from this activity. This variance will allow PAR to work on the Forest six days a week, except on Red Flag Warning days.
- 2. PAR crews worked during the subject period and continued conductor removal on Phase II. This activity was mainly carried out by using a helicopter to ferry workers to the towers and using the newly constructed helicopter landing pad at the Hydrant Marshalling Yard (see Figure 2).

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

- 1. Crews utilized the existing disturbed areas of SCE Access Road for staging of personnel and equipment. All equipment left on the ANF overnight is staged on plastic sheeting to prevent fuel or other liquids from impacting the roads.
- 2. All construction related equipment and vehicles are being washed at the designated staging area off of Spunky Canyon Road to prevent the spread of weeds to areas of the ANF. A copy of the vehicle wash log is kept at the wash station.
- 3. Two water trucks were staged at opposite ends of the work area, to maintain fire protection during construction activities. These two vehicles remained in the area two hours after all the working crews and equipment had left the forest property acting as fire watch.

No CPUC Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) or Project Memoranda (PM) were issued during the subject period for Section 2 construction. Non-Compliance reports issued to the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

#### SECTION 3, ANTELOPE SUBSTATION, & ADJACENT YARDS

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitor (EM): Jenny Slaughter and Arturo Ruelas.

#### **Summary of Activity:**

Section 3 includes the construction of the 500 kV towers, the dismantling of the Saugus–Del Sur 66 kV transmission line, the construction of the 12 kV distribution line, and the Antelope Substation expansion for the Antelope Pardee Project.

NTPs #10 (for the 12 kV component of Section 3 of Segment 1) and #11 (for the 500 kV tower construction and dismantling of the 66 kV transmission line) were issued by the CPUC on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Construction activities approved under NTP #2 continued for the Antelope Substation expansion work. Construction of the 12 kV distribution line as authorized under NTP #10 has been completed, with the exception of an underground component, and the line was energized on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Construction activities under NTPs #2 and #11 during the subject week consisted of the activities noted below. United Construction is the subcontractor to PAR responsible for the wreck-out of the 66 kV lattice towers. PAR Construction is responsible for constructing the 500 kV structures.

- 1. Construction activities covered under NTP #10 for the Hughes Lake 12 kV distribution line began on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Construction crews worked from the Antelope Substation west toward Elizabeth Lake Road. All new 12 kV poles have been set and the conductor is in place. The line was energized on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Other work associated with the 12 kV Hughes Lake portion of Section 3 include an underground component on private property. This work is on hold until the cultural resource testing takes place, scheduled to begin October 13.
- 2. Wreck-out of the 66 kV conductors is completed on Section 3 and only five towers remain to be removed.
- 3. Grading, foundation drilling, and setup of the 500 kV towers started on August 20<sup>th</sup>. Grading crews continued to construct tower sites and crane pads for tower construction. On Section 3, a combination of single circuit lattice towers and tubular steel poles are used to support the new 500 kV line (see Figure 3). Most of the foundation work has been completed and erection crews are working on tower or pole assembly.
- 4. Construction began on the Reitano Ranch after the Variance approval for new access roads was approved on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Crews began with the removal of the 66 kV conductor and towers and improved access roads on the property (see Figure 4).
- 5. Work on NC 102 (a tubular steel pole) began on September 29<sup>th</sup> after the letter from SHPO was received allowing for construction activities within the cultural site CA-LAN-1334. Cultural resource and Native American monitors are present during any construction activity in this area.
- 6. On September 10<sup>th</sup>, during foundation construction, a cement truck overturned north of Elizabeth Lake Road while negotiating a turn on private property blocking the access road. Because other cement trucks were on the way up to the tower foundations to deliver cement, PAR had to cut a bypass road around where the truck was on its side. Biologists and Environmental Inspectors surveyed the area before the bypass road was cut and identified more than 200 Pierson's Morning glory plants in the area. The cement truck was eventually righted with the help of a wrecker and bulldozer, and several gallons of fuel and other fluids had spilled from the truck. A revised incident report is expected from SCE documenting the number of plants impacted from this accident.

- 7. On September 25<sup>th</sup> CPUC EM and a Burns & McDonnell Environmental Inspector conducted a field verification of resources in the Reitano Ranch in order for construction to proceed. Several woodrat middens were noted along the construction corridor. If any impacts to the middens are necessary, CDFG consultation will be required.
- 8. On October 3<sup>rd</sup> work started at the Reitano Ranch after Variance Request #15 was approved for the improvement of new access roads. A Variance Request for the use of the agricultural field as a marshalling yard, helicopter landing and fueling area was submitted to the CPUC. This request was approved by CPUC on October 9.
- 9. Grading, grounding, and fencing of the Antelope Substation expansion area has been completed. An earthen berm was constructed surrounding the expansion area to assist in drainage. Crews continue the construction of the new substation components within the expansion area

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

- 1. On August 26<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC EM noticed that a section of old 12 kV poles had been removed along 110<sup>th</sup> Street. These poles (approximately 21 poles) had no access roads identified or approved, and SCE was preparing a Variance request to complete this work. The CPUC EM issued a Project Memorandum for this work being conducted without a Variance Request approval from the CPUC. As a condition of the PM, SCE must submit the Variance Request documentation, specifically the resource survey information to the CPUC and CDFG for review. On September 17<sup>th</sup>, a response to the CPUC PM was submitted to the CPUC documenting the pre-construction survey results. The pre-construction biology report indicates that two populations of Pierson's morning glory was detected and would be avoided to the extent feasible. The CPUC EM has asked SCE to clarify how many plants were affected during this work.
- 2. Because the original biological pre-construction surveys were incomplete, SCE is required to conduct further pre-construction clearance surveys to identify resources in Section 3. Clearance survey results for the Reitano property were submitted September 23<sup>rd</sup>, and field verified by the CPUC EM. The CPUC EM completed the biological survey review and approval was given to SCE on September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 3. Archaeological and Native American Monitors were present during 66 kV wreck-out and 500 kV construction when required.

No CPUC Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) or Project Memoranda (PM) were issued during the subject period for Section 3 construction. Non-Compliance reports issued to the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

#### **SEGMENT 2**

#### **Summary of Activity:**

The Notice to Proceed for Segment 2 construction (NTP #14) was issued by the CPUC on September 30<sup>th</sup>. No construction has occurred in Segment 2 to date.

- 1. As conditioned in the NTP, all sensitive resources will be flagged for avoidance and verified by the CPUC EM. Flagging of biological resources, disturbance areas, and access roads was completed between Towers 18 and 28.
- 2. Testing of archaeological sites P-19-003736 and CA-LAN-3747 began on September 18<sup>th</sup> and has been completed. A testing report is expected to be submitted in the next few weeks.
- 3. A Temporary Extra Work Space request was submitted to the CPUC EM on October 3<sup>rd</sup> for a parking area for construction equipment in a quarry site near Tower 17. The TEWS was approved by the CPUC EM on the condition that landowner approval would be provided.

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

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

# TABLE 1 CPUC NTPs & ANF PERMITTING (Updated 10-13-08)

NTP #/	Date	Date	Segment	puateu 10-13-08)		
Permit	Requested	Issued	#	Description		
CPUC NTPs						
#1	10/10/07	10/16/07	1 & 3	Mojave Marshalling Yard. Per the request, the yard will primarily be used to store construction equipment and materials for the project.		
#2	11/16/07	12/10/07	1	Antelope Substation construction and expansion, as well as the use of two adjacent contractor laydown yards.		
#2 Mod	12/21/07	01/02/08	1	Allow grading activity at the Antelope site/yards and replacement of an existing 80-foot microwave tower with a new 120-foot tower immediately outside of the communications room within the fenced area of the Antelope Substation.		
#3	01/10/08	01/16/08	1	Use of five contractor laydown yards as named Pumpkin Yard, Pottery Yard, Pardee Substation Yard, Mechanics Yard and Avenue I Yard.		
#4	01/29/08	02/04/08	1 & 3	Use of the Racetrack Marshalling Yard.		
#5	02/19/08	02/28/08	1	Shoofly Construction, Section 1.		
#5 Mod #1	03/11/08	03/19/08	1	Use of a new soil disposal site for the Shoofly construction, Section 1.		
#5 Mod #2	03/24/08	03/26/08	1	Removal of the 66 kV conductor on the Saugus–Del Sur line during the outage scheduled for March 27, 2008.		
#6	03/19/08	03/29/08	1	Use of three additional construction yards, Rodeo, Blue Cloud, and Pumpkin expansion. Rodeo yard approved under NTP #9.		
#7	04/03/08	05/08/08	1	Section 1 Construction.		
#8	05/01/08	05/09/08	1	10-acre marshalling yard near Antelope Substation.		
#9	03/18/08	06/18/08	1, 2, 3	Rodeo Yard		
#10	06/02/08	06/25/08	1	12 kV line (Hughes Lake Distribution Line).		
#11	06/03/08	06/25/08	1	Section 3 construction.		
#12	06/27/08	07/08/08	1	Hydrant Yard		
#13	07/17/08	07/18/08	1	Removal of the 66 kV conductor within the ANF, Phase 1, from tower 7-3 (near southern Forest boundary) to 16-3 (near Bouquet Reservoir).		
#14	Initial submittal 07/11/08	09/29/08	2	Segment 2 construction.		
#15	09-24-08	09/24/08	1	Removal of the 66 kV conductor within the ANF, Phase 2.		
#16	10/01/08	10/09/08	1	Section 3, Reitano Marshalling yard.		
#17	Initial submittal 09/12/08		3	Segment 3A construction		
	ANF PERMTTING					

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
	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

## VARIANCE 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 10-13-08)

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
VR #1	04/01/08	04/03/08	1	Change in construction of a overland travel road to Shoofly pole 18, to a temporary road construction method.
VR #2	04/18/08	04/19/08	1	Several expanded stringing sites, new staging areas, and guard pole installation sites for the removal of the 220 kV line.
VR #3	04/24/08	05/25/08	1	Weekend work along the Shoofly portion of Section 1, within the City of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles County, and at the Antelope Substation, Avenue J, in the City of Lancaster.

VR #4	05/08/08	05/09/08	1	Weekend work along the 66 kV line in Section 1
VR #5	07/15/08	VR will be submitted as separate requests		Expansion of guard pole structure areas in Haskell Canyon, New wire stringing site between NC 11 and 12, and crane pad near NC 20.
VR #6	07/30/08	07/30/08	1	Modification to the notice and review requirements under Mitigation Measures L-5 and L-6.
VR #7	08/12/08	08/16/08	1	Wire Stringing site in Section 1 between NC 11 and 12.
VR #8	08/20/08	08/27/08	1	Guard poles at Haskell Canyon outside of approved disturbance areas.
VR #9	08/19/08	09/09/08	1	Valuzet Movie Ranch Helicopter Landing Zone, Section 1.
VR #10	08/21/08	08/27/08	1	Permission to leave one tower foundation in place at wreck out tower 24/2 in Section 1, due to likelihood of slope failure.
VR #11	09/12/08	09/16/08	1	New temporary road construction to NC 97 in Section 3.
VR #12 (revised)	09/17/08	Under CPUC review	2	Permanent access roads for Segment 2 (see NTP #14).
VR #13	09/16/08	09/17/08	1	Turn around for equipment at NC 28 in Section 1.
VR #14	09/18/08	Denied 09/25/08	2	Permanent and temporary access roads in excess of 10% gradient on Segment 2 (see NTP #14).
VR #15	9/20/08	9/26/08	1	Access road changes, Section 3.
VR #16	09/26/08	Under CPUC review	3	Permanent access roads for Segment 3A.

TABLE 3 TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS FOR SEGMENT 1 (Updated 10-13-08)

TEWS Request	Date Requested	Date Approved	Description
TEWS 1	May 15, 2008	May 16, 2008	Extra Workspace for steel placement outside of disturbance limits adjacent to New Construct tower (NC 3) in Section 1.
TEWS 2	May 19, 2008	May 21, 2008	Extra Workspace for steel placement adjacent outside of disturbance limits to New Construct tower (NC 12) in Section 1.
TEWS 3	May 20, 2008	May 20, 2008	Extra Workspace for equipment parking outside of disturbance limits along shoulder of private road adjacent to New Construct tower (NC 2) in Section 1.
TEWS 4	May 27, 2008	May 27, 2008	Access for crew trucks to 66 kV wreck out tower 6-1.
TEWS 5	July 3, 2008	July 16, 2008	Extra Workspace for steel placement and tower assembly near NC 12.
TEWS 6	September 4, 2008	September 4, 2008	Use of Staging area adjacent to NC 2 in Section 1.
TEWS 7	September 4, 2008	September 4, 2008	Use of dirt road adjacent to ten acre yard, Section 3.
TEWS 8	September 11, 2008	September 11, 2008	Helicopter landing site, Section 3.
TEWS 9	September 18, 2008	September 18, 2008	Use of 3 acres of disturbed land adjacent to the Lower Pumpkin Yard.
TEWS 10	October 3, 2008	October 3, 2008	Use of 2 acres of disturbed land in the Lane Ranch for parking equipment, Segment 2.

## **Non-Compliances**

A summary of Project Memorandum and Non-Compliance Reports issued to date are provided in Table 4.

**TABLE 4** NON-COMPLIANCES, PROJECT MEMORANDA, AND OTHER INCIDENTS (Updated 10-13-08)

Туре	Date	Location	Description
Project	March 25,	Segment 1,	Deposition of soil into drainage at Soil Disposal site.
Memorandum	2008	Section 1	
Project	April 18,	Segment 1,	Encroachment into Environmentally sensitive area during stringing operations.
Memorandum	2008	Section 1	
Project Memorandum	April 30, 2008	Segment 1, yards	No clearance surveys of construction yards being conducted during bird nesting season.
Project	May 21,	Segment 1,	Inaccurate and incomplete resource maps.
Memorandum	2008	Section 1	
Project	August 26,	Segment 1,	Completion of 12 kV wreck-out of 21 poles outside of disturbance area prior to Variance approval.
Memorandum	2008	Section 3	

## PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS-SEGMENT 1



**Figure 1:** Foundations for NC 28 ready to be poured.



**Figure 2:** Conductor removal in Phase 2 ANF was carried out using the Hydrant Yard helicopter landing and refueling pad.



**Figure 3:** Tubular Steel Poles (TSPs) and Lattice towers will support the new 500 kV line in Section 3. The wood poles on the left are the newly installed Hughes Lake 12 kV relocated line.



**Figure 4:** Road improvement at the Reitano Ranch, Section 3.