

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

October 16, 2008

Donald Johnson
Project Manager
Southern California Edison
2131 Walnut Grove Ave.
Rosemead, C 911770

RE: SCE Antelope-Pardee 500 kV Transmission Project, Segment 1 – Variance Request #18

Dear Mr. Johnson,

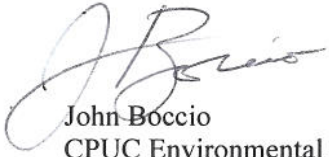
On October 15, 2008, Southern Californian Edison (SCE) submitted a variance requesting the use of a disturbance area and access road in order to wreck-out a lattice steel tower (25/5) and remove footings on Section 3 of Segment 1. The tower is located approximately 300 feet north of the Antelope Substation. All conductor and wires were removed from this structure; however the tower was not included in the NTP or on the disturbance maps for this area. **This Variance Request is approved by CPUC for the proposed activities based on the following factors:**

- The wreck-out structure is located approximately 300 feet north of Avenue J across from the Antelope Substation within the SCE right-of-way, and is flanked by two other larger lattice towers. The structure is located on flat ground in highly disturbed grassland habitat intersected by dirt access roads and heavily grazed by sheep. Previous environmental surveys were conducted along this right-of-way and no sensitive species were found. A follow-up preconstruction survey, conducted on October 14, 2008, did not indicate the presence of any sensitive resources (Burns & McDonnell, 10-15-08 letter). No impacts to biological resources are anticipated.
- Cogstone Resource Management conducted the cultural resource studies. The record search revealed one recorded archaeological site within a 1-mile radius of the project area. This is the existing historic Antelope Substation. One previous archaeological study falls within a one-mile radius of the current project boundaries (Ahmet et al. 2006). The project area has not been previously surveyed. Cogstone Resource Management conducted the survey of the proposed project area on October 8, 2008. Ground visibility was excellent in most areas. No historic or prehistoric artifacts were observed. Adjacent to wreck-out 25-5, several pieces of bared wire and 2 metal cans were observed but appear to be modern (Cogstone, October 2008). No impacts to biological resources are anticipated.

The conditions noted below shall be met by SCE and its contractors:

- All project mitigation measures, compliance plans, and permit conditions shall be implemented during construction activities.
- Copies of all relevant permits, compliance plans, and this Variance shall be available on site for the duration of construction activities where applicable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Boccio".

John Boccio
CPUC Environmental Project Manager

cc: V. Strong, Aspen