

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



April 29, 2022

Anthony Barranda, Senior Advisor - Infrastructure Licensing
Southern California Edison Company
2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, California 91770

Re: Deficiency Report #2 - SCE TLRR Gorman-Kern River 66 kV Project (A.22-02-014) Proponent's Environmental Assessment and Permit to Construct Application

Dear Mr. Barranda:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Energy Division CEQA Unit has completed its review of Southern California Edison's (SCE) Application (A.22-02-014) and related Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) for a Permit to Construct (PTC) the Gorman-Kern River 66 kV Project. Section 15100 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the agency responsible for the certification of a proposed project to assess the completeness of the project proponent's application. The Energy Division uses *CPUC's Guidelines for Energy Project Applications Requiring CEQA Compliance: Pre-filing and Proponent's Environmental Assessments* (November 2019) as the guide for determining the adequacy of project applications.

After review of SCE's application for the Gorman-Kern River 66 kV Project, the Energy Division finds that the information contained in the PEA is incomplete. While it is thorough in many sections, there are information gaps in critical areas that would prevent preparation of an adequate EIR in a timely manner. The attached report identifies additional portions of the application found to be deficient. Information provided by SCE in response to the Energy Division's finding of deficiency should be filed as supplements to Application A.22-02-014.

One set of responses should be sent to the Energy Division and one to our consultant Panorama Environmental, Inc. in electronic format. We request that SCE respond to this report no later than May 28, 2022. Upon receipt of this information, we will review it within 30 days and determine if it is adequate to accept the PEA and application as complete, in combination with responses to Deficiency Report #1. We are available to meet with you at your convenience to discuss these items. The Energy Division reserves the right to request additional information at any point in the application proceeding and during subsequent construction of the project should SCE's PTC be approved.

Please direct questions related to this application to me at Eric.Chiang@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric Chiang".

Eric Chiang
Project Manager, Energy Division

Attachment A: Deficiency Table #2

cc: Blanca Solares, Southern California Edison
Lauren P. Goschke, Southern California Edison
Case Administration, Southern California Edison
Susanne Heim and Jessica Koteen, Panorama

Report Overview

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has identified deficiencies in Southern California Edison's (SCE) Application (A.22-02-014) and Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) for a Permit to Construct (PTC) the SCE TLRR Gorman-Kern River 66 kV Project. Deficiencies were identified using the CPUC Guidelines for Energy Project Applications Requiring CEQA Compliance: Pre-filing and Proponent's Environmental Assessments (November 2019) (PEA Checklist). Deficiencies are presented in Table 1.

Proponent's Environmental Assessment Review Form



Submittal

Document Title: Proponent's Environmental Assessment for Southern California Edison Company's TLRR Gorman-Kern River 66 kV Project

Review Form No. No. 2

Description: **PEA Review**

From: Panorama Environmental Inc.

To: Southern California Edison

Date Submitted: April 29, 2022

Determination

- ☐ Meets CPUC Requirements, No Additional Information Needed
- ☒ Does not Meet CPUC Requirements (see Deficiencies below)
- ☒ Additional Data Needed (see Data Requests below)

PEA Deficiencies

PEA Section or Page #	Comment Code	Deficiency
Section 5: Environmental Analysis		
5.5 Cultural Resources		
Historic Built Environment Report		
General	DD-HBER1	Define the direct and indirect (visual) APE/API to be consistent with other TLRR projects. Include the distance and methods used to determine the APE/API for direct and indirect impacts.
General	DD-HBER2	Discuss your methods for identifying and evaluating historic built environment resources within indirect and direct APE/API (for example only previously recorded HBER were included in the indirect APE/API)
General	DD-HBER3	Remove discussions of the Historic/Cultural Landscape
p. 5	DD-HBER4	Per the PEA, there are only 5 segments, not 7. Segment descriptions need to be adjusted to match the PEA.
p. 12	DD-HBER5	Please provide the HEIMP protocol.
Resource Identifier: 0386, p. 161	DD-HBER6	Given the size of the facility and the fact that the project will have no effect to the facility, was there adequate time and resources expended on investigating its potential significance? Are there any facilities within the prison complex that retain integrity and date to the property's period of significance?
Direct APE/API, p. 179, para. 1	DD-HBER7	Provide a table of the 5 properties discussed in this section.
Direct APE/API, p. 179, para. 2	DD-HBER8	Provide a table of the 6 properties discussed in this section.
Direct APE/API, p. 179, para 3	DD-HBER9	Provide a table of the 12 properties discussed in this section.

SUBMITTAL CONTROL FORM

PEA Section or Page #	Comment Code	Deficiency
Direct APE/API, p. 179, para 4-5	DD-HBER10	Confirm that the proposed project actions near Fort Tejon State Historic Park are accurate and up to date.
Maps	DD-HBER11	Update the maps in terms of indirect and direct APE and make sure that all data on maps is consistent with the text of the report. Remove Cultural Landscape maps.