



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Cleveland National
Forest

Descanso Ranger District
3348 Alpine Blvd.
Alpine, CA 91901-3923
(619) 445-6235
(619) 445-1753 FAX
CRS 1-800-735-2922

File Code: 2720

Date: August 17, 2011

Alan Colton
Manager - Sunrise Powerlink Environmental Services
San Diego Gas & Electric Company
8315 Century Park Court, CP21E
San Diego, CA 92123

I have received your August 16, 2011 request for a variance to continue work until 1PM (1300 hours) on level Ev Project Activity Level (PAL) fire danger days. Specifically, SDG&E requests permission to mechanically clear brush and vegetation on tower sites, access roads, and pull sites associated with EP125, EP126, & EP127; conduct geotechnical soil boring at sites CP69-3, EP113-5, & EP127; and perform project wide BMP maintenance & inspections (78 sites).

Your request has been reviewed by the Forest Service and I find the following: a) the proposed soil boring operations may proceed until 1 PM (1300 hours) on Ev PAL fire danger days under the cumulative restrictions of the PAL from A to Ev and use of the following staffed and operational fire equipment at each active work site. One 4000 gallon water truck with at least 300 feet of hose, a full time fire watch with type 6 brush patrol to remain on site at least 2 hours past the end of the work day, a fire marshal to patrol the area and monitor weather conditions, use of specialized detection equipment over 100% of the work area such as an infrared detection device to locate any heat source prior to departure from the work area, and appropriate fire tools kept within 25 feet of operations at all times; 2) brush clearing may proceed by skid steer mower/masticator (see attached masticator mitigation list), chainsaw, and small wood chipper under the same fire requirements; 3) BMP maintenance and inspection may occur by non-motorized means at all sites released by the Forest Service for ground disturbing activities.

All operations are subject to the PAL for Forest Service Area 685, the special use permit, and all project plans and exhibits. This variance requires daily renewal. To make your renewal request contact Brian Paul, Sunrise Project Manager at (619) 445-6235.

Sincerely,

JERILYNNE C. HAYES
Acting District Ranger

Cc: SO Fire Management, Lands & Engineering

