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#### PROJECT MEMORANDUM SDG&E'S SUNRISE POWERLINK PROJECT

To:Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUCFrom:Vida Strong, Aspen Project ManagerDate:April 19, 2011Subject:Weekly Report 29 – April 3 to April 9, 2011

## **INTRODUCTION**

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project. This report is organized as follows:

- Transmission Line Construction
- Substation Construction and Upgrades
- Construction Yards and Other Workspaces

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): Cassandra Garza, Brian Woodward and Valerie Yep

#### TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION

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

- 1. Link 1, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:
  - Conventional structure assembly was conducted at Tower EP214, EP215, and EP219.
  - Micropile drilling, proof testing, trimming, and concrete cap preparation occurred at EP226, EP227, EP232-1, EP239-1 and EP253-2.
  - Cleanup occurred at EP235-1.
  - Digging took place and new poles were set at Jacumba Valley Ranch 12kV relocation.
  - Access road improvements were made at EP220 and EP239.
  - Removal of the Desert Rose Ranch House was completed.
- 2. Link 2, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:
  - Micropile drilling occurred at Towers EP80 and EP81 (see Figures 1, 2, & 3).
- 3. Link 4, 220 kV Underground Transmission Line:
  - Potholing occurred at Alpine Creek.
  - Excavating occurred at Vaults V6R and V11L.
  - Ins-and-outs were set at V7L, V11L, and V15L.
  - Trenching occurred between V7L and V9L, V12L and V13L, and along Alpine Boulevard from 800 feet west of Tavern Road, and V19L.
  - Pre-drilling and drilling occurred at V7L, V4L to V5L, V6L, V9R, and V17R.
  - Encasement pouring occurred between V14L and 300 feet east of Honey Hill Ranch Road, between Stations 144+00 and 129+00, and from Stations 111+00 to 129+00.
  - Pre-racking manholes and cleaning occurred at V4L, V5L, and V13L.

- Proofing occurred at V18L.
- Milling and setting of plates occurred between V6L and V7L, V9L, V12 to V13, V19L, Alpine Boulevard 800 feet west of Tavern Road, and 1900 feet west of South Grade Road to Bay Meadows Road.
- Paving occurred between V14L to South Grade Road, between Stations 193+00 and 209+00, and around V6R and V11L.
- Vaults were set at V6R and V11L.
- Dewatering occurred at V11L.
- Grading occurred at the Loritz property (see Figure 4).
- Work continued at the Interstate 8 bore site.
- No activity occurred at the Bauer Bridge location due to active nest buffer restrictions.
- 4. Link 5, 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line:
  - Work on the 69 kV Reconductoring Line on Tie Lines (TL) 6916 and 639 continued. On TL 6916, trenching, laying conduit, and pouring occurred for approximately 100' on the underground at Rue Biarritz.
  - The foundation for wood to steel at structure 973032 was completely finished.
  - On TL 639, pole 872359, located at Tierrasanta Boulevard, was relocated.

Pre-Construction surveys were performed throughout Link 1, 2 and 5 with appropriate monitors.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

- 1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors were present as applicable during all transmission line construction activities.
- 2. On April 6, 2011, an incident occurred where one set of Jacumba Valley Ranch 12kV relocation maps were transcribed incorrectly; therefore, there were two sets of maps that did not match. It was noted to the Link Lead that all Jacumba Valley Ranch 12kV relocation maps given to Monitors and crews need to reflect the same information.
- 3. On April 7, 2011 an incident occurred at the Jacumba Valley Ranch 12kV relocation where work occurred in an area that had not been released by CPUC EMs. A pole was drilled and set; there was no damage to any environmentally sensitive resources (see Figure 5).
- 4. BMP installation and/or maintenance continued along Alpine Boulevard and the Loritz property, Link 4.
- 5. On Link 5, an excavator created ruts on an access road west of 69 kV work on Rue Biarritz (see Figure 6). Crews repaired the ruts with hand tools.

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

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

None.

## SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADES

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

1. Suncrest Substation, Link 3: Rough grading continued on the pad. The eastern hill and two rock outcroppings in the center of the pad were drilled and blasted. Rock and soil was excavated from several cut areas and hauled to the southern portion of the pad and compacted. Rough grading was conducted along the Bell Bluff Truck Trail (BBTT) to re-establish the V-ditches in preparation for the rain event. Setup of the office trailers continued. Rock was placed in the parking areas in compliance with Variance #7.

- 2. Imperial Valley Substation Upgrade: Foundations were drilled and structures were assembled. Gas circuit breakers, potential transformers, switch stands, and bus supports were installed. Trenching occurred in Bay #1 and Bay #3 for cable vaults to tie into the control building, and concrete pads and conduits were worked on. Steel structures were erected in Bay #4.
- 3. San Luis Rey Substation: Foundations were drilled and structure assembly occurred. The 69 kV bus was upgraded.
- 4. Encina Switchyard: Foundations were drilled and structure assembly occurred. A gas circuit breaker, potential transformer, switch stands, and dead end pads were installed. Crews relocated the fire protection water valve and piping. Construction of a new fence around the entire Encina Switchyard was initiated.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

- 1. All applicable Biological, Cultural, Paleontological, and Native American monitors have been present during ground disturbing activities at all substations.
- 2. BMP maintenance and installation continued along BBTT and the pad site prior to the rain event. BMP maintenance continued through the rain event and no major deficiencies were observed by the SWPPP Monitor.
- 3. A Biological Monitor has been at San Luis Rey Substation for all work, including monitoring the big horned owl nest and the approved buffer reduction area.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Substation Construction and Upgrade activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

#### Agency Representatives during Construction (Other than CPUC EMs): None.

## CONSTRUCTION YARDS AND OTHER WORKSPACES:

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

- 1. Delivery of equipment, monopoles and wire reels continued at the Alpine Construction Yard.
- 2. No ground disturbing activities were conducted at the Alpine Regional Field Office (Alpine RFO).
- 3. Materials staging and tower assembly continued at Rough Acres Construction Yard.
- 4. No work occurred at the Thomas Yard.
- 5. Material staging and tower structure assembly continued at the Jacumba Valley Ranch (JVR) Yard. JVR Yard also continued to be utilized for helicopter operations.
- 6. Material staging and tower assembly took place at the Wilson Yard.
- 7. A pre-construction walk-through occurred at the Plaster City Yard.
- 8. Material staging and structure assembly occurred at the Helix Construction Yard.
- 9. Material staging and structure assembly occurred at the Hartung Construction Yard. Access road improvements occurred.
- 10. Material staging and structure assembly occurred at the Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard.
- 11. The access road to the SWAT Construction Yard was improved.
- 12. Material staging and structure assembly occurred at the Kreutzkamp Construction Yard. The access road was also improved.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

- 1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors have worked with crews at the construction yards to define approved work areas and sites to avoid.
- 2. New bird buffers and (Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) signage were installed at the Wilson Yard.
- 3. On April 7, 2011, it was noted to the Link Lead that box lids were still strewn about Thomas Yard and that corrective action needs to be taken.
- 4. New bird buffers and ESA signage were installed at SWAT, Kreutzkamp, and Helix Construction Yards.
- 5. BMP maintenance continued at the Kreutzkamp and SWAT construction yards on Link 2.
- 6. BMPs were improved at the Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard, Link 2 (see Figures 7 & 8).
- 7. Wildlife exclusionary fencing was installed on the access road to Kreutzkamp Construction Yard, Link 2 (see Figure 9).

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memorandums were issued during the subject period for Construction Yards and other workspace 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)**

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC Notice to Proceed activity for the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project to date.

	(0)puated 04/19/2011)			
	Date	Date	Segment	
NTP#	Requested	Issued	#	Description
#1	01/04/10	04/28/10	25	San Luis Rey Substation Upgrades
#2	02/08/10	04/29/10	23	South Bay Substation Upgrades
#3	02/26/10	05/20/10	Yard	Alpine Yard 18
#4	01/26/10	05/28/10	Yard	Alpine Yard 18A
#5	02/05/10	09/28/10	Yard	Rough Acres Yard, Phase 1
#6	05/26/10	09/28/10	24	Encina Substation Upgrades
#7	05/28/10	09/28/10	Telecomm	White Star Communication Facility
#8	06/09/10	10/06/10	Substation	Pomerado Substation Upgrades
#9	06/09/10	10/06/10	Substation	Scripps Switchyard/Substation Upgrades
#10	10/13/10	11/23/10	15	Link 4, Alpine 230 kV Underground Construction
#11	10/19/10	12/15/10	13	Link 3, Suncrest Substation/Wilson Construction Yard
#12	11/30/10	12/23/10	Yard	Rough Acres Yard, Phase 2
#13	11/09/10	01/14/11	2-18,	Links 1, 2, and 5, overhead construction on non-
			20-22	federal lands
BLM #1	01/19/11	02/03/11	1	Imperial Valley Substation upgrades.
BLM #2	03/28/11	04/04/11	2-12,	Links 1, 2, and 5 overhead construction on BLM Lands.
			16-17	

#### TABLE 1 CPUC NTPs (Updated 04/19/2011)

## VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

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

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Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
#1	11/04/10	11/10/10	Yard	Thomas Yard (El Centro, CA)
#2	12/22/10	03/18/11	Yard	Sycamore Estates Construction Yard. Response to inquiry received 02/23.
#3	01/06/10	01/18/11	All	Modification to tree trimming requirements.
#3 MOD	01/25/11	01/26/11	All	Modification to brush clearing requirements.
#4	01/13/11	03/01/11	Yard	Helicopter Temporary Landing Pad area at the Alpine Regional Field Offices.
#5	02/01/11	02/09/11	Yard	Site improvements at the Wilson Construction yard and along Bell Bluff Trail
#6	02/01/11	03/01/11	Link 5	Variance from Mitigation Measure H-1a (CC) to allow work outside of the dry season.
#7	02/11/11	02/17/11	Link 3	Additional work areas for construction trailers, parking, etc.
#8	03/02/11	03/08/11	Link 2	Alternate access route to Structure EP 27.
#9	03/29/11	04/06/11	All	Perform construction activities outside of hours allowed by local ordinances with local jurisdiction approval.
#10	04/04/11 (revised)	Under Review	Link 4	Additional construction work space at Viejas Creek Bridge.
#11	04/06/11	Under Review	Link 1	Additional workspace east of EP215.
#12	04/13/11	Under Review	Link 1	Turnaround at EP220.
#13	04/13/11	Under Review	Links 1 and 2	Regeneration site installation at EP 54-1 and EP 215.

#### TABLE 2 VARIANCE REQUESTS (Updated 04/19/2011)

# TABLE 3TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS(Updated 04/19/2011)

TEWS	Date	Date		
Request	Requested	Approved	Segment #	Description
TEWS #1	11/01/10	11/01/10	White Star	Asphalt paved area for vehicle parking and staging
TEWS #2	03/17/11	03/18/11	Link 4	Parking on Puetz Valley and Alpine Blvd
TEWS #3	03/17/11	03/18/11	Link 4	Parking on Harbison Canyon and Alpine Blvd
TEWS #4	03/22/11	03/23/11	Link 5	Storage on One Father Junipero Sierra Trail
TEWS #5	03/24/11	03/24/11	Link 4	Parking at 3900 Willows Rd. West
TEWS #6	03/24/11	03/24/11	Link 4	Parking at 5840 Willows Rd. East
TEWS #7	04/06/11	04/07/11	Link 2	Temporary use of access road to EP 79
TEWS #8	04/14/11	04/14/11	Link 2	Temporary use of access road to EP 84

## **NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS**

CPUC Project Memorandum and Non-Compliance Reports that have been issued to date are presented in Table 4.

TABLE 4					
CPUC PROJECT MEMORANDA (PM) and NON-Compliance REPORTS (NCRs)					
(Updated 04/18/2011)					

Туре	Date	Location	Description
PM #1	12/7/2010	Thomas Yard	Failure to report unanticipated biological resources within 48 hours.
PM #2	02/11/2011	EP 242, Link 1	Unauthorized ground disturbance at EP 242
NC #1	03/08/2011	Suncrest Substation	Army Corp of Engineers issued NC for not complying with Special Conditions 19, 21 and 23 of DA Permit SPL-2007- 00704-SAS.
PM #3	03/15/2011	CP 67-3, Link 5	Staking crews operating and delivered by helicopters within Golden Eagle Buffer area.

Other compliance incidents identified by SDG&E monitoring staff and/or crews are presented in Table 5.

# TABLE 5Project INCIDENTS(Updated 04/19/2011)

Туре	Date	Location	Description
Incident	11/1/2010	White Star	Delivery of a rebar cage outside of the approved disturbance area.
Incident	02/17/2011	EP 244, Link 1	Nest incorrectly marked at entrance to EP 244.
Incident	02/18/2011	Alpine HQ	Emergency weather landing and storage of 3 helicopters at Alpine HQ.
Incident	03/12/2011	EP 252, Link 1	Bulldozer was delivered at site prior to CPUC clearance being given.
Incident	03/15/2011	EP 214, Link 1	Dewatering approximately 1 gal of groundwater from an excavation hole without having submitted a dewatering plan to the CPUC.
Incident	04/06/2011	JVR 12kV, Link 1	Confusion on approved work areas due to varying maps having been distributed to workers and monitors.
Incident	04/07/2011	JVR 12kV, Link 1	A site was worked on prior to CPUC EM construction release having been received for the area, no resources were damaged.

# **PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS**



Figure 1: Micropile grouting at Tower EP 81, Link 2.



**Figure 2:** Grouting at Tower EP 81, Link 2.



Figure 3: Crew securing new container of grout during helicopter delivery, Tower EP 81, Link 2.



Figure 4: Grading occurring on the Loritz Property, Link 4.



Figure 5: Installation of 12kV pole at JVR on unreleased site, Link 1.



Figure 6: Ruts created by excavator on 69 kV, Link 5.



**Figure 7:** Improved Stormwater BMPs at Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard, Link 2.



Figure 8: Stormwater BMPs improved at the Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard, Link 2.



**Figure 9:** Silt/wildlife exclusionary fence installation along access road to Kreutzkamp Construction Yard, Link 2.