

# CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST POWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECTS

	ity MINOR PI	ROJE	CT REFINEM	1EN'	T REQU	UEST H	FORM
Date Submitted:	09-12-19		Request #:		40		
Date Approval Required:	09-26 <b>-</b> 19		Landowner:		Not Appl	licable (N/	A)
APN:	N/A, occurs within ro	oad right	-of-way				
Refinement from (check all	that apply):						
$\Box \text{ Mitigation Measure} \qquad \Box \text{ APM} \qquad \boxtimes \text{ Project Description} \qquad \Box \text{ Drawing}$					$\boxtimes$	Other	
Identify source (mitigation	measure, project des	cription	, etc.):				
Notice to Proceed (NTP) req Company (SDG&E) Clevela California Public Utilities Co NTP request #23 for Phase I the CPUC on July 11, 2019. to NTP #10 was identified du justification of the refinement	nd National Forest Pow ommission (CPUC) and Overhead of C440 of t Following the issuance to engineering change	wer Line d United he Proje e of NTI ges assoc	Replacement Projec States Forest Servic ct was approved by t P #10, a refinement ( ciated with NTP #23	ts (Pro e (USI the US additio	oject) was a FS) on Octo FS on June onal underg	pproved b ober 27, 20 28, 2019 round alig	y the )17. and by
Attachments (check all that	t apply):						
☑ Refinement Request Screening Form (See Attachment A: Minor Project Refinement Reques Screening Form)			⊠ Maps (See Attachment I Comparison Map			□ Other	
Under Order 2 of the Decis Line Replacement Projects circumstances. In accordan (a) through (d).	(D.16-05-038), the Cl	PUC ma	y approve minor p	roject	refinemen	ts under c	ertain
(a) Is the proposed refinem area? The requested refinement is I Impact Report/Environmenta ES-1 Regional Overview Ma biological survey area, partia baseline hydrological survey resources surveys were condu- specific surveys conducted at Minor Project Refinement Ref	ocated within the geog l Impact Study (EIR/E p in the Final EIR/EIS lly within the baseline area. Supplemental hy ucted in 2017, 2018, ar re provided in each app	graphic b IS) stud . The re cultural ydrologi nd 2019. plicable	oundary of the Final y area, which is depi finement occurs with survey area, and out cal, biological, and c Additional details r	Envir cted in nin the side of ultural egardi	onmental Figure baseline f the ng the	□ Yes	⊠ No
<ul><li>(b) Will the proposed refine increase in the severity of a used in the EIR/EIS?</li><li>A discussion of changes in si criteria used in the Final EIR area are fully analyzed in Att</li></ul>	previously identified gnificant impacts due /EIS and is resource ar	signific to the rea-speci	ant impact based of quested refinement is fic. The changes to	n the c s basec each re	e <b>riteria</b> l on esource	□ Yes	🖾 No
(c) Does the proposed refin or policy?	ement conflict with a	ny mitig	ation measure or a	pplica	ble law	□ Yes	🛛 No

(d) Does the proposed refinem	ent trigger an addit	tional permit requirement?						
Describe refinement being requested (attach drawings and photos as needed):								
As depicted in Attachment B: Comparison Map, SDG&E is requesting to add approximately 44 feet of underground alignment between Vault 121 <sup>1</sup> and Pole P258301 along Sunrise Highway, as well as the associated temporary underground work limits. The requested refinement will result in a total of approximately 0.01 acre of temporary impacts (of which less than 0.01 acre is classified as native vegetation). <sup>2</sup> The activities associated with the construction and utilization of the refinement area will occur in the same manner as described in the Final EIR/EIS for construction of the Project.								
Provide need for refinement (attach drawings and photos as needed):								
The requested refinement is needed due to engineering changes made to the final design for Phase I of C440 between the issuance of NTPs #10 and #23. Following the issuance of NTP #10, Pole P258301, which was approved in NTP #23, was converted from being fed by Pole P259843 to being fed via a new underground alignment from Vault 121. Therefore, the requested refinement is required to complete the final underground design for NTP #10.								
Date refinement is expected to be implemented: 09-27-19								
Resource Agency Coordination								
Resource Agency	Name	Action RequiredDateDocumentation (see attached if y						
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	□ Yes	$\boxtimes$			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The vault was referred to as Vault-071 in NTP request #10. <sup>2</sup> Any area that overlaps with approved NTP #10 and NTP #23 components is not included in the temporary impact total.

ATTACHMENT A: MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT REQUEST SCREENING FORM

# MINOR PROJECT REFINEMENT REQUEST SCREENING FORM

# **RESOURCE EVALUATION**

The requested refinement was evaluated to verify that it will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on the criteria used in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) Cleveland National Forest (CNF) Power Line Replacement Projects (Project). The following Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist answers the consistency questions for each resource category and includes a description and justification below each resource category, as necessary. The consistency questions were developed using the California Environmental Quality Act Checklist provided in the Final EIR/EIS. Refer to the Final EIR/EIS for details on the Project's impact evaluation.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	Not Applicable
<b>Visual Resources</b> (e.g., adversely affect scenic vistas, damage scenic resources within a state scenic highway, degrade the existing visual character of the site and its surroundings, create sources of light or glare, or result in an inconsistency with applicable scenic integrity objectives)? <i>Final EIR/EIS evaluation<sup>3</sup>: Significant and unavoidable</i> ( <i>Class I</i> )/ <i>Adverse and unavoidable</i>			

#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Visual Resources:

The requested refinement will be consistent with the visual resource analysis in the Final EIR/EIS and will not impact scenic vistas or substantially affect existing views from a National Forest Scenic Byway (i.e., Sunrise Scenic Byway). Impacts to the visual character of the area may occur as a result of the additional approximately 44 feet of undergrounding; however, these impacts will be temporary and reduced with the implementation of Applicant-Proposed Measure (APM) VIS-01 and APM VIS-02. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to visual resources as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

(Class I)/Adverse and unavoidable	<b>Air Quality</b> (e.g. produce additional emissions, conflict with applicable local air quality plans, or expose sensitive receptors to additional pollutants)? <i>Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Significant and unavoidable</i>			
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#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Air Quality:

Activities associated with utilization of the requested refinement area (e.g., the type of equipment used and the number of truck trips) will be consistent with those discussed in the Final EIR/EIS and will not increase air emissions beyond what was analyzed. The refinement area is not located within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors; therefore, the additional approximately 44 feet of undergrounding will not expose nearby sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. In addition, the undergrounding work will result in a negligible increase in air quality impacts due to its short length. With the implementation of APM AIR-01 through APM AIR-05, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to air quality as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Final EIR/EIS evaluations of impact significance are provided for each resource; this table notes the most significant determination within each resource section identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	Not Applicable
<b>Biological Resources</b> (e.g., result in temporary or permanent loss of native vegetation, preserve areas, native wildlife and/or their habitats; cause an adverse effect to jurisdictional waters or sensitive or special-status species; result in the introduction of invasive, non-native, or noxious plant species; conflict with local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan; or interfere with the movement of any resident or migratory wildlife)? <i>Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation</i> ( <i>Class II</i> )/Adverse			

#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Biological Resources:

The requested refinement area was surveyed for sensitive vegetation communities and special-status plant and wildlife species during initial Project surveys. In addition, supplemental surveys of the requested refinement area were conducted in 2017, 2018, and 2019. Supplemental surveys conducted in 2017, 2018, and 2019 along Phase I of C440 included a bat roost assessment, focused surveys for Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) and all other bat species, and focused surveys for rare plants.

The requested refinement will result in approximately 0.01 acre of temporary impacts to disturbed (ruderal/barren) habitat<sup>4</sup> and less than 0.01 acre of temporary impacts to montane forest<sup>5</sup>. No trees will be removed, and no special-status butterfly host plants or United States (U.S.) Forest Service occupied habitat occur within the refinement area. However, Mount Laguna aster (*Dieteria asteroides* var. *lagunensis*), which has a 2B.1 California Rare Plant Rank, occurs within the refinement area. Per the Project's approved Special-Status Plant Species Salvage and Relocation Plan, seeding and/or seedbank topsoil salvage in the refinement area will be required. In addition, approximately 0.01 acre of temporary impacts to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-designated critical habitat for Laguna Mountains skipper (*Pyrgus ruralis lagunae*) will occur.<sup>6</sup> Impacts to these species were analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS; all APMs and mitigation measures (MMs) defined in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program—as well as other permit and plan conditions—will be implemented as applicable to minimize or mitigate for any additional impacts. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to biological resources as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Disturbed (ruderal/barren) habitat falls in the Agricultural/Disturbed/Developed/Bare Ground impact category for SDG&E's Subregional Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Montane forest falls in the Native Vegetation impact category for SDG&E's Subregional NCCP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Any area that overlaps with approved Notice to Proceed (NTP) #10 or NTP #23 components is not included in the temporary impact totals for habitat.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	Not Applicable
<b>Cultural and Paleontological Resources</b> (e.g., cause an adverse change to Traditional Cultural Properties or historical, archeological, or paleontological resources; or disturb any human remains)?			
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse			

#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Cultural and Paleontological Resources:

The requested refinement area occurs within the Project's area of potential effect, as defined in the Project's Programmatic Agreement. The refinement area was partially surveyed for cultural resources during initial surveys for the Project in 2010. In addition, intensive supplemental pedestrian surveys of the refinement area were conducted by ASM Affiliates, Inc. in 2017. No new cultural resources were recorded, and one previously recorded cultural resource was identified within the refinement area. The route of Sunrise Highway is a historic resource; however, undergrounding will not affect the route as only modern pavement is located on the surface of the existing road. Therefore, no additional restrictions are recommended, and the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to cultural resources as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

The requested refinement area is underlain by geologic rock units/formations assigned a rank of Potential Fossil Yield Classification (PFYC) Class 1 (i.e., very low sensitivity). Because the refinement does not require excavation underlain by rock units with a PFYC Class 3 (i.e., moderate or unknown sensitivity) ranking, additional paleontological monitoring and an update to the Paleontological Monitoring & Treatment Plan will not be required. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to paleontological resources as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<b>Greenhouse Gases</b> (e.g., result in a net increase of greer gas emissions, or conflict with an applicable plan, policy regulation that reduces greenhouse gas emissions)?		
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant (Class II adverse	I)/Not	

#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Greenhouses Gases:

Activities associated with the utilization of the requested refinement area are consistent with the greenhouse gas (GHG) analysis in the Final EIR/EIS. Although additional undergrounding will occur, this activity will not trigger an exceedance of the GHG threshold of 10,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year or the County of San Diego Climate Action Plan criteria for annual grading and land clearing. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to GHG emissions as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist			
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	Not Applicable
<b>Public Health and Safety</b> (e.g., result in a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials; emit hazardous waste within one-quarter mile of a school; be located on a hazardous materials site; result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the Project area; interfere with an adopted emergency plan; or create safety hazards due to structural failure)? <i>Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation</i> ( <i>Class II</i> )/Adverse	×		

# Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Public Health and Safety:

The requested refinement occurs within the area assessed in the *Report on ASTM Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Cleveland National Forest Electric Safety and Reliability Project San Diego County, California.* No known hazardous materials sites are located in the refinement area. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to public health and safety as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<b>Fire and Fuels Management</b> (e.g., increase the probability of a wildfire, reduce the effectiveness of firefighting, or introduce non-native plants that would contribute to ignition potential)?	$\boxtimes$	
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse		

#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Fire and Fuels Management:

The requested refinement is located within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, which was included in the Fire and Fuels Management analysis in the Final EIR/EIS. The potential risk of wildfire ignition and spread associated with the refinement area will be managed in compliance with the Project's Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to fire and fuels management as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

(Class I)/Adverse and unavoidable
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#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Hydrology and Water Quality:

The requested refinement area was surveyed for the presence of waters of the state and/or the U.S. (i.e., jurisdictional wetlands or non-wetland waters) during initial Project surveys. Supplemental water resource surveys of the refinement area were conducted in 2018 and 2019. The requested refinement does not contain any waters of the state or the U.S. To minimize potential impacts from erosion and off-site sedimentation during construction, the refinement area will be included in a Change of Information for the C440, C442, C449, Transmission Line (TL) 629C, and TL6958 Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (Waste Discharge Identification #9 37C3381630) and submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board's Stormwater Multiple Applications and Report Tracking System. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to hydrology and water quality as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	Not Applicable
<b>Land Use</b> (e.g., disturb land uses at or near the Project components, divide an established community, or conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the Project)?			
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Significant and unavoidable (Class I)/Adverse and unavoidable			

In accordance with the Construction Notification Plan and MM LU-1, property owners within 1,000 feet of Phase I of C440 were notified of construction activities associated with NTP #10 on April 3, 2019. The property owners within 1,000 feet of the requested refinement were included in that notification process. The requested refinement will not introduce a new land use, establish a permanent barrier or obstacle between uses, or create a physical division or separation of use. In addition, the requested refinement will not conflict with the applicable land use plans, policies, or regulations of an agency with jurisdiction over the Project, as it is located in the same County of San Diego land use and zoning designations and CNF Land Management Plan land use zone that were analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to land use as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<b>Noise</b> (e.g., disturb sensitive receptors and violate local rules, standards, and/or ordinances; or cause ground borne vibration)?	$\boxtimes$	_	_
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse			

# Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Noise:

Construction-related noise will be generated within the requested refinement area due undergrounding and large equipment operation. As stated previously in the Air Quality section, the refinement area is not located within 1,000 feet of sensitive receptors; therefore, temporary increases in noise levels will not disturb sensitive receptors. With the implementation of noise-related MMs and APMs, noise impacts from construction activities associated with the refinement area will be equivalent to those analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to noise as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Public Services and Utilities (e.g., result in construction of new, or expansion of existing, facilities for fire protection, municipal water supplies, telecommunications, and solid waste; or disrupt electric service)?Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse			
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# Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Public Services and Utilities:

The requested refinement will be consistent with the public services and utilities analysis in the Final EIR/EIS and will not require new or expanded public facilities or services. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to public services and utilities as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

Final EIR/EIS Consistency Checklist					
Would the proposed action(s) result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No Change	Potentially Significant Change	Not Applicable		
<b>Recreation</b> (e.g., reduce access and visitation to recreation areas, preclude recreational activities, or result in increased, unauthorized access to specially designated or restricted areas)?	$\boxtimes$				
Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse					

#### Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Recreation:

The requested refinement area is located adjacent to the approved Phase I of C440 alignment and within the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area. Nearby recreational facilities within the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area include the Wooded Hill Group Campground, various trails, and the Burnt Rancheria Campground. As stated in the Final EIR/EIS, undergrounding and associated impacts to traffic flow along Sunrise Highway could hinder access to recreational facilities located in the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area, but would not substantially reduce access with the implementation of APM TRANS-01 through APM TRANS-05. Any impacts to access from work within the refinement area will not be more substantial than would result from work along the approved alignment. Therefore, with implementation of the previously mentioned APMs, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to recreation as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<b>Transportation and Traffic</b> (e.g., conflict with an applicable congestion management program or a plan, ordinance, or policy associated with the circulation system or alternative transportation; increase hazards due to a design feature; or result in inadequate emergency access)? <i>Final EIR/EIS evaluation: Less than significant with mitigation (Class II)/Adverse</i>			
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# Summary of Proposed Minor Project Refinement Impacts on Transportation and Traffic:

The requested refinement will not require additional or different types of construction vehicles or equipment than those discussed in the Final EIR/EIS. In addition, the total number of truck trips associated with construction of the Project will not change, and the use of the requested refinement area will affect the same roadways as those analyzed in the Final EIR/EIS (i.e., Sunrise Highway). With the implementation of APM TRANS-01 through APM TRANS-05, potential temporary impacts to the existing levels of service (LOS)<sup>7</sup> will be adequately addressed. Therefore, the requested refinement will not result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously analyzed impact to transportation and traffic as identified in the Final EIR/EIS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Sunrise Highway has an LOS of A through C.

**ATTACHMENT B: COMPARISON MAP** 

