

Fact Sheet

Tie Line 686 Wood to Steel Pole Replacement Project

San Diego County



Last Updated: February 23, 2022

San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) is proposing to fire-harden the existing Tie Line (TL) 686 power line within the Warner Springs and Grapevine Canyon areas of San Diego County to enhance the safety and reliability of the existing electric system. The TL 686 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project (Project) would involve replacing existing wood poles and structures with new steel poles and installing new electrical conductor on portions of the TL 686 power line within a High Fire Threat District.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) will be the lead agency responsible for reviewing the project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). California State Parks will be a trustee agency under CEQA and will participate in the CEQA process.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the lead federal agency responsible for reviewing the project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). A separate NEPA document would be prepared for the Project.

Proposed TL 686 Project

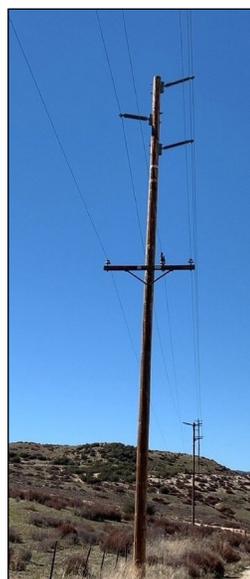
The Project alignment is comprised of a 14.6-mile portion of the existing TL 686, 69 kV power line between Warners Substation and Narrows Substation. The Project begins at Warners Substation located at the intersection of State Route 79 and County Road S2 and terminates at Pole 127 within the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park (ABDSP). The remaining portion of TL 686 from Pole 127 and Narrows Substation is not included. The Project alignment is shown on **Figure 1**.

The Project runs southeast along County Road S2, County Road S22, and Grapevine Canyon Road. The portion of the Project following County Roads S2 and S22 is located on lands owned by Vista Irrigation District. The Project then follows Grapevine Canyon Road through a mix of private land and land administered by the BLM before entering the ABDSP.

The Project includes the replacement or removal of approximately 209 existing wood and steel wood equivalent, power line and distribution structures and electrical conductors.

The replacement structures would consist of weatherized steel poles that would be taller and spaced farther apart than the existing poles. Shield wire with fiber cable (optical ground wire) would be added for lightning protection and communications on the rebuild portion of the line.

SDG&E proposes to construct the Project from approximately mid-2025 through mid-2027. Construction would be achieved using temporary work areas, staging areas, and access roads. Helicopters would be used to support construction activities and transport workers, materials, and equipment where ground access is constrained. Vegetation would be trimmed or cleared within the limits of the construction areas to establish access.

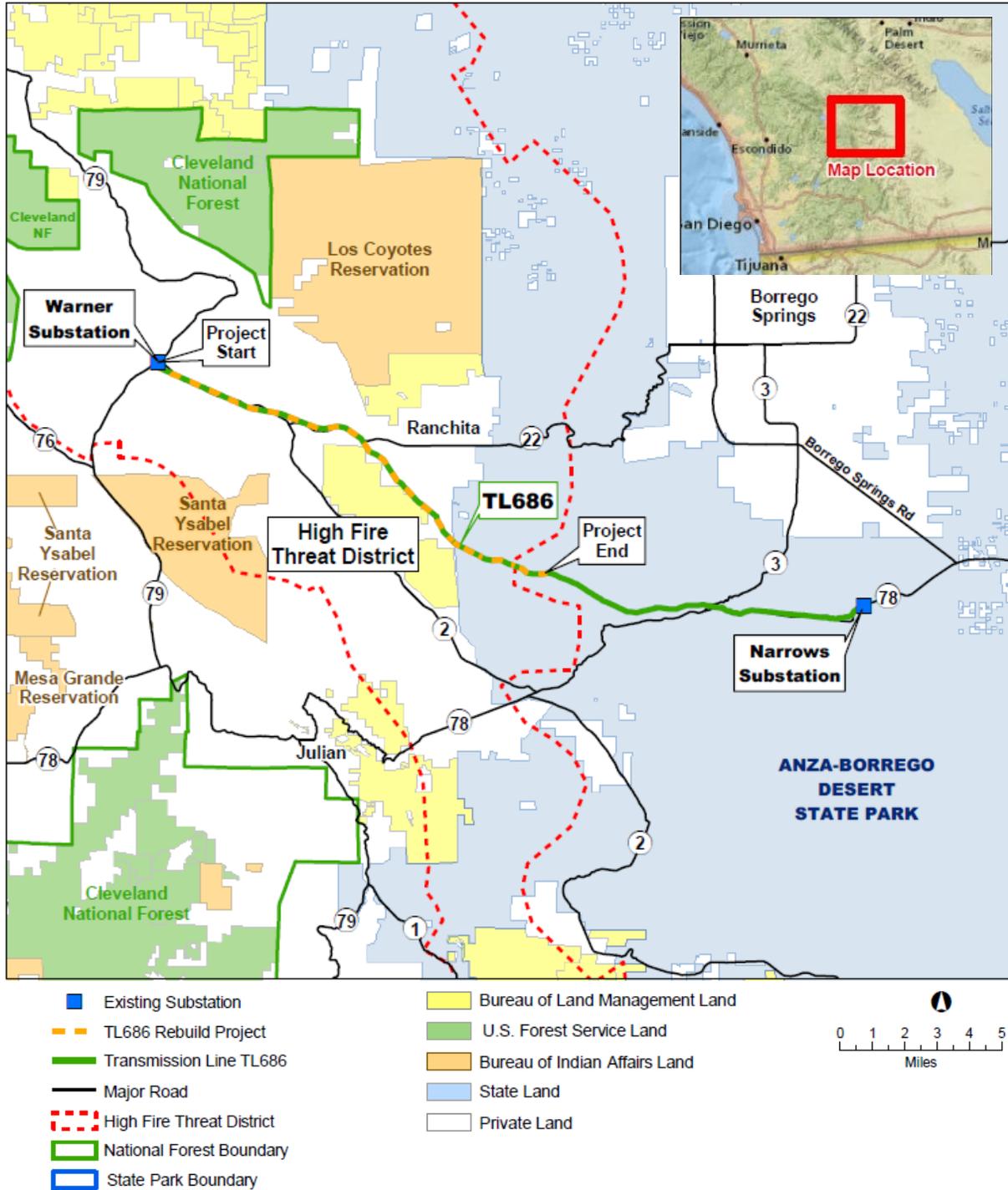


Example of an Existing Wood Power Line Structure



Example of a Weatherized Steel Replacement Structure

Figure 1: Tie Line 686 Wood-to-Steel Pole Replacement Project Alignment



For Additional Information on the TL 686 Project and the CPUC’s CEQA Process:

Email: John.Forsythe@cpuc.ca.gov

Phone: (916) 217-5073