

# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Southern California Edison (SCE; the Applicant), a regulated California utility, filed an application (A.15-04-013) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to construct and operate the Riverside Transmission Reliability Project (RTRP). The application was filed on April 15, 2015, and an amended application was filed on April 30, 2015. In September 2016, SCE revised the Proposed Project to relocate a portion of the transmission line and to change the design of a segment of the transmission line from overhead to underground. The application was deemed complete by the CPUC on January 5, 2017.

This Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (Subsequent EIR) has been prepared by the CPUC as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to inform the Commission in their decision on whether to approve the SCE application. This Subsequent EIR will also inform the public, and the local, State, and federal agencies that must consider whether to issue a permit or approval for the project.

### 1.1.1 Project Summary

The Proposed Project is a component of the larger RTRP that was jointly planned by SCE and Riverside Public Utilities (RPU). The RTRP includes components that would be owned and operated separately by RPU and SCE. RPU would construct, own, operate, and maintain certain elements of the RTRP, including the new 69-kilovolt (kV) Wilderness Substation, 69-kV subtransmission lines, and interconnection and telecommunication facilities. The City of Riverside analyzed the RTRP in an EIR finalized in 2013.

The SCE CPCN application includes the construction, operation, and maintenance of RTRP elements that would be owned and operated by SCE including:

- Approximately 8 miles of new overhead 230-kV transmission line
- Approximately 2 miles of new underground 230-kV transmission line
- New 230-kV Wildlife Substation
- Modifications of existing overhead distribution lines
- Modifications at existing substations
- Telecommunication facilities between the existing Mira Loma and Vista Substations, and the proposed Wildlife Substation

This Subsequent EIR addresses those aspects of the Proposed Project that were not previously analyzed by RPU in their 2013 EIR (see Section 1.2.3 Revised Project, below).

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## 1.1.2 Project Location

The Proposed Project would be located in the western and northern sections of the City of Riverside and extend west and north into the cities of Norco and Jurupa Valley, as well as into unincorporated portions of western Riverside County (Figure 1.2-1). The Proposed Project area is bordered to the north by State Route 60 (SR-60) and the SCE's existing Mira Loma – Vista #1 230-kV Transmission Line, to the west by Interstate 15 (I-15), and to the south and east by State Route 91 (SR-91). The Santa Ana River roughly divides the Proposed Project area into northern and southern areas. Project maps identifying the locations of project segments, pole locations, and other features, including temporary work areas, can be found in Appendix A.

The natural topography of the Proposed Project area is valley lowland intersected by a river corridor, with isolated bluffs, rolling hills, and surrounded by mountain ranges. Elevation within the Proposed Project area ranges from 680 to over 1,900 feet above mean sea level (amsl); however, Proposed Project elements would be in relatively level areas.

The Proposed Project area is characterized by rural, urban, and suburban development intermixed with agriculture and undeveloped lands. Extensive areas in the central portion of the Proposed Project area (Santa Ana River floodplain) are preserved open space set aside for recreation, wildlife, and protected species habitats. Rapid population growth in the Proposed Project area has resulted in increased development with accompanying changes in land use.

## 1.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

### 1.2.1 2013 RTRP EIR

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) directed SCE to build the RTRP in 2006. SCE and RPU then proposed to construct the 230-kV<sup>1</sup> transmission line as an overhead transmission line on lattice steel towers (LST) and tubular steel poles (TSP). The 230-kV transmission line route analyzed in the 2013 RTRP EIR is shown in Figure 1.2-2 and followed local streets, including Wineville Avenue and Landon Drive in Jurupa Valley.

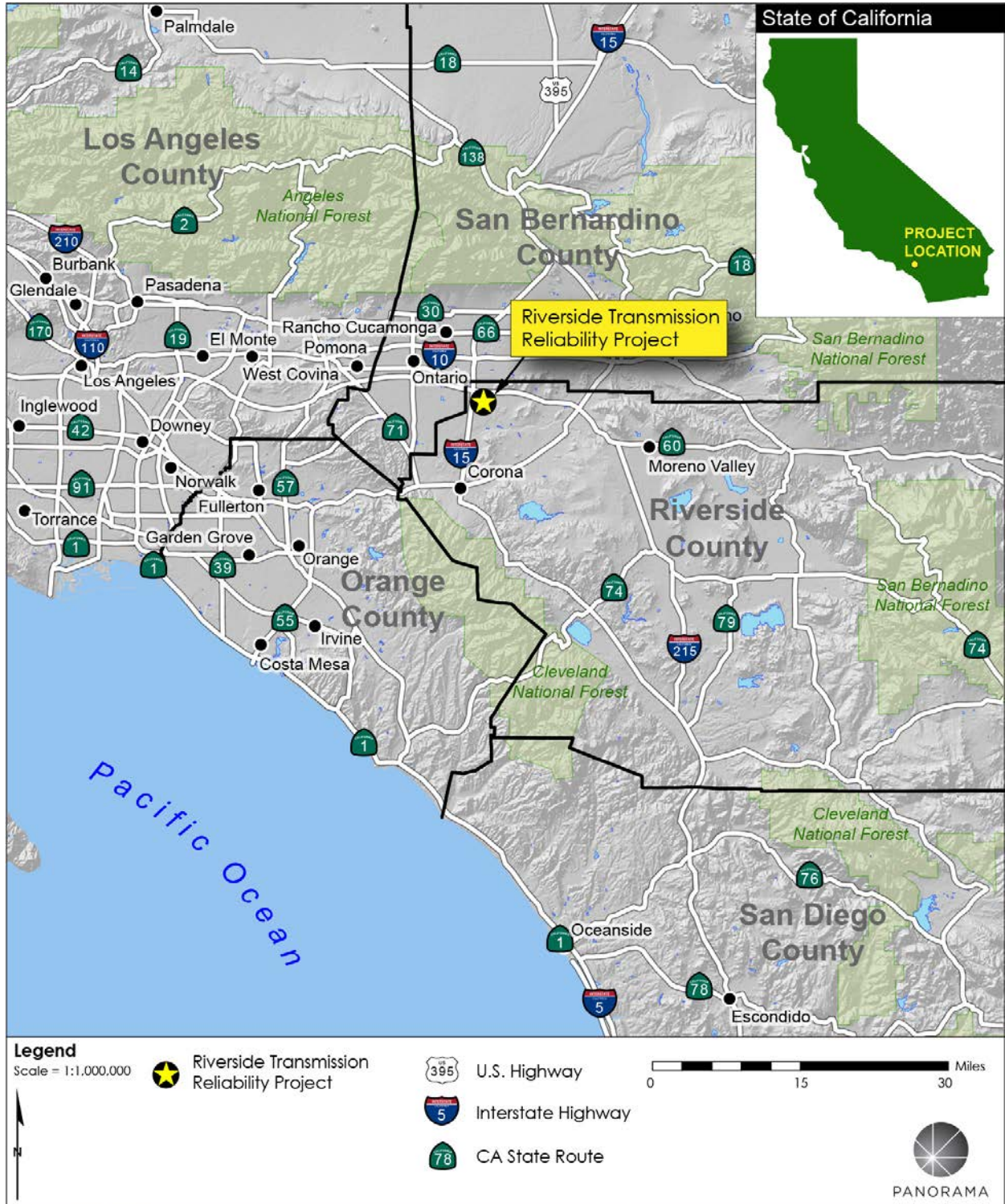
The City of Riverside, as the original CEQA Lead Agency, determined that the RTRP could have significant impacts on the environment and issued a Notice of Preparation for an EIR on November 18, 2009. The EIR addressed both the RPU- and SCE-owned elements of the RTRP.

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<sup>1</sup> CAISO studies suggested that, at minimum, a double-circuited 220-kV transmission line (operable at 230-kV), and a 220/66-kV transmission substation (operable at 230-kV to 69-kV) were needed. SCE's CPCN application refers to these facilities by their nominal capacity rating (220-kV and 66-kV). The 2013 RTRP EIR refers to these facilities by their operational capacity rating (230-kV and 69-kV). The facilities are referred to in this Subsequent EIR by their operational capacity for consistency with the 2013 RTRP EIR.

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Figure 1.2-1 Riverside Transmission Reliability Project (RTRP) Region



Sources: (Esri, 2017; SCE, 2017)

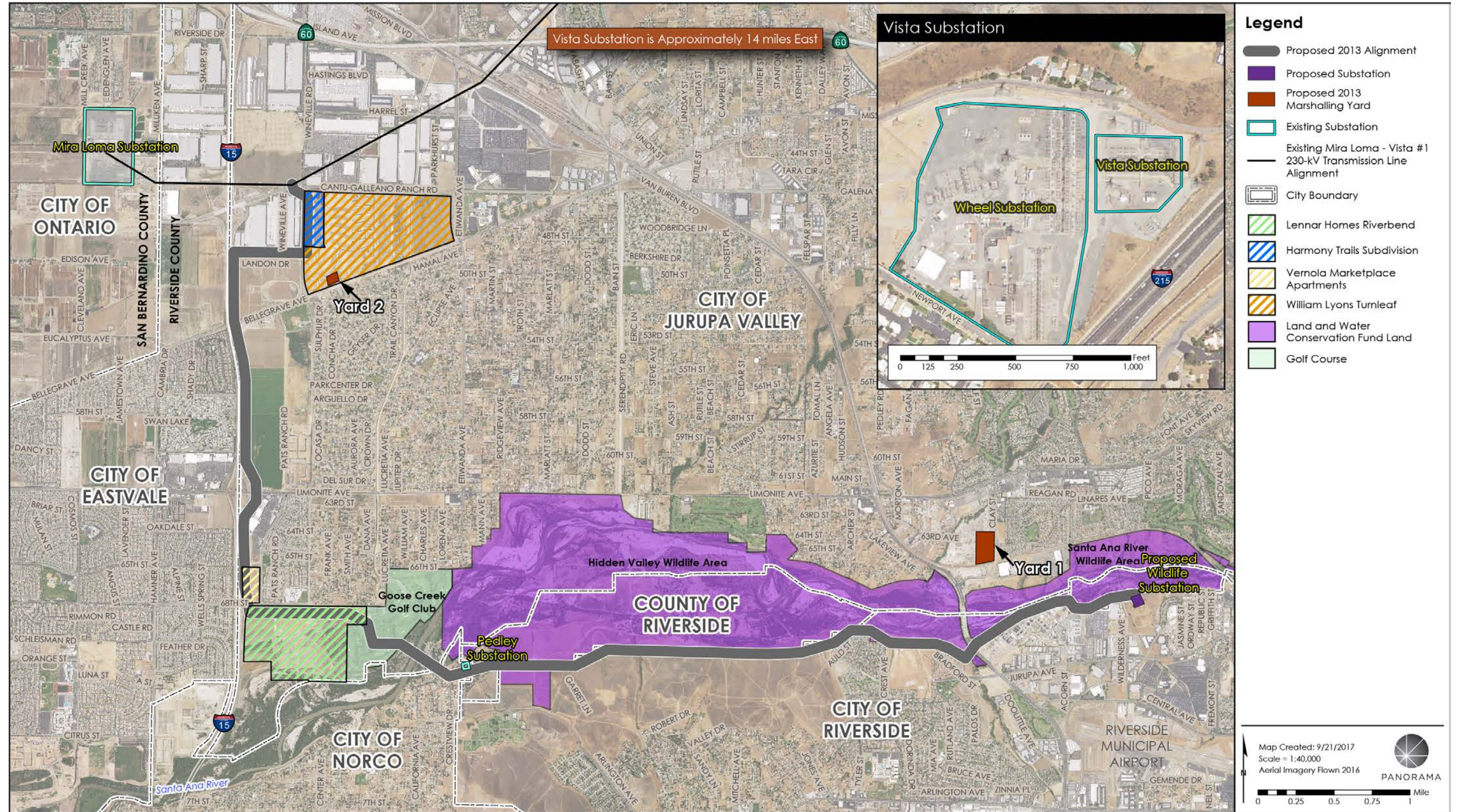
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Figure 1.2-2 Previously Proposed Transmission Line Route Analyzed in the 2013 RTRP EIR



Sources: (Esri, 2017; SCE, 2017; CDFW, 2016)



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The RTRP EIR considered the “whole of the action” (CEQA Guidelines §15378[a]) because the RPU elements and the SCE elements could not operate independently. The City of Riverside acknowledged the CPUC as a Responsible Agency that has jurisdiction and permitting authority over the project elements that would be owned and operated by SCE. The CPUC reviewed and commented on the Draft and Final EIR. On February 5, 2013, the Riverside City Council certified the 2013 RTRP EIR (SCH# 2007011113) for the RTRP and approved the portions of the project under their jurisdiction (Wilderness Substation and 69-kV lines). The 2013 RTRP EIR is available on the CPUC website at:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/panoramaenv/RTRP/>

A hard copy of the 2013 RTRP EIR is available for review at the CPUC Headquarters at 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. The 2013 RTRP EIR includes environmental analysis of the portions of the Proposed Project that have not been revised. The 2013 RTRP EIR is incorporated into this EIR by reference.

### 1.2.2 New Development in RTRP Route

The City of Jurupa Valley approved residential and commercial developments within SCE’s proposed 2013 alignment before and after the City of Riverside certified the 2013 RTRP EIR. Several of these developments are under construction or have been completed.

The original RTRP transmission line route would traverse four new entitled developments:

1. Lennar of California, Inc., Homes Riverbend Community
2. Vernola Trust, Marketplace Apartment Community
3. William Lyon Homes, The Crossing at TurnLeaf
4. Harmony Trails Subdivision

These entitled developments are shown in Figure 1.2-2.

### 1.2.3 Revised Project

In September 2016, SCE revised the proposed 230-kV transmission line route to avoid the four entitled development projects within the original RTRP route. The Revised Project would include approximately 2 miles of underground transmission line located within private property and City of Jurupa Valley franchise right-of-way (ROW) in local streets. The Revised Project would also relocate the proposed overhead 230-kV transmission line from the east side of Wineville Avenue to the west side between Cantu-Galleano Ranch Road and Landon Drive. Design modifications to relocate distribution lines following certification of the 2013 RTRP EIR are also included in the Revised Project.

A detailed description of the Revised Project is presented in Chapter 2: Project Description. An overview of the Revised Project route is shown in Figure 1.2-3.

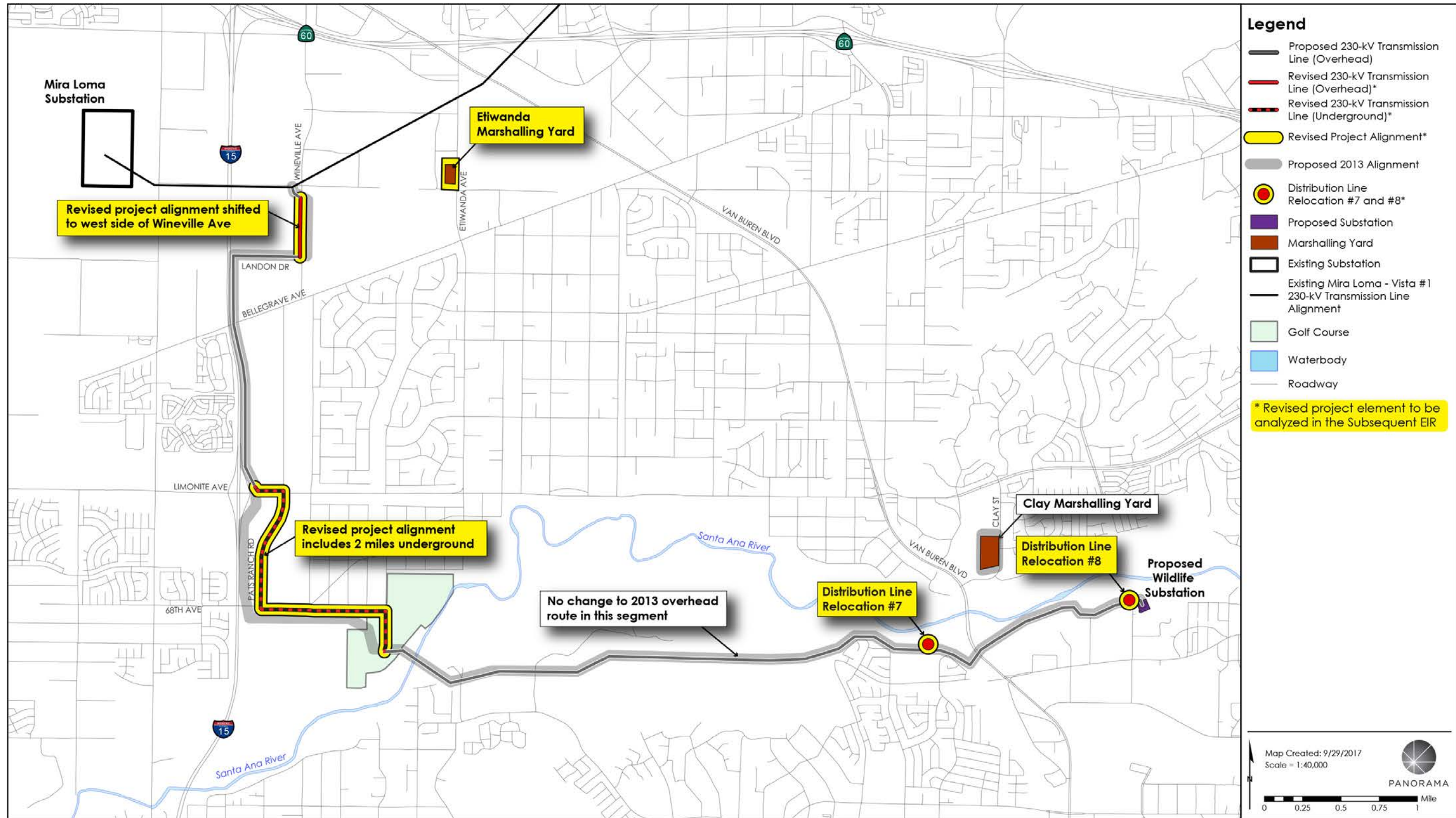
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Figure 1.2-3 Revised Project Overview



Sources: (Esri, 2017; SCE, 2017)

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## 1.3 TERMINOLOGY

This document uses specific terminology to distinguish the project elements analyzed by the CPUC from the full RTRP addressed in the City of Riverside 2013 RTRP EIR. The full project is referred to as the “RTRP.” The elements of the RTRP included in the CPCN application that would be constructed and owned by SCE are referred to as the “Proposed Project.” The elements of the RTRP that were revised by SCE in September 2016 (moved and undergrounded transmission line segments, revised distribution line relocations, and new marshalling yards) are referred to as the “Revised Project.” The transmission line that was previously analyzed by the City of Riverside in 2013 RTRP EIR is referred to as the “proposed 2013 alignment.”

Figure 1.4-1 shows the relationship of the projects.

The term “power line” in this document refers generally to electric lines of all voltage classes operating in SCE’s electric system. However, CPUC General Order (GO) 131-D distinguishes between transmission lines (“designed to operate at or above 200 kV”), power lines (“designed to operate between 50 and 200 kV”), and distribution lines (“designed to operate under 50 kV”).

## 1.4 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Project objectives under CEQA are defined in order to allow proper consideration of alternatives to the Proposed Project, and to aid in the preparation of findings and overriding considerations (CEQA Guidelines, Section 15124[b]). The CEQA Guidelines (Section 15126.6[a]) state that “An EIR shall describe a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project, and evaluate the comparative merits of the alternatives.”

### 1.4.1 Southern California Edison Objectives

SCE explains in their CPCN application that the purpose of the Proposed Project is to provide RPU and its customers with adequate transmission capacity to serve existing and projected load, to provide for long-term system capacity for load growth, and to provide needed system reliability. SCE has identified the following objectives of the Proposed Project:

1. **Increased capacity.** Increase capacity to meet existing electric system demand and anticipated future load growth
2. **Additional delivery point.** Provide an additional point of delivery for bulk power into the RPU electrical system, thereby reducing dependence on Vista Substation and increasing overall reliability

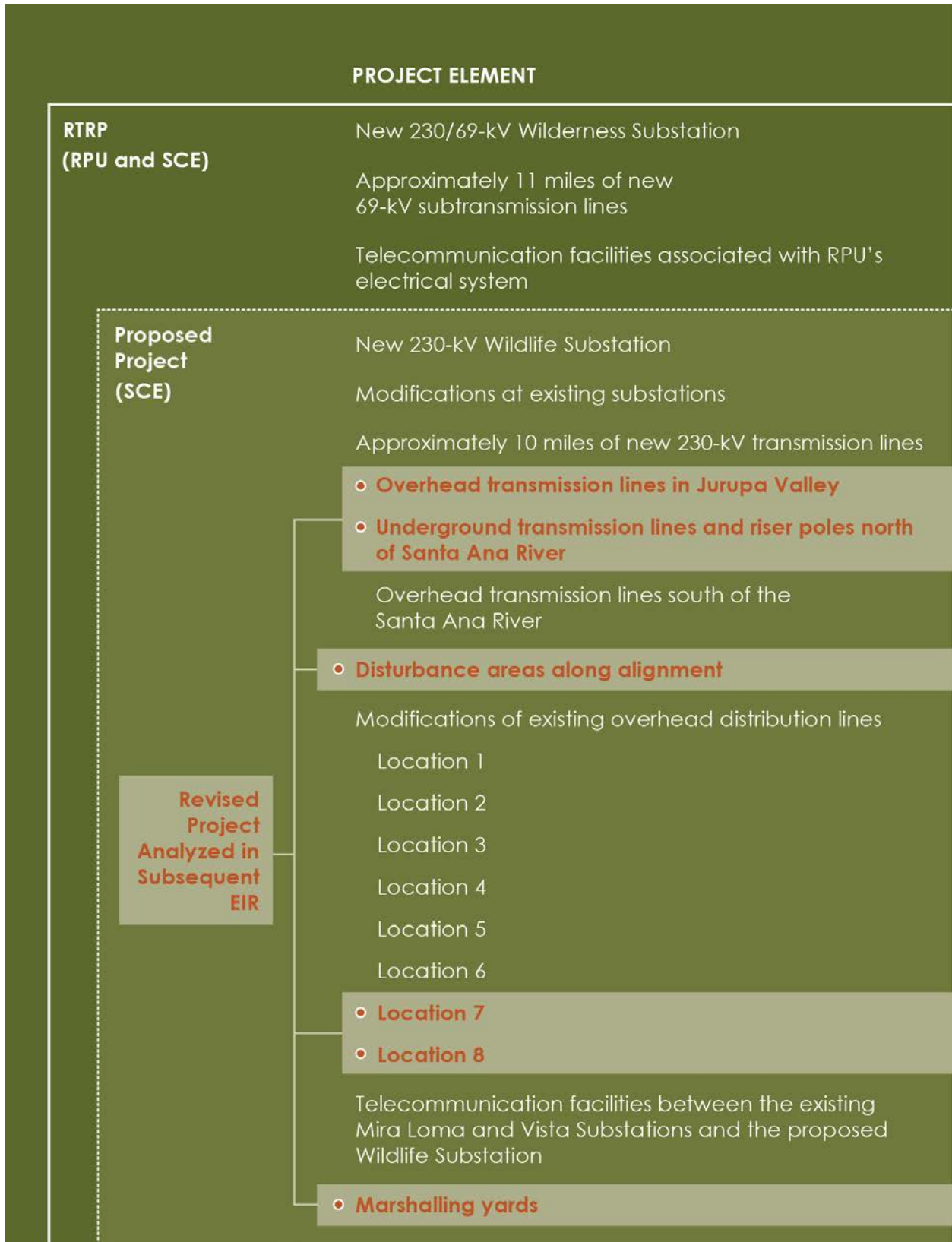
### 1.4.2 CPUC Objectives

The CPUC evaluated whether the project objectives proposed by SCE are the basic objectives of the project (i.e., meet the underlying fundamental project purpose), which would be used by the CPUC to define and evaluate a range of reasonable alternatives to the Proposed Project. The



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Figure 1.4-1 Relationship Between RTRP, Proposed Project, and Revised Project



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CPUC identified both SCE objectives as basic project objectives, which are presented and explained below.

### **CPUC Basic Project Objective #1: Increase capacity to meet existing electrical system demand and anticipated future load growth.**

The CPUC Basic Project Objective #1 is the same as SCE Objective #1. This basic project objective reflects the goal of meeting RPU's projected future demand for electricity. SCE's Vista Substation is currently the primary source of electrical energy supply for RPU electric customers. RPU receives 557 megawatts (MW) of electricity from the Vista Substation. RPU demand exceeded the capacity at Vista Substation beginning in 2006, requiring local power generation to meet demand during peak load conditions. In late August 2017, a 6-day heat wave produced consecutive maximum daily temperatures in excess of 105°F in the Riverside service area, resulting in a new Riverside peak load of 639 MW. SCE and RPU anticipate that Riverside's peak loads will continue to increase at approximately 0.5 percent per year for the next 20 years, driven by load growth in commercial and industrial uses. Riverside has an estimated 1-in-20 peak load of 669 MW by 2023, 689 MW by 2029, and 734 MW by 2038 (City of Riverside and Southern California Edison, 2018).

Riverside Energy Resource Center (RERC) and the Springs Generating Project (Springs) were constructed within the City of Riverside to supplement the power supply from Vista Substation by generating and supplying power locally through "peaking" units, or generators. There are four gas-fired turbines at RERC, and each unit is rated at 48 MW (for a total of 192 MW). In addition, there are four 9 MW units (36 MW) at Riverside's Springs Generating plant (Springs) that are rarely dispatched due to start-up limitations (City of Riverside and Southern California Edison, 2018). Riverside's internal generating units are brought on-line as needed to support Riverside's load requirements during extreme weather conditions to provide additional capacity and to prevent overload conditions on the lines and transformers, as well as for other contingencies such as unplanned equipment, transformer, and/or line outages contingencies. While these generation resources reduce the amount of power that must flow through the transformers at Vista Substation to Riverside by generating and supplying power locally, they are "peaker" units. The number of hours the RERC units can operate is limited to 1,200 hours per year by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) permits and no more than two starts per day. These units are typically run less than 4 hours per day. The Springs generating units are also subject to start-up and use restrictions. Due to the limitations in use of these "peaker" units they cannot be considered part of the base power supply for Riverside, and additional capacity is needed to meet the existing and future demand for system reliability.

### **CPUC Basic Project Objective #2: Provide additional source of bulk power into the RPU electrical system**

The CPUC Basic Project Objective #2 is similar to SCE Objective #2, but reflects a broader range of options for improving reliability in power delivery to RPU by delivering a secondary source of power to RPU rather than providing power at a single point. RPU currently receives all its power from Vista Substation. A second source of power is required to create redundancy in the system in case there is damage to RPU's dedicated transformer banks at Vista Substation. In

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October 2007, service from Vista Substation to the City of Riverside was interrupted, and all RPU customers, including government, school, university, and hospital facilities within the City lost power for up to 4 hours. A secondary source of power would substantially reduce the impact of an outage at Vista Substation on RPU customers.

The evaluation of alternatives in Chapter 3: Alternatives of this Subsequent EIR provides a detailed discussion of how the CPUC developed alternatives, and whether each alternative could feasibly accomplish the CPUC basic project objectives.

### 1.5 ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

#### 1.5.1 CEQA Process and Lead Agency

This Subsequent EIR has been prepared pursuant to:

- CEQA (Public Resources Code [PRC] § 21000 et seq.)
- Amended Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA Guidelines) (14 California Code of Regulations [CCR] § 15000 et seq.)
- CPUC CEQA Rule 2.4 on CEQA compliance

The purpose of CEQA is to ensure informed governmental decisions by identifying ways to avoid or reduce environmental damage through feasible mitigation or project alternatives, and to provide public disclosure (CEQA Guidelines Section 15002 [a][1]-[4]). CPUC is the lead agency for review of the Proposed Project under CEQA because it has the principal responsibility for determining whether to approve or deny the Proposed Project (i.e., it must decide whether to approve or deny the CPCN). As the Lead Agency, the CPUC determined that a Subsequent EIR was appropriate to satisfy CEQA requirements (CEQA Guidelines Section 15162) by fully disclosing new impacts or substantial changes in impacts that would occur as a result of project modifications and changes to the baseline conditions since the certification of the 2013 RTRP EIR.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15162(a), preparation of a Subsequent EIR is required when:

- (1) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the EIR ... due to the involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in severity of previously identified significant effects.
- (2) Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is being undertaken which will require major revisions of the EIR ... due to involvement of new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in severity of previously identified significant effects.

The CPUC determined that a Subsequent EIR is the proper CEQA document to address environmental impacts from the Revised Project. The revised route and underground segment are considered substantial changes in the Proposed Project that will require major revisions to



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the 2013 RTRP EIR to address new significant environmental impacts. In addition, substantial changes have occurred in the existing environment since the 2013 RTRP EIR, which may cause new significant impacts and/or a substantial increase in the severity of environmental impacts.

This Subsequent EIR addresses both the project changes and the new circumstances that could result in new significant impacts, or substantially more severe significant environmental impacts.

This Subsequent EIR also considers alternatives to the Revised Project in accordance with the following requirements:

- CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(a): “An EIR shall describe a reasonable range of alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project...”
- CEQA Guidelines Section 15021(a)(2) “A public agency should not approve a project as proposed if there are feasible alternatives or mitigation measures available that would substantially lessen any significant effects that the project would have on the environment.”

The CPUC has prepared this Subsequent EIR for the purpose of examining the direct and indirect environmental impacts associated with the Revised Project, feasible mitigation measures, and alternatives that would reduce or avoid the Revised Project’s significant effects, prior to making a discretionary decision on the CPCN application. This Subsequent EIR does not make a recommendation regarding the approval or denial of the project; it is purely informational and will be used by the CPUC in considering whether to approve the Revised Project or an alternative analyzed in this Subsequent EIR. The CPUC cannot approve a project that will have significant impacts or limit the choice of alternatives or mitigation measures before the CEQA review is complete.

The purpose of the Draft Subsequent EIR is to:

- Inform both the CPUC’s decisionmakers and the public about the environmental effects of the Revised Project and its alternatives
- Give the public an opportunity to comment on significant environmental issues
- Describe the existing environmental conditions in the vicinity of the Revised Project
- Identify and analyze each significant effect on the environment resulting from the Revised Project
- Identify feasible measures to mitigate each significant effect
- Identify potentially feasible alternatives to the Revised Project that would meet most of its basic objectives while avoiding or reducing its significant environmental effects

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## 1.5.2 Environmental Analysis

This Subsequent EIR analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with the Revised Project and alternatives and identifies mitigation measures that could minimize or prevent those potential environmental impacts. The CPUC prepared an Initial Study Checklist to evaluate the Revised Project at a screening level to determine whether changes in the project design or changes in baseline conditions could result in new significant impacts, or a substantial increase in the severity of a significant environmental impact that was previously evaluated in the 2013 RTRP EIR. The following environmental resources were considered in evaluating the potential effects of the Revised Project, in accordance with the CEQA Guidelines Checklist Appendix G:

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Biological Resources
- Cultural, Tribal Cultural, and Paleontological Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Resources
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Public Services and Utilities
- Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic

The project design changes and City of Jurupa Valley-approved developments in the transmission line ROW would not result in new impacts or substantial changes in impacts analyzed in the 2013 RTRP EIR for several environmental resource topics. No additional analysis is included in this Subsequent EIR for the following environmental resource topics that were adequately addressed in the 2013 RTRP EIR:

- Geology and Soils
- Mineral Resources
- Population and Housing
- Energy Conservation

The Revised Project would not cause new or more severe impacts under these topics than were addressed in the 2013 RTRP EIR. The 2013 RTRP EIR is incorporated by reference in this Subsequent EIR, and can be obtained from the following link on the CPUC project website:

[http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/panoramaenv/RTRP/Riverside\\_FinalEIR.html](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/panoramaenv/RTRP/Riverside_FinalEIR.html)

## 1.6 AGENCY USE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Section 15124(d) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that an EIR contain a statement briefly describing the intended uses of an EIR. The CEQA Guidelines indicate that an EIR should identify the ways in which the Lead Agency and any responsible agencies would use this document in their approval or permitting processes. The following discussion summarizes the roles of the agencies and the intended uses of this Subsequent EIR.

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### 1.6.1 California Public Utilities Commission Process

The CPUC is charged with the regulation of investor-owned public utilities, including SCE, pursuant to Article XII of the Constitution of the State of California. This Subsequent EIR describes and analyzes the environmental impacts that would result from implementation of the Revised Project and explores a range of alternatives that would reduce the Revised Project's significant adverse impacts. The Subsequent EIR will be considered by the CPUC, in conjunction with other information developed in the CPUC's formal record, including the 2013 RTRP EIR, prior to approving or denying SCE's application for a CPCN. The CPUC must make the findings set forth in CEQA Guidelines Section 15090(a) prior to certifying an EIR. The CPUC would be required to certify that this Subsequent EIR:

- Complies with CEQA
- Reflects the Lead Agency's independent judgment and analysis
- Was presented to the decision-making body, which reviewed and considered the information in the Final Subsequent EIR before approving the project

The Lead Agency may then decide whether to approve the project after considering and certifying the Subsequent EIR. If the CPUC approves a project with significant unavoidable environmental impacts, it must adopt a Statement of Overriding Considerations explaining why the project's benefits outweigh its significant environmental impacts, which would be included in the CPUC's decision on the application.

### 1.6.2 State Trustee and Responsible Agencies

Several other state agencies will rely on information in the Subsequent EIR to inform them in their decision whether to issue specific permits related to project construction, operation, and maintenance. For the purposes of CEQA, the term "responsible agency" includes all public agencies, other than the Lead Agency, that have discretionary approval authority for the project. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is a State Trustee Agency and a Responsible Agency because SCE must obtain a Section 1600 Stream and Lakebed Alteration Agreement from CDFW. The Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) is a Responsible Agency that has permitting authority over the project.

### 1.6.3 Federal Agencies

Federal agencies with potential review and/or permitting authority include the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

### 1.6.4 Required Permits and Approvals

No local discretionary (e.g., use) permits are required because the CPUC has preemptive discretionary jurisdiction over the construction, maintenance, and operation of SCE facilities in California. SCE must obtain all ministerial building and encroachment permits from local jurisdictions, and the CPUC's GO 131-D requires SCE to comply with local building, design, and safety standards to the greatest degree feasible to minimize project conflicts with local



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conditions. The CPUC’s authority does not preempt special districts, such as Air Quality Management Districts (AQMDs), other state agencies, or the federal government. SCE would participate in consultations with and obtain permits, approvals, and licenses from federal, State, and local agencies as shown in Table 1.6-1.

**Table 1.6-1 Potentially Required Permits and Approvals**

| Permit/Authorization   | Agency   | When is the Permit Required?  |
|--|----------|---|
| <b>Federal</b>   |          |   |
| Federal Endangered Species Act<br>Incidental Take Permit   | USFWS    | Impacts on federally-listed species during installation of new facilities   |
| Clean Water Act Section 404  | USACE    | Impacts on Waters of the United States (U.S.) from discharge of dredged or fill material  |
| Lighting and Aerial Marking  | FAA      | Construction of overhead materials potentially requiring aerial marking   |
| Congested Area Plan  | FAA      | Use of helicopters over congested areas   |
| <b>State</b>   |          |   |
| CPCN   | CPUC     | Overall project approval and CEQA review  |
| National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)— Construction General Permit and Implementation of a Project-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) | SWRCB    | Stormwater discharges associated with construction activities disturbing more than 1 acre of land   |
| Order R8-2015-0004 General waste discharge requirements for discharges to surface waters that pose an insignificant ( <i>de minimis</i> ) threat to water quality          | RWQCB    | Construction discharges from construction dewatering  |
| Section 401 Water Quality Certification  | RWQCB    | Certification that the project is consistent with state water quality standards for projects involving discharge of dredged or fill materials to waters of the U.S. |
| California Endangered Species Act<br>Incidental Take Permit  | CDFW     | Impacts on listed species during installation of new facilities   |
| Section 1602 of the California Fish and Game Code  | CDFW     | Impacts on Waters of the State of California  |
| Encroachment Permit  | Caltrans | Construction, operation, and maintenance within state highway ROW   |

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| Permit/Authorization  | Agency   | When is the Permit Required?   |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Local</b>  |  |  |
| Encroachment Permit   | Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District | Construction within, under, or over county flood control facilities  |
| Encroachment or Public Right-of-Way Permit(s) and Traffic Control Plan(s) | City of Jurupa Valley  | Construction within, under, or over city roadways  |
| Grading Permit  | City of Riverside Public Works                                 | Excavation and fill activities   |
| Notice of Inclusion   | Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority       | Impacts on listed species during installation of new facilities that are covered under Western Riverside Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan |

## 1.7 PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

### 1.7.1 Scoping

The scoping process refers to an early and open process undertaken by a lead agency to determine the scope of issues to be addressed and identify the significant issues related to the project. During the scoping process, the public is invited to submit comments on the scope of the analysis for the environmental document to be prepared for the project under CEQA. The scoping process is intended to identify public concerns and define issues that may be controversial. Comments received during the scoping period are documented in the Scoping Report available at the following CPUC website:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/panoramaenv/RTRP/index.html>

#### Notice of Preparation of a Subsequent EIR

The CPUC issued a CEQA Notice of Preparation (NOP) on January 25, 2017 to inform the public and agencies of its intention to prepare a Subsequent EIR. Comments on the scope of the Draft Subsequent EIR were solicited during a 30-day scoping period, which began on January 25, 2017 and ended on February 24, 2017.

The CPUC mailed and emailed 12,545 notices to individuals, organizations, elected officials, tribes, and federal, state, and local agencies regarding scoping. Members of the public residing within 300 feet of the Proposed Project alignment received the NOP by mail. Additionally, individuals who requested notification or submitted their addresses were also notified by mail or email. The notices were mailed to 25 tribes. Table 1.7-1 lists the agencies and tribes that were notified during the scoping process.

#### Scoping Meeting

In addition to soliciting written scoping comments through public notifications, the CPUC held a public scoping meeting to solicit comments for consideration in determining the scope of the

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Draft Subsequent EIR. The scoping meeting was held on February 8, 2017 at the Jurupa Valley High School in Jurupa Valley, California. The date and location of the public scoping meeting was advertised in two local newspapers, one in English and one in Spanish. Meeting notification was also included on the CPUC project information website.

At the scoping meeting, the CPUC provided the project history and described the Proposed Project included in SCE’s application. The CPUC also described the Revised Project and the potential environmental impacts that would be addressed in the Draft Subsequent EIR. The CPUC accepted verbal and written comments. Two hundred and forty-five attendees signed in at the scoping meeting. Comments received during the scoping period are documented in the Scoping Report available on the CPUC website above.

**Table 1.7-1 Agencies, Organizations, and Tribes Notified During the Scoping Process**

| Agencies, Organizations, and Tribes Notified                         |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Federal Agencies</b>  |   |
| Bureau of Indian Affairs   | March Air Reserve Base                                |
| Bureau of Land Management  | National Park Service (NPS)                           |
| Federal Aviation Administration                                      | U.S. Army Corps of Engineers                          |
| Federal Highway Administration                                       | U.S. Fish and Wildlife                                |
| <b>State Agencies</b>  |   |
| California Air Resources Board                                       | Department of Transportation                          |
| California Association of Councils of Government                     | Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics |
| California Department of Fish & Wildlife                             | Department of Water Resources                         |
| California Energy Commission   | League of California Cities                           |
| California Independent System Operator                               | Native American Heritage Commission                   |
| California Resources Agency  | Office of Historic Preservation                       |
| California State Association of Counties                             | Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board        |
| California State Lands Commission                                    | State Water Resources Control Board                   |
| Department of Health Care Services                                   | University of California, Riverside                   |
| Department of Parks and Recreation                                   |   |
| <b>Local Agencies</b>  |   |
| Alvord Unified School District                                       | Metropolitan Water District of Southern California    |
| American Medical Response  | Regional Conservation Authority                       |
| Arlington Business Council (Riverside Chamber Area Business Council) | Rincon Culture Committee Chairman                     |
| Asian Indian Chamber of Commerce                                     | Riverside/Corona Conservation Resource District       |



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| Agencies, Organizations, and Tribes Notified                         |  |
|--|--|
| City of Chino  | Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission                               |
| City of Colton   | Riverside County Board of Supervisors                                      |
| City of Eastvale   | Riverside County Environmental Programs Department                         |
| City of Jurupa Valley  | Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation Agency               |
| City of Norco  | Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency                               |
| City of Riverside  | Riverside County Parks   |
| Coachella Valley System of Governments                               | Riverside County Planning Department                                       |
| Coachella Valley Women’s Business Center Program                     | Riverside County Regional Park & Open Space District                       |
| Colton Unified School District                                       | Riverside Municipal Airport  |
| Corman Leigh Communities   | Riverside Office of Economic Development                                   |
| Corona-Norco Unified School District                                 | Riverside Public Utilities   |
| County of Riverside  | Riverside Unified School District, Planning and Development                |
| County of San Bernardino   | Rubidoux Community Services District                                       |
| Downtown Business Council (Riverside Chamber Area Business Council)  | San Bernardino Associated Governments                                      |
| Easthills Business Council (Riverside Chamber Area Business Council) | Santa Ana River Water Company  |
| Endangered Habitats League   | Santa Ana Water Authority  |
| Flabob Airport   | Santa Ana Watershed Association  |
| Housing Authority of the County of Riverside                         | Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority                                      |
| Inland Empire Center for Entrepreneurship                            | Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter   |
| Inland Empire Small Business Development Center                      | South Coast Air Quality Management District                                |
| Jurupa Area Recreation and Parks District                            | Southern California Association of Governments                             |
| Jurupa Community Services District                                   | Southern California Coastal Water Research Project                         |
| Jurupa Unified School District                                       | Western Municipal Water District   |
| Metrolink, Southern California Regional Rail Authority               | Western Riverside Council of Governments                                   |
| Organizations  |  |
| Goose Creek Golf Club  | Magnolia Center Business Council (Riverside Chamber Area Business Council) |
| Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce                               | Riverside Land Conservancy   |

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| Agencies, Organizations, and Tribes Notified                           |   |
|--|---|
| Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce                         | Santa Ana River Trust (based out of the Riverside Land Conservancy) |
| Hidden Valley Nature Center  | The Pick Group of Young Professionals                               |
| Hunter Park Business Council (Riverside Chamber Area Business Council) | The Press-Enterprise  |
| Inland Empire Waterkeeper  | The Wildlands Conservancy   |
| Inland Empire Women’s Business Center                                  | Turnleaf Homeowner’s Association                                    |
| Jurupa Valley Chamber of Commerce                                      | Union Pacific Railroad Company                                      |
| La Sierra Business Council (Riverside Chamber Area Business Council)   |   |
| Tribes   |   |
| Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians                                 | Pala Band of Mission Indians  |
| Augustine Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians                             | Pauma & Yuima Reservation   |
| Cabazon Band of Mission Indians  | Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians                                    |
| Cahuilla Band of Indians   | Ramona Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians                             |
| Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation                       | Rincon Band of Mission Indians                                      |
| Gabrielino/Tongva Nation   | Saboba Band of Mission Indians                                      |
| Gabrieleño/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians                  | San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians                                |
| Colorado River Indian Tribes   | San Manuel Band of Mission Indians                                  |
| La Jolla Band of Mission Indians                                       | Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians                                  |
| Los Coyotes Band of Mission Indians                                    | Serrano Nation of Mission Indians                                   |
| Morgongo Band of Mission Indians                                       | Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians                             |

## 1.7.2 Summary of Key Scoping Comments

All written and oral comments received during the public comment period, as well as comments received prior to and after the close of the scoping period, were considered by the CPUC. During the comment period, 311 written comments were received from 15 agencies, 6 tribes, 9 organizations, and 88 individuals. Oral comments were submitted by 41 individuals during the public scoping meeting.

The key comment topics, within the scope of CEQA, are presented in Table 1.7-2. The public also presented comments that are not addressed under CEQA, such as effects on home or property values, and health effects from electric and magnetic fields (EMFs).

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**Table 1.7-2 Summary of Scoping Comments**

| Environmental Topic             | Comment Summary  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Project Description             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Subsequent EIR should include dimensions and specific locations of project components.</li> </ul>   |
| Aesthetics                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Subsequent EIR needs to evaluate the impact to scenic vistas and visual characteristics.</li> <li>• The project will block/impact/degrade regional views.</li> <li>• Power lines are unsightly.</li> <li>• Commenter requests realistic simulations of view/shadowing impacts.</li> <li>• The project will impact/degrade aesthetics/natural beauty.</li> <li>• The project will impact I-15 as scenic highway.</li> </ul>              |
| Agriculture                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project will cause damage to produce grown near or under the transmission lines.</li> </ul>   |
| Air Quality                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Coast Air Quality Management District requested to review the Draft Subsequent EIR, including all air quality appendices.</li> <li>• Undergrounding power lines create odors during paving.</li> <li>• The project will degrade air quality and cause air pollution.</li> </ul>   |
| Biological Resources            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project will impact habitats and wildlife in Hidden Valley Wildlife Preserve and Santa Ana River.</li> <li>• The project will impact wetlands and environmentally sensitive areas.</li> <li>• The project will impact migratory birds.</li> <li>• The CPUC should consult state and federal agencies.</li> <li>• Commenter makes recommendations for biological scoping and mitigation.</li> </ul>                                      |
| Cultural Resources              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Confidential Cultural Resources Report should be addressed in the Subsequent EIR.</li> <li>• The project will negatively impact cultural resources.</li> </ul>  |
| Hazards and Hazardous Materials | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are concerns regarding environmental health risk/general safety.</li> <li>• Power lines are dangerous.</li> <li>• There are concerns about exposure to chemicals used during project construction and to contaminated soils unearthed during construction.</li> <li>• The project is hazardous to aircraft.</li> <li>• There are concerns about falling power lines and towers.</li> <li>• Danger to the lines from fires.</li> </ul> |
| Hydrology                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Subsequent EIR should address storm water quality and runoff.</li> </ul>  |
| Land Use and Planning           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are concerns about infringement upon development, businesses, residences, and schools.</li> <li>• The project land is zoned for open space. The project is not consistent with the General Plan.</li> <li>• The project will limit and impact future land use.</li> </ul>   |
| Noise                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2013 RTRP EIR noise analysis was not adequate because it did not consider receptors on Wineville Avenue.</li> <li>• Construction and operation noise thresholds in the previous study were too high.</li> <li>• Noise will cause health issue and disrupt sleep.</li> <li>• There are general concerns about noise.</li> <li>• There are concerns about corona noise.</li> </ul>  |



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| Environmental Topic        | Comment Summary   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Population and Housing     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Subsequent EIR should address impacts on Population and Housing.</li><li>• The 2013 RTRP EIR incorrectly assumed no development at Lyon Homes.</li></ul>  |
| Public Services            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The project will impact schools.</li></ul>  |
| Recreation                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The project will impact recreational uses of Hidden Valley Wildlife Preserve, Sana Ana River Trail and river bottom.</li></ul>  |
| Transportation and Traffic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commenter recommends that a Traffic Control Plan be put into place in accordance with the Riverside County Transmission Commission and California Highway Patrol.</li><li>• The project will increase traffic.</li><li>• Concern regarding damage to the lines from vehicles.</li></ul>   |
| Utilities                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Subsequent EIR should discuss waste generated by the construction of underground lines.</li></ul>   |
| Cumulative Impacts         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commenter questions the project's compatibility with Caltrans Limonite Improvements.</li></ul>  |
| Alternatives               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Alternatives were rejected without reason.</li><li>• Entire project should be underground.</li><li>• Commenter suggests undergrounding the section of line near Idyllwild Lane, Julian Drive, and Brandford Street up to Van Buren Boulevard.</li><li>• Commenter suggests alternative route on the north side of the Sana Ana River adjacent to Paradise Knolls Golf Course.</li><li>• Commenter suggests Agua Mansa alternative route.</li><li>• Commenter suggests Van Buren alternative route.</li><li>• Commenter suggests Eastern route alternative along Santa Ana River east to Vista Substation.</li><li>• Commenter suggests underground alternative within Pats Ranch Road north of Limonite.</li><li>• The project should be built in City of Riverside.</li><li>• Using solar power would avoid the need for the project.</li><li>• Commenter suggests battery storage alternative.</li><li>• Commenter suggests underground south on I-15 to Highway 91 east as an alternative.</li></ul> |

### 1.7.3 How to Comment on the Draft Subsequent EIR

This Draft Subsequent EIR is being circulated to local, state, and federal agencies, and to interested individuals who may wish to review and comment on the report. Written comments may be submitted to the CPUC during the 45-day public review period. Written comments on this Draft Subsequent EIR will be accepted via regular mail, fax, e-mail, and at noticed public meetings (either noticed in this document or under separate cover). All comments received will be addressed in a Response to Comments document, which, together with this Draft Subsequent EIR, will constitute the Final Subsequent EIR for the Revised Project. Written comments may be submitted to any of the following:

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Mail: Mr. Jensen Uchida  
CPUC Project Manager  
c/o Panorama Environmental, Inc.  
717 Market Street, Suite 650  
San Francisco, CA 94103

FAX: (650) 373-1211  
Email: riversidetrp@panoramaenv.com

Two informational workshops on the Draft Subsequent EIR will be held at the Mira Loma Middle School Multipurpose Room (5051 Steve Avenue, Riverside, CA 92509) at the following dates and times:

- Tuesday, April 24, 2018 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, April 25, 2018 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

### 1.8 READER'S GUIDE TO THIS SUBSEQUENT EIR

#### 1.8.1 Organization of this Subsequent EIR

This Subsequent EIR has been organized into the following chapters:

- **Acronyms and Abbreviations.** This chapter follows the Table of Contents.
- **Executive Summary.** Provides a summary description of the Proposed Project, the alternatives, their respective environmental impacts, and the environmentally superior alternative. This chapter also provides a summary table of the impacts and mitigation measures of the Proposed Project and alternatives.
- **Chapter 1: Introduction.** Provides an overview of the project background and project objectives and outlines the CEQA process and agency use of this Subsequent EIR.
- **Chapter 2: Project Description.** Presents an in-depth description of the Revised Project, including construction details and methods.
- **Chapter 3: Alternatives.** Provides a description of alternatives retained for analysis in this Subsequent EIR, and a summary of alternatives rejected from further analysis. Provides a summary of the alternatives screening and evaluation process, including the rationale for eliminating alternatives from further analysis.
- **Chapter 4: Environmental Analysis.** Provides an analysis and assessment of impacts and mitigation measures for the Revised Project as well as the proposed project alternatives, including the No Project Alternative. This chapter contains a discussion of the environmental setting, regulatory setting, and impacts for each environmental topic (i.e., Aesthetics, Cultural Resources, Noise, etc.), with new potentially significant or worsened impacts as identified in the Initial Study Checklist (refer to Appendix B). Mitigation measures to reduce or avoid significant impacts are identified.
- **Chapter 5: Cumulative Impacts.** Provides a discussion of the cumulative impacts of the Revised Project in combination with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in the vicinity.

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- **Chapter 6: Comparison of Alternatives.** Provides a discussion of the relative advantages and disadvantages of the Revised Project and the alternatives evaluated and identifies the CEQA environmentally superior alternative.
- **Chapter 7: Additional CEQA Considerations.** Provides a discussion of electrical interference, potential energy impacts, growth-inducing effects, significant environmental effects that cannot be avoided, and irreversible environmental changes.
- **Chapter 8: Report Preparation.** Identifies the preparers of this Subsequent EIR and the persons consulted during preparation of this Subsequent EIR.
- **Chapter 9: Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan.** Provides a discussion of the CPUC's Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan requirements for the Revised Project as approved by the CPUC. This chapter includes: environmental protection elements (EPEs), and mitigation measures (MMs) that SCE must implement as part of the project; actions required to implement these measures; monitoring requirements; and timing of implementation for each measure.
- **Appendix A. Proposed Project Details, Schedule, and Route Maps**
- **Appendix B. Initial Study Checklist**
- **Appendix C. Electric and Magnetic Fields Supplemental Information**
- **Appendix D. Alternatives Screening Report**
- **Appendix E. Detailed Alternative Route Maps**
- **Appendix F. Aesthetics Resources Supporting Information**
- **Appendix G. Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Supporting Information**
- **Appendix H. Biological Resources Supporting Information**
- **Appendix I. Cultural Resources Supporting Information**
- **Appendix J. Land Use Consistency Table**
- **Appendix K. Corona Noise Technical Memorandum**
- **Appendix L. Transportation and Traffic Supporting Information**

### 1.9 REFERENCES

CDFW. (2016). *California National Agricultural Imagery Program Aerial Imagery*. Retrieved from <https://map.dfg.ca.gov/arcgis/services>

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