## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



June 8, 2012

## **VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL AND EMAIL**

Susan Nelson Southern California Edison Regulatory Affairs 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue, Quad 3D, GO1 Rosemead, California 91770

Dear Ms. Nelson:

On May 25, 2012, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) submitted a Notice to Proceed Request (NTPR #2) to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) seeking the authority to proceed with site preparation in SCE's existing north-south ROW associated with the San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop Project in Tulare County, California. The proposed construction in this segment of the project will consist of clearing and grading of construction areas and access roads and modifications at the Rector Substation. A Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH # 2008081090) for the project was published in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act by the CPUC in February 2010. On July 29, 2010, a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity was issued to SCE by the CPUC under Decision 10-07-043.

SCE is authorized to proceed with the proposed undertaking, provided that all proposed actions and construction projects are carried out in accordance with the methods and conditions described in NTPR #2, and subject to completion of the following implementing actions by SCE prior to the start of construction:

Mitigation Measure	Approval Condition (excerpt from SCE Justification/Implementing Actions)
MM 4.2-2	Copies of the signed [conservation easement] agreements will be provided to the CPUC prior to commencement of construction activities.
MM 4.4-3a	Preconstruction surveys will be conducted prior to commencement of construction activities associated with this NTP Request to ensure that there are no impacts to Swainson's hawk or golden eagle as a result of these activities.
MM 4.4-4	SCE shall conduct preconstruction nesting bird surveys in compliance with this measure.
	SCE is currently developing a nesting bird management plan in consultation with CDFG that will set forth predefined buffers for various nesting birds. This plan will

Mitigation Measure	Approval Condition (excerpt from SCE Justification/Implementing Actions)
	set forth protocols for when consultation is required for buffer reduction and when SCE can reduce buffers in consultation with an avian specialist. SCE will provide this plan to the CPUC for their records when finalized.
MM 4.4-5	SCE will conduct preconstruction [burrowing owl] surveys in compliance with this measure.
MM 4.4-6	While San Joaquin kit fox is not anticipated to occur in the area of the Big Creek Rebuild, preconstruction surveys will be conducted 14 to 30 days prior to the commencement of construction activities to ensure that no San Joaquin kit fox is present on site. Results of these surveys will be provided to the CPUC for review.
MM 4.7-8	SCE will be contacting CalFire prior to construction to determine if there are additional requirements. Information on the outcome of this consultation will be provided to the CPUC prior to construction.
MM 4.10-4a	All residences within 300 feet of the alignment will be sent notices describing the proposed construction activities. Proof of noticing will be sent to the CPUC prior to construction activities.
MM 4.14-1a	SCE does not anticipate impacting any private road crossings during construction activities proposed in this NTP Request. However, should any private road crossings be impacted, SCE shall submit evidence of private property coordination to the CPUC prior to commencement of construction activities.
MM 4.14-1c	SCE will be meeting with County prior to commencement of construction to brief them on the upcoming activities and will address cumulative traffic impacts at that time. Proof of this consultation will be provided to the CPUC for their records prior to commencement of construction activities.

Sincerely,

Jensen Uchida CPUC Project Manager

> CC. Doug Cover, ESA Jennifer Johnson, ESA