



Notice of Availability SCE Valley South Subtransmission Project

California SCH #2015051012

To: Interested Readers
From: CPUC EIR Project Manager
Subject: **Notice of Availability, Final Environmental Impact Report**
SCE's Proposed Valley South Subtransmission Project (VSSP or proposed Project)
Date: June 13, 2016

The California Public Utilities Commission, as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for consideration of Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) application to build and operate the Valley South Subtransmission Project.

A Draft EIR was published and released for public review on January 29, 2016 by the CPUC. A public meeting was held on February 22, 2016 at the Residence Inn Marriott in Murrieta to help affected communities understand the proposed Project and the findings of the Draft EIR. The public comment period for the Draft EIR ended on March 14, 2016. Appendix 5 of the Final EIR includes the comments submitted on the Draft EIR and the responses to these comments.

Availability of the Final EIR

The Final EIR is available for review at area libraries (see the list at end of this Notice) and for review and download on the CPUC's project website:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/valleysouth/ValleySouth.htm>

A CD of the complete document may be requested by e-mail at Valley-South-Project@aspeneq.com or by phone or fax at **(888) 400-3930**.

Description of the Proposed Project

The proposed VSSP would include a new 115-kV subtransmission line extending approximately 15.4 miles from the SCE Valley Substation in the City of Menifee to a point west of the SCE Triton Substation in the City of Temecula. The proposed Project would modify the existing Valley Substation to accommodate a new 12-mile 115-kV subtransmission line between the Valley Substation and an existing tubular steel pole (TSP) located at the intersection of Leon Road and Benton Road. This modification would constitute Segment 1 of the proposed Project. Segment 2 would reconductor approximately 3.4 miles of existing 115-kV conductor from the Leon/Benton Road TSP to an existing TSP, which is located just outside the SCE Triton Substation. The proposed Project would relocate the existing distribution and telecommunication lines from existing poles to the new poles that would be installed as part of Segments 1 and 2. Telecommunications facilities would be installed to connect the new subtransmission line to SCE's telecommunication system.

Construction would take approximately 16 months and would include installation of approximately 243 wood poles, 12 light-weight steel poles, 30 TSPs, and 18 wood guy stub poles. To accommodate the underground portion of the 115-kV subtransmission line at the Valley Substation, approximately 1,600 feet of underground duct bank and one approximately 100-foot TSP riser pole would be installed. To support construction, up to six staging yards and approximately 40 pulling, tensioning, and splicing set-up locations would be utilized.

Project Purpose and Need

The proposed Project is necessary to provide the additional capacity needed to serve the forecasted long-term electrical demand within the cities of Menifee, Murrieta, Temecula, and unincorporated Riverside County (Electrical Needs Area). SCE growth projections for the relevant Electrical Needs Area have indicated that there is a need for additional capacity to accommodate the projected increase in demand associated with population growth in the region. The proposed Project is also needed to maintain and improve the reliability of the electrical distribution system within the Electrical Needs Area. The proposed Project would accomplish this by allowing for the operational flexibility needed by SCE to ensure safe and reliable electrical service to all customers in the Electrical Needs Area.

Contents of the Final EIR

The Final EIR includes detailed analysis of the environmental effects of the proposed Project on 13 environmental issue areas. The Final EIR also includes a detailed description of the proposed Project, including construction, operation, and maintenance activities. Changes between the Draft EIR and Final EIR are shown in underlined text for additions and strikeout text for deletions. A new appendix (Appendix 5) provides copies of all comments received and responses.

Impacts of the Proposed Project. The proposed Project would have significant unmitigable impacts on visual resources and cultural resources, significant impacts that can be reduced to a less-than-significant level with mitigation, and other impacts that are adverse but would not require mitigation.

Alternatives to the Proposed Project. Nine different alternatives were identified and evaluated as part of the EIR analysis. These alternatives were identified through the public scoping process, by the EIR team to reduce project impacts, and by SCE. All identified alternatives were considered and rationale provided for any alternatives that were eliminated from consideration in the EIR. The three alternatives evaluated in the EIR include: Alternative 1 – Subtransmission Line Route Alternative Along Menifee Road, Alternative 2 – Partial Underground Alternative, and Alternative 3 – No Project, No Build (required by CEQA).

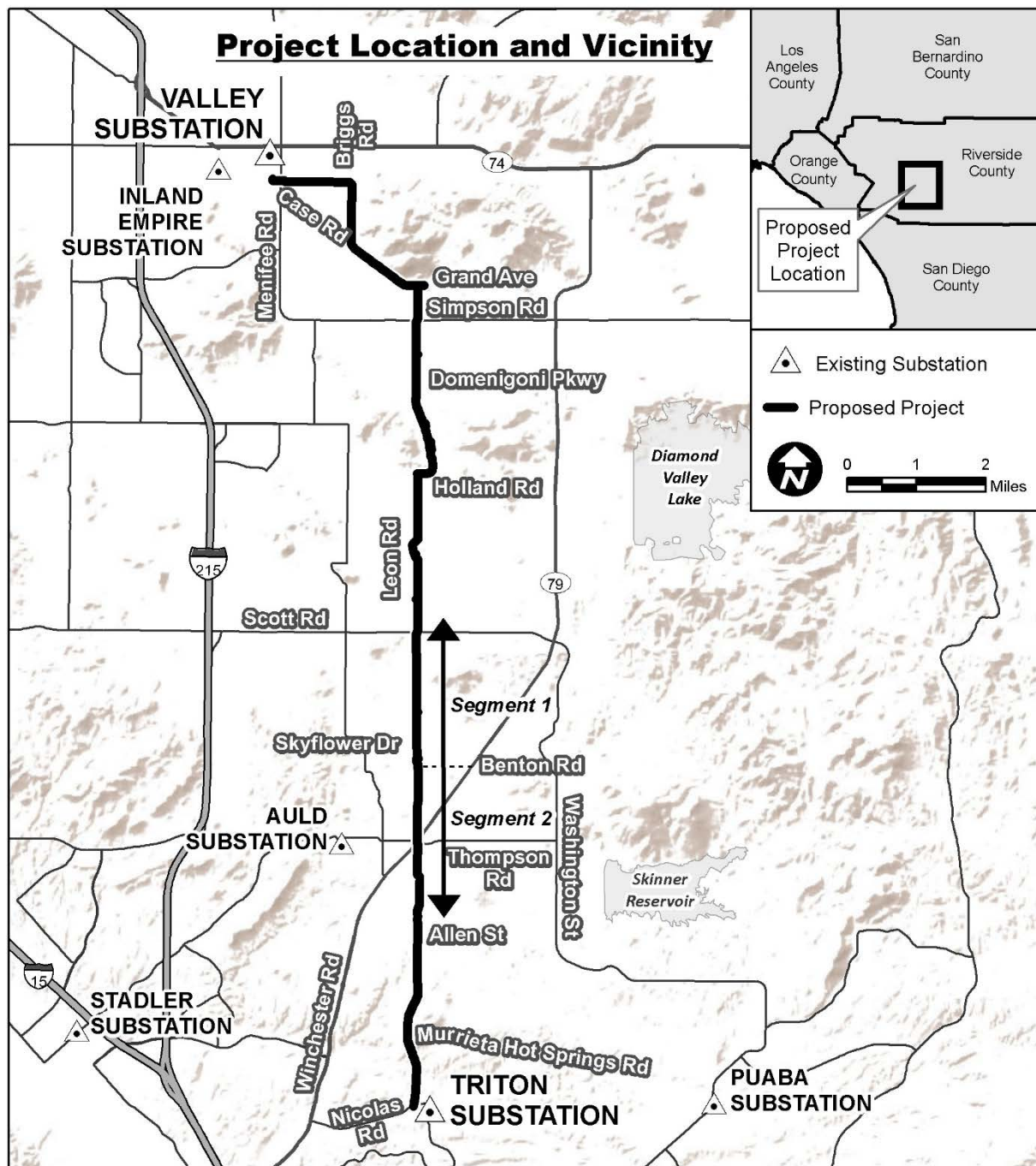
CEQA Process and CPUC General Proceeding

CEQA requires that the CPUC provide written responses to public agency comments at least 10 days prior to certifying the EIR (Public Resource Code 21092.5(a)). This is accomplished by sending the Final EIR to all agencies that commented. The CPUC will determine the adequacy of the Final EIR, and if adequate, will certify the document as compliant with CEQA. The CPUC will issue a decision on the proposed Project, which will be announced and published concurrent with a scheduled CPUC meeting. The final decision is expected in the Summer/Fall 2016. Within 30 days after the decision is issued by the CPUC, parties can apply for rehearing. For further information on the CPUC's decision-making process, call the CPUC Public Advisor at (866) 849-8390 or (415) 703-2074 or email public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov.

For additional information or to read the Final EIR online, please go to the project website presented on page 1 of this notice. The table below includes the location of libraries where a hard copy of the Final EIR is available for review.

Project Document Repository Sites

Perris Library	163 E San Jacinto Ave, Perris, CA 92570
Romoland Library	26001 Briggs Road, Sun City, CA 92585
Paloma Valley Library	31375 Bradley Road, Menifee, CA 92584
Murrieta Public Library	8 Town Square, Murrieta, CA, 92562
Grace Mellman Community Library	41000 County Center Drive, Temecula, CA 92591



California Public Utilities Commission
Valley South Subtransmission Project EIR
c/o Aspen Environmental Group
5020 Chesebro Road, Suite 200
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**Notice of Availability of
Final EIR**