### PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



January 17, 2017

Richard Quasarano Compliance Manager San Diego Gas & Electric Company 8330 Century Park Court, CP31F San Diego, CA 92123

Subject: Salt Creek Substation—Review of Minor Project Refinement Request #7

Dear Mr. Quasarano,

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has reviewed San Diego Gas and Electric Company's (SDG&E's) proposed Minor Project Refinement (MPR) Request #7 for the approved Salt Creek Substation Project (project), provided by email on January 13, 2017. The CPUC adopted the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) and approved the Environmentally Superior Alternative, Alternative 2 – Salt Creek Substation on May 12, 2016. SDG&E's request for an MPR has been reviewed, consistent with the requirements specified in the Mitigation Monitoring Reporting Program and Mitigation Monitoring Compliance and Reporting Program for the project.

#### SDG&E's Proposed Minor Project Refinement #7

MRP #7 would authorize the creation of a concrete spillway above the SD-Line-A1 catch basin, a 50-foot-long by 10-foot-wide concrete road with an attached brow ditch, and placement of 5 tons of 6-inch rock in the large rill between the upper and lower transmission corridor roads. The spillway, road, brow ditch, and rock will be used to reduce the stormwater velocity in the rill, and minimize the amount of soil erosion. This is the final BMP solution to replace the prior interim BMP (MPR #6).

### **CPUC Review of Minor Project Refinement #7**

The proposed actions were reviewed for consistency with the impact analysis contained in the adopted Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) prepared for the project. The mitigation measures included in the FEIR, including biological monitoring for special-status species during implementation of MPR #7, would minimize the impacts of this activity. MPR #7 would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact; therefore, no supplemental or subsequent CEQA review is required to address MPR #7. The actions proposed in MPR #7 are consistent with the CPUC approved FEIR.

Please contact me at will.maguire@cpuc.ca.gov if you have any questions regarding this review of MPR #7.

Sincerely

Will Maguire Project Manager

Energy Division, CEQA Unit

cc: Susanne Heim, Panorama Environmental

Sheila Hoyer, Panorama Environmental

Attachment A: Minor Project Refinement #7 Review Form

Attachment 1: Erosion Repair Location and Detail Map

Attachment B: SDG&E Minor Project Refinement #7 Request

# Table 1 CPUC Evaluation of Minor Project Refinement #7.

Would the Project refinement result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to: No	Yes			
Aesthetics (e.g., damage scenic resources or vistas, degrade the existing visual character of the site and its surroundings, or create sources of light or glare)?  Final EIR Significance: Significant and Unavoidable				
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Aesthetics:  The proposed refinement would not significantly increase the impact to the visual quality of the area. The 50-foot-section of concrete road and attached brow ditch would appear similar to other project elements because brow ditches and concrete roads are part of the project and the aesthetic impacts of these elements were analyzed in the EIR. The additional brow ditch and concrete road would not increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on aesthetics.				
Agriculture and Forestry Resources (e.g., convert Farmland to nonagricultural use, or create a conflict with existing agricultural zoning or a Williamson Act)?  Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant				
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Agriculture and Forestry Resources:  The proposed refinement would not convert agricultural land to non-agricultural use or result in the of agricultural land. The refinement is located within the right-of-way (ROW) for the utility access roo This area is not subject to agricultural use. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on agriculture or forestry resources.	ads.			
Air Quality (e.g., produce criteria air pollutant emissions, or expose sensitive receptors to additional pollutants)?  Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation				
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Air Quality:  The proposed refinement would increase the area of disturbance by 0.08 acre and involve construction adjacent to the area previously considered in the EIR. APM Air-1 and Mitigation Measure Air-1 would reduce the impact on air quality to a less-than-significant level. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on air quality.				
Biological Resources (e.g., have an adverse effect on sensitive or special-status species; impact riparian, wetland, or any other sensitive habitat; or conflict with local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources)?  Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation				

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

The proposed refinement would involve temporary disturbance in the vicinity of previously mapped San Diego Sunflower. Any impacts to San Diego Sunflower that are unavoidable will be documented and added to the Special Status Plant Mitigation Plan for replacement as required by Mitigation Measure Biology-2. The biological resources in the proposed refinement area are consistent with the biological resources considered in the EIR. The refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on biological resources.

Would the Project refinement result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No	Yes	
Cultural and Paleontological Resources (e.g., cause an adverse change to a significant historical, archeological, or paleontological resource)?  Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation			
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Cultural and Paleontological Resources:  No cultural or paleontological resources have been recorded within the proposed refinement proposed refinement would involve temporary ground disturbance in a new area of 0.08 are paleontological resources could be encountered in this area; however, APM CUL-2, CUL 7, and Mitigation Measure Cultural-1 would reduce the impact on cultural resources to less significant. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the sever previously analyzed impact on cultural or paleontological resources.	cre. Cu -5, and than	Itural	
Geology and Soils (e.g., cause or expose people or structures to geologic or soil hazards, including erosion or loss of topsoil)?  Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation			
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Geology and Soils:  The proposed refinement would increase ground disturbance by 0.08 acre. Impacts from erosion were considered in the Final EIR and implementation of the CPUC-approved Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would reduce impacts from the proposed refinement to a less-than-significant level. The proposed refinement would occur in areas containing the same underlying geologic and soil units as the remaining substation parcel. Impacts on these geologic resources were analyzed in the Final EIR. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on geology and soils.			
Greenhouse Gas Emissions (e.g., produce criteria greenhouse gas pollutants, or expose sensitive receptors to additional pollutants)?  FEIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation			
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Greenhouse Gas Emissions:  The level of equipment use and number of vehicle trips required for the proposed refineme a slight increase from the equipment use and vehicle trip estimates included in the Final EIR proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or substantially increase the severity previously analyzed impact on greenhouse gas emissions.	?.The	d be	
Hazards and Hazardous Materials (e.g., create or increase the exposure of people or structures to hazardous materials, involve the use of additional hazardous materials or equipment, or interfere with an adopted emergency plan)?  Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation	×		
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Hazards and Hazardous Materials:  The proposed refinement would require use of the same types of equipment and hazardouthat were analyzed in the Final EIR. The refinement area does not contain known hazardousites. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of analyzed impact on hazards and hazardous materials.	s materi	ials	

Would the Project refinement result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No	Yes		
Hydrology and Water Quality (e.g., degrade water quality, discharge waste or sediment, deplete groundwater, alter the existing drainage pattern, create additional runoff water or polluted runoff, place structures in a 100-year flood hazard area, or expose people or structures to a significant risk involving flooding)?  Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation				
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Hydrology and Water Quality:  The proposed refinement would increase ground disturbance by 0.08 acre. The proposed refinement would increase ground disturbance by 0.08 acre.	efineme	ent		
would occur adjacent to the substation site and would drain to the same water bodies as the substation. Impacts to these water bodies were analyzed in the Final EIR. Implementation of the measures contained in the CPUC-approved SWPPP would reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on hydrology and water quality.				
Land Use and Planning (e.g., conflict with a land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project, or conflict with a habitat conservation plan)?  Final EIR Significance: No Impact	×			
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Land Use and Planning:				
The proposed refinement would occur within the ROW adjacent to the substation parcel. The proposed refinement would have no impact on land use and planning.				
Noise (e.g., expose sensitive receptors to additional noise or vibration)?  Final EIR Significance: Significant and Unavoidable				
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Noise:				
The refinement would not affect the distance between construction activities and the nearest sensitive receptors or change the equipment that would be used during construction. The construction noise levels presented in the Final EIR would not increase as a result of the proposed refinement. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on noise.				
Public Services (e.g., result in adverse impacts on government facilities that provide a public service)?	×			
Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant				
Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Public Services:  The proposed refinement would not require any public services. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on public services.				
Recreation (e.g., increase the use of, or cause adverse effects on, parks or other recreational facilities)?	$\boxtimes$			
Final EIR Significance: Significant and Unavoidable				
Summary of Project Refinement Impact on Recreation:				
The proposed refinement would not affect the duration of construction in vicinity of a recre resource. APM REC-1 requires temporary trail detours and MM Recreation-1 provides for restrails to pre-construction levels. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact of the severity of a previously analyzed impact on recreation.	toration			

Would the Project refinement result in a new impact, or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact to:	No	Yes
Transportation and Traffic (e.g., increase traffic congestion or degrade performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, or increase hazards due to a design feature)?	×	
Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation		

### Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Transportation and Traffic:

The proposed refinement would not change the roadways used to access the project work area or the maximum number of vehicles required to construct or maintain the project. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on transportation and traffic.

Utilities and result in the construction of new or expansion of existing water or stormwater drainage facilities, require additional water entitlements, create new solid waste disposal needs	×	
Final EIR Significance: Less than Significant with Mitigation		

#### Summary of Project Refinement Impacts on Utilities and Service Systems:

Potential conflicts with underlying or neighboring utilities would be the same as the potential conflicts with underground utilities considered in the Final EIR. APM UTIL-1 and MM Utilities-1 require notification of utilities to mark the location of underground utilities. MM Hazards-1 require excavating to the top of any buried utilities that are located within 10 feet of a proposed excavation. The proposed refinement would not result in a new impact or increase the severity of a previously analyzed impact on utilities and public services.

# ATTACHMENT A

**Minor Project Refinement Review Form** 

Proposed Minor Project Change Type:			Request #:		
Minor Project Refinement				7	
Part A: Proposed Minor Project Change Summary					
Date Submitted:	Requested Approval Date:	Start	Date:	Expect	ed End Date:
1/13/2017	1/20/2017	1/23	/2017	1/27/20	)17
Submitted by:	Organization and Title:	Durc	ation and Work Hours:		
Keri Cuppage	Senior Environmental Compliance Specialist	With	in approved work hours		
	cable location(s), address, and, bance associated with the prop			a of any o	additional
Disturbance of 0.08 acre w	rithin SDG&E transmission corrido	r right	-of-way		
Proposed Action(s): List and	d describe each proposed action	on.			
	e road section with accompany etween the upper and lower tra				I place 5 tons
Purpose(s): Explain why the	e proposed action(s) are necess	ary.			
Final erosion solution to rep	lace the interim BMP installed in	MPR	#6.		
	Part B: Existing Cor	dition	s		
Current and Adjacent Land	d Use(s):				
Currently vacant. Adjacen	t to single family residential and	public	c school.		
Has landowner approval b granted? (Describe below)		Date	e of Approval:	Approv	al Verified by:
□ Yes □ No ☒ N	I/A SDG&E has the ROW	Click date	ck here to enter a Click here to enter text.		ere to enter
SDG&E has the ROW for the	e proposed area of disturbance				
<b>Surveys:</b> List any new survey reports under Part D, attach a copy, and describe relevant survey details under the applicable resource category listed in Part E.				vey details	
	e all sites associated with the	1	⊠ Previously Surv	□ Previously Surveyed       □ F	
proposed action(s) surveyed for biological resources with the potential to occur in the area? If so, were survey results positive		☐ Survey Attached ☐ Neg		☐ Negative	
or negative? Were surveys completed during the appropriate timing and season to detect resources? If not, describe under the applicable resource category in Part E.			cluded in the		
Cultural Resources. Were all sites associated with the proposed action(s) surveyed for cultural resources (records search and pedestrian survey)? If so, were survey results positive or negative?		nsed	☑ Previously Surveyed		□ Positive
			□ Survey Attach	ned	□ Negative

Hydrology Were all sites associated with the proposed	□ Previously Surveyed	□Рс	□ Positive	
	□ Survey Attached	□ ⊠ Ne	egative	
results positive or negative?	N/A − Surveys were included in the EIR.			
Summarize water features and stormwater considerations including any changes to jurisdictional features and the use of erosion and sediment control best management practices.				
Refinement does not cause changes to hydrologic features. No jurisdictional features are located in the area. BMPs will be implemented in accordance with the approved SWPPP.				
Part C: Permits, Agency Approvals, and Environmental Protection Measures (EPMs) (List any new permits or agency approvals under Part D, attach a copy, and describe relevant details under the applicable resource category listed in Part E)				
Have all required permits, permit amendments/authorizations,	☑ Previously Provided			
or agency approvals been issued by resource agencies with applicable jurisdiction?	☐ Authorization Attached			
	□ N/A			
Would the proposed action(s) conflict with permit conditions or agency approvals?			⊠ No	
Would the proposed action(s) conflict with project applicant proposed measures (APMs), avoidance and minimization measures, or mitigation measures (MMs) listed in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)?			⊠ No	
Part D: Attached Materials (e.g., surveys, maps, photos, memos, agency authorizations, etc.)				

Attachment 1 – Erosion Repair Location and Detail Map

## Part E: FEIR Consistency

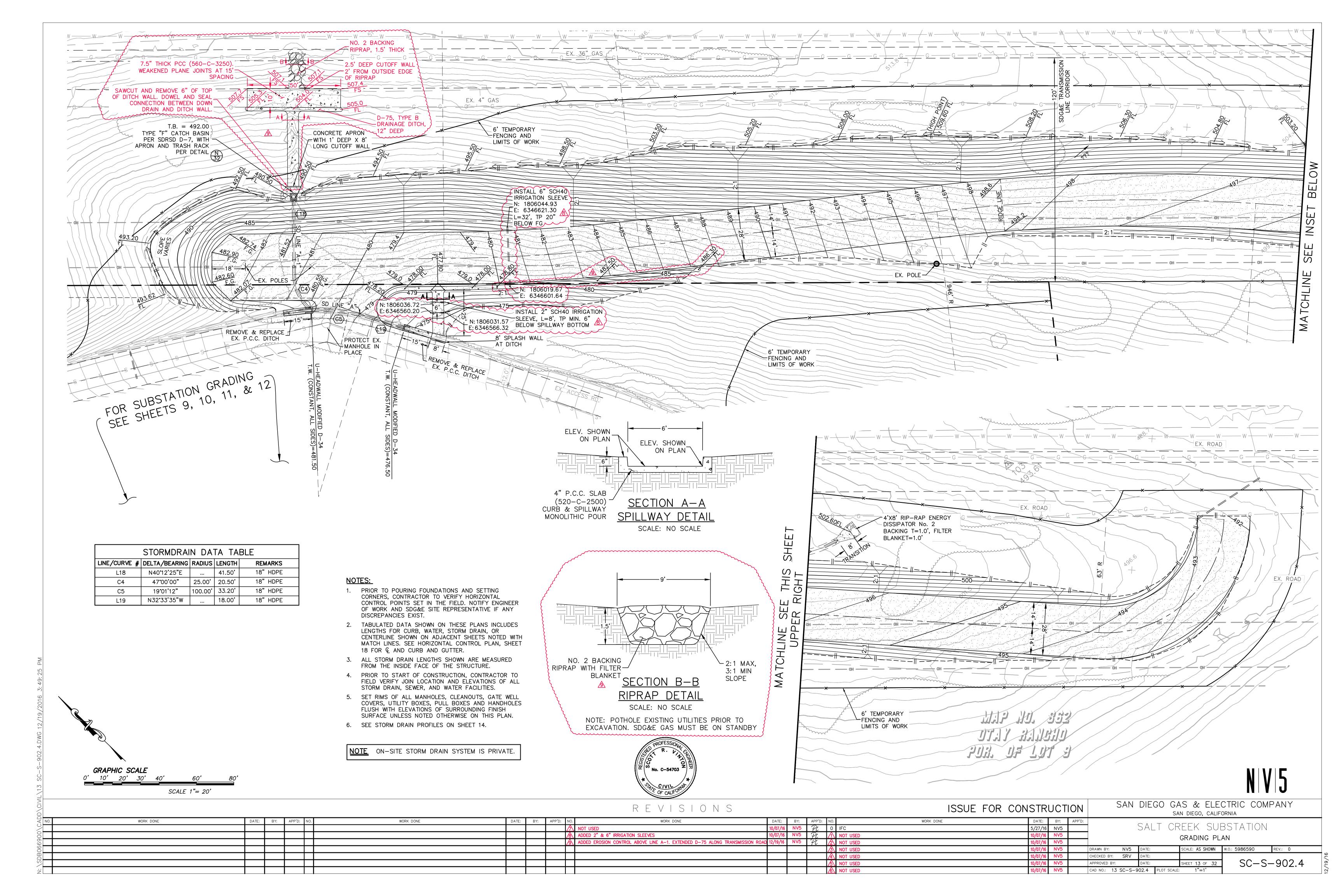
List applicable project requirements (e.g., APMs, MMs, project parameters, or other project stipulations) for which the refinement are being requested.

APM Air-1, APM Air-2, MM Air-1, APM BIO-2, APM BIO-3, APM BIO-4, MM Biology-1a, MM Biology-1b, MM Biology-2, MM Biology-3, MM Biology-8, APM CUL-2, APM CUL-5, APM CUL-7, MM Cultural-1, MM Paleontology-1, APM GEO-1, MM Geology-1, APM HAZ-3, MM Hazards-1, MM Hazards-2, APM HYDRO-1, APM NOISE-1, APM NOISE-3, MM Noise-1, MM Noise-2, APM REC-1, MM Recreation-1, , MM Traffic-3, APM UTIL-1, and MM Utilities-1

# **ATTACHMENT 1**

Erosion Repair Location Map Detail Map





# **ATTACHMENT B**

SDG&E Minor Project Refinement #7 Request



## Memorandum

Date: January 13, 2016

To: Will Maguire

Project Manager

California Public Utilities Commission

From: Richard Quasarano

Compliance Manager

San Diego Gas & Electric Company

Subject: Minor Project Refinement Request for Storm Drain Line A-1 Extension (MPR #7)

SDG&E is requesting authorization to create a concrete spillway above the SD-Line-A1 catch basin, a 50' long by 10 wide concrete road with an attached brow ditch, and place 5 tons of 6" rock in the large rill between the Upper and Lower Transmission Corridor Roads, as a BMP measure, between the project limit fence and the Upper Transmission Corridor Road. The spillway, road, brow ditch, and rock will be used to reduce the storm water velocity in the rill, and minimize the amount of soil erosion. This is the final BMP solution to replace the prior interim BMP (MPR #6)

Work to be performed would occur in an approximately 50' wide by 70' long x 3' deep area. The attached figure (Attachment 1) shows the location of the work to be performed. Equipment used to perform the work may include a backhoe (1), loader (1), crew truck (1), dump truck (1), concrete trailer (1), pump and concrete trucks (one at a time).

This area is within the geographic boundary of the study area utilized within the EIR. Work is occurring in the vicinity of previously mapped San Diego Sunflower. Impacts are anticipated to be limited to an approximately 0.08 acre area. The onsite LEI will monitor for avoidance of impacts to San Diego Sunflower. Any impacts to San Diego Sunflower that are unavoidable will be documented and added to the Special Status Plant Mitigation Plan for replacement. Changes to the LOD would not represent a new significant impact to biological resources and/or increase the severity of any other significant impacts. Additionally, the change in LOD would not trigger additional permit requirements and would not conflict with any Applicant Proposed Measure (APMs), Mitigation Measure (MMs), or other applicable regulations. All APMs and MMs that will be implemented for the existing LOD would also be implemented for the additional LOD. Cultural and paleontological monitoring would be implemented, as needed, based on ground disturbance and condition of underlying soils. Likewise, all erosion and sediment control storm water BMPs would also be extended into this area.

The change in LOD would not require a change in construction start and end dates, as work would occur over approximately five days.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns with this adjustment. We appreciate your willingness to expedite review of this MPR.

Thank you,

Richard Quasarano

