

	<p><b>California Public Utilities Commission</b>  <b><i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></b></p>
	<p><b>East County (ECO) Substation Project</b></p> <p><b>Compliance Status Report: 005</b></p> <p><b>June 11, 2013</b></p>

**SUMMARY**

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/EIS) for the East County (ECO) Substation Project. 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/EIS to mitigate or avoid significant 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. This compliance status report covers construction activities from May 27, to June 9, 2013.

**MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING**

***Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring***

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations at the ECO Substation site, along the Southern Access Road, and at the temporary retention basin site. Site observations were completed from May 27 through May 31 and from June 3 through June 7. 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. Daily observations were documented on daily site inspection forms and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

***Implementation Actions***

Grading of the Southern Access Road

SDG&E continued to grade the Southern Access Road during this reporting period. As described in the FEIR/EIS and Compliance Status Report 004, the Southern Access Road is an approximately 2,900-foot-long road that will provide access from Old Highway 80 to the ECO Substation. Water trucks were observed during grading activities along the Southern Access Road to minimize fugitive dust emissions

in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-4a and the Dust Control Plan (see Photo 1 – Attachment A). In addition, construction crews installed a drain beneath the Southern Access Road to minimize erosion in accordance with Mitigation Measure HYD-1 and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP). In addition, SDG&E placed best management practices (BMPs) along the right-of-way that consisted of straw wattles, silt fence and riprap (see Photo 2 – Attachment A).

Archaeological, Native American, and biological monitors were present during all ground-disturbing activities in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-1c and CUL-1d. Each of these aforementioned monitors were observed surveying areas of active construction to minimize the potential for impacts to sensitive resources and in an effort to identify any unknown resources (see Photo 3 – Attachment A).

Construction equipment continued to be mobilized to the project site. Traffic cones and flaggers were observed along Old Highway 80 to safely transport large equipment onto the project site in accordance with Mitigation Measure TRA-1 and the Traffic Control Plan (see Photo 4 – Attachment A).

In accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-3a and Noxious Weeds and Invasive Species Control Plan, all equipment was inspected prior to being unloaded onsite to verify whether equipment was clean and free from dirt and debris (see Photo 5 – Attachment A).

In accordance with Mitigation Measure FF-1, all construction crew vehicles were observed to be equipped with the appropriate fire suppression equipment. In addition, SDG&E was observed providing ongoing fire patrols during construction hours and for 1 hour after the end of daily construction activities (see Photo 6 – Attachment A).

#### Excavation and Construction of Temporary Retention Basin

SDG&E continued to construct the temporary retention basin within the approved boundaries of the ECO Substation. During this reporting period, SDG&E finalized excavation activities, lined the basin with a PVC liner, installed chain link fence along the perimeter of the basin, and began to fill the retention basin using water trucks. The temporary retention basin will be used for water storage during the site-development phase of the ECO Substation. Following the completion of mass grading, the temporary retention basin will be removed and the materials disposed of in accordance with Mitigation Measure HAZ-1A and the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Plan.

#### ***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/FEIS for the ECO Substation Project, as adopted by the CPUC on April 19, 2012 (Decision 12-04-022).

## ***Compliance***

Pre-construction mitigation measures have been completed as indicated in CPUC NTP No. 001, No. 002, No. 003, No. 004, No. 005 and BLM NTP No. 001 (see Attachment B). Applicable mitigation measures were verified during site inspections and were determined to be implemented in accordance with the MMCRP.

## **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

### ***Abatement Activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site***

All abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site as authorized by CPUC NTP No. 001 have been completed.

### ***ECO Substation Site Construction***

SDG&E began clearing, grubbing, and grading activities associated with the ECO Substation site on March 11, 2013 and completed site clearing activities on March 29.

### ***Geotechnical Investigations***

All geotechnical investigations authorized by CPUC NTP No. 003, No. 004, and BLM NTP No. 001 to conduct 24 geotechnical borings were completed as of March 14, 2013.

### ***Southern Access Road***

SDG&E continued with grading activities associated with the construction of the Southern Access Road during this reporting period. Construction activities associated with the Southern Access Road are anticipated to continue into the next reporting period.

## **CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE**

***ECO Substation 500 kV and 230/138 kV Yards*** – SDG&E began construction activities on March 11, 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in April 2014.

***SWPL Loop-In*** – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the SWPL Loop-In.

***138 kV Transmission Line*** – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the 138 kV Transmission Line.

***Boulevard Substation Rebuild*** – SDG&E began abatement activities on December 31, 2012 and is anticipated to complete construction in June 2014.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos

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**Photo 1:** Water trucks are utilized during grading activities to minimize fugitive dust in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-4a and the Dust Control Plan.



**Photo 2:** BMPs are installed along the right-of-way to minimize the potential for erosion in accordance with Mitigation Measure HYD-1 and the SWPPP.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 3:** Archaeological and Native American monitors are observed monitoring the grading activities in accordance with Mitigation Measure CUL-1a.



**Photo 4:** Traffic cones and flaggers present along Old Highway 80 in accordance with Mitigation Measure TRA-1.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 5:** Construction equipment is inspected and verified to be clean and free from dirt and debris prior to being unloaded on-site to minimize the spread of invasive plant species in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-3a.



**Photo 6:** In accordance with Mitigation Measure FF-1, fire patrols are onsite during construction hours and for 1 hour after the end of daily construction.

## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

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NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC - 001	November 30, 2012	Abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation rebuild site.	Y
CPUC - 002	February 1, 2013	Construction of a new substation (a 500-kilovolt (kV) yard and a 230/138 kV yard) and rebuilding and paving of an existing access road to provide main access to the substation.	Y
CPUC - 003	February 1, 2013	Twenty-two geotechnical borings to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on private lands.	Y
CPUC - 004	March 4, 2013	A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on private lands.	Y
CPUC - 005	May 21, 2013	To begin use of the Domingo Lake Construction Yard, Jewel Valley Construction Yard, Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard 1, and Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard 2 in order to begin staging, assembling, and storing equipment and materials.	Y
BLM - 001	February 11, 2013	A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on lands administered by the BLM.	Y

## ATTACHMENT C

### Minor Project Refinement Requests

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Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	January 25, 2013	The addition of a temporary, polyvinyl chloride (PVC)-lined retention basin with the 500 kV yard to be used for water storage during initial mass grading activities.	Approved	February 7, 2013
002	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Domingo Lake and Jewel Valley Construction Yards including:  <u>Domingo Lake Construction Yard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shift of approximately 550 feet to the northwest</li> </ul> <u>Jewel Valley Construction Yard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addition of a new temporary access road</li> <li>• Addition of a temporary 12 kV distribution service line extension (distribution tap)</li> <li>• Additional grading activities at the intersection of Jewel Valley Road and the existing access road located north of the Jewel Valley Construction Yard</li> </ul>	Approved	May 20, 2013
003	March 22, 2013	To use Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard 2 for general construction activities, such as staging and storage of materials in addition to helicopter takeoffs, landings, and refueling as approved in the Project's Final EIR/EIS.	Approved	May 20, 2013
004	May 17, 2013	Adjustments to the Southern Access Road	Pending	Pending