

California Public Utilities Commission Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program

Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects

Compliance Status Report: 001

October 2, 2016

SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects. The CPUC has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIR/FEIS to mitigate or avoid impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the CPUC's third-party monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the MMCRP, and anticipated construction activities. Photos of site observations are included in Attachment A of this report. A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTP) and Minor Project Refinement Requests (MPRRs) are provided in Attachments B and C, respectively.

This compliance status report covers construction activities from September 23 through October 2, 2016.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations in areas under active construction, which included the Kitchen Creek Staging Yard and Transmission Lines (TL) 625B and 629E. Areas of active and inactive construction within the project limits were observed to verify implementation of the mitigation measures stipulated in the project's MMCRP. Observations were documented using site inspection forms, and applicable applicant proposed measures (APMs) and mitigation measures (MMs) were reviewed in the field.

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Implementation Actions

Kitchen Creek Staging Yard



Construction activities at the Kitchen Creek Staging Yard consisted of delineating work limits and marking Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) for avoidance in accordance with MM BIO-1, installing a perimeter fence, delivering and spreading gravel base within the staging yard, mobilizing portable restroom facilities, and mobilizing an elevated water storage unit for implementation of dust and fire prevention measures (See Photo 1— Attachment A). The perimeter fence, which was erected within the designated work limits, was observed to have green, opaque screening material to minimize visual impacts to close-range residential areas in accordance with APM VIS-02. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs) were observed being installed at the staging yard in accordance with APM HYD-05, MM BIO-7, and MM HYD-1 and included installation of straw wattles/fiber rolls around the perimeter of the fence, installation of a rumble plate (designed to reduce sediment track-out onto the paved roadway) at the entrance of the staging yard access road, and keeping the rumble plate clear of sediment (crews sweeping) (See Photo 2— Attachment A). Once work vehicles were able to mobilize at the staging yard, drip pans were observed underneath vehicles and portable restroom facilities were observed staged over catchment units to minimize potential for soil contamination in accordance with the SWPPP. A fire box containing necessary fire-fighting tools was observed at the staging yard in accordance with the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (CFPPP) (MM FF-1).

TL 625B

Limited activities occurred along TL 625B this reporting period and included staking approved work areas (See Photo 3— Attachment A) in accordance with MM BIO-1, clearing sites, installing SWPPP BMPs and pole preparation work. During mobilization of equipment used for pole preparation work, crews were observed staying within existing access roads and staging notification/cautionary signage in accordance with APM TRANS-02 (See Photo 4—Attachment A). Vehicles were observed limiting idling in accordance with APM AIR-01.

TL 629E

Activities occurring along TL 629E included staking approved work areas in accordance with MM BIO-1, vegetation and brush clearing, SWPPP BMP installation, plant avoidance and salvage, and mobilizing equipment used for steel pole micro pile foundations. Prior to commencing activities at pole sites and throughout the day, the CPUC monitor observed environmental monitors verifying approved work spaces with construction crews.

For work spaces that required brush and vegetation clearing, which involved manual removal and on-site chipping equipment, biological monitors were observed present during initial ground disturbing and vegetation-removal activities in undeveloped areas in accordance with MM BIO-3 and ensuring work was confined to/occurred in delineated areas in accordance with MM BIO-1. Cultural resources monitors were also observed during these activities to ensure protective measures were adhered to in specific locations in accordance with APM CUL-04, MM CUL-1 and MM CUL-3. Signs marking ESAs were observed and crews were observed avoiding these areas. Crews were observed staging fire tools adjacent to work areas and areas were wetted via a mobile water buffalo and hose in accordance with the CFPPP (MM FF-1)

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(See Photo 5—Attachment A). Also, vehicles adjacent to work spaces were also observed containing fire tools and being checked by fire personnel in accordance with the CFPPP and were observed staying on existing access roads (roads approved per NTP-1 and roads prohibited for SDG&E use were observed marked in the field). Plant salvage was observed in accordance with the Habitat Restoration Plan (HRP) (MM BIO-4) and the Special Status Plant Salvage and Relocation Plan (SSPSRP) (MM BIO-15). Upon completion of clearing and plant salvage activities, SWPPP BMPs, such as straw wattles were observed installed (APM HYD-05 and MM BIO-7) within approved work limits (See Photo 6—Attachment A).

Once SWPPP BMPs had been installed, crews were observed mobilizing equipment used for steel pole micro pile foundations within work limits. Similar to the Kitchen Creek Staging Yard, a fire box was observed staged adjacent to these work areas and vehicles were observed containing required fire equipment in accordance with the CFPPP (MM FF-1) (See Photo 7—Attachment A).

Mitigation Measure Tracking

Mitigation measures applicable to the construction activities were verified in the field and documented in the CPUC's mitigation measure tracking database. A complete list of mitigation measures and applicant proposed measures is included in the FEIR/EIS in the Decision for the Power Line Replacement Projects, as adopted by the CPUC on May 26, 2016 (Decision D.16-05-038) and the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP).

Compliance Status

CPUC third-party monitors observed overall compliance with mitigation measures throughout the reporting period. No observations included areas of potential concern and project memoranda/ non-compliances were issued by CPUC this reporting period.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS

SDG&E began construction activities associated with NTP-1 on September 23, 2016. All project activities are scheduled to be complete by 2020.

TL 625B

During this reporting period, vegetation clearing, surveying and delineating work limits, installing signage and flagging, and overhead work on existing poles occurred. The estimated completion date is April 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

TL 629E

During this reporting period, vegetation clearing, delineating work limits, installing signage and flagging, installing SWPPP BMPs, overhead work on existing poles, and micropile foundation installation occurred. The estimated completion date is March 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

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Other Work Areas

Kitchen Creek Staging Yard:

Initiated on September 23, 2016. Completed this reporting period.

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ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: Establishment of the Kitchen Creek Staging Yard included delineating work limits and ESAs, laying gravel foundation, installing a perimeter fence and placing opaque screening material (APM VIS-2). Speed limits were posted at the entrance of the yard, which were less than 15 mph in accordance with APM AIR-03 and MM BIO-24.



Photo 2: Crews were observed cleaning the rumble plates of sediment and debris at the entrance of the Kitchen Creek Staging Yard in accordance with the SWPPP (APM HYD-05, MM BIO-7, MM HYD-1) and ensuring pavement on was free of track out (APM-AIR-04).



Photo 3: Prior to any work occurring at pole sites, resource crews were observed surveying and staking approved work spaces in the field (TL 625B, above) in accordance with MM BIO-1.



Photo 4: During pole preparation activities within TL 625B access roads, crews were observed using traffic signage to maintain a safe transportation corridor during construction in accordance with APM-TRANS-02.



Photo 5: Crews were observed clearing brush and vegetation (manually and by using a chipper) around approved work sites (TL 629E, above) prior to SWPPP BMP installation. Areas were watered down and fire tools were staged adjacent to work areas in accordance with the CFPPP (MM FF-1).



Photo 6: Crews were observed avoiding plants designated for salvage as described in the HRP and SSPSRP (MM BIO- 4, MM BIO-15). Salvaged plants were observed being transported to an off-site nursery until the restoration phase for the segment. Fiber rolls were placed around work sites as approved in the SWPPP (APM HYD-05, MM BIO-7, MM HYD-1).



Photo 7: Subsequent to surveying, clearing, and BMP installation, equipment used for steel pole micro pile foundations was mobilized on site. At the work sites, vehicles were observed carrying required fire equipment (5-gallon backpack pump, shovel, Pulaski, and fire extinguisher) and a fire box containing fire equipment was observed staged adjacent to the immediate work areas in accordance with the CFPPP.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

ssued Description	on Conditions Included (Y/N)
,	625B and TL 629E Y
	nber 21, Construction activities associated with TL 0

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ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
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