

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



May 18, 2017

Ms. Jennifer Kaminsky  
San Diego Gas and Electric Company  
1010 Tavern Road  
Alpine, CA 91901

**RE: Approval of Nest Buffer Reduction Request #6**

Dear Ms. Kaminsky,

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Energy Division CEQA Unit has reviewed the Nest Buffer Reduction Request #6 submitted by San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) on May 17, 2017 for the Sycamore-Peñasquitos 230-kV Transmission Line Project. The CPUC's comments on the Request are provided below, which has been uploaded as a response attachment to SDG&E's SharePoint site for the Nest Buffer Reduction Request #6 (SXPQ-10200-ENV-TR).

Nest Buffer Reduction Request #6 is approved with the following conditions:

- Killdeer are very noisy birds and are also active at night. A biological monitor needs to be present during the first few hours when initial nighttime activities occur within approximately 100 feet from the nest to evaluate whether the construction noise (e.g., saw cutting) and other physical disturbance near the nest starts to disrupt the birds.
- Increase or reinstate the buffer if there are signs of significant disturbance and risk of project-induced nest abandonment consistent with Mitigation Measure Biology-7.

Please direct questions related to these comments to me at (415) 703-2168 or [billie.blanchard@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:billie.blanchard@cpuc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Billie Blanchard".

Billie Blanchard  
Project Manager  
Energy Division, CEQA Unit

cc: Jeff Thomas, Panorama Environmental  
Susanne Heim, Panorama Environmental  
Sheila Hoyer, Panorama Environmental