Comment Set A.2: Department of Toxic Substances Control



Linda S. Adams Secretary for Environment Protection

August 23, 2006

1011 North Grandview Avenue Glendale, California 91201

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Maureen F. Gorsen, Director



Amold Schwarzenegger Governor AUG 2 8 2006

Mr. John Boccio Project Manager California Public Utilities Commission c/o Aspen Environmental Group 30423 Canwood Street, Suite 215 Agoura Hills, California 91301

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT/ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED ANTELOPE-PARDEE 500Kv TRANSMISSION PROJECT, SCH NO. 2005061161

Dear Mr. Boccio:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has received your Notice of Completion of Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Statement (EIR/ES) for the project mentioned above.

Based on the review of the document, DTSC comments are as follows:

If during construction of the project, soil contamination is suspected, construction in the area should stop, and appropriate health and safety procedures should be implemented. If it is determined that contaminated soils exists, the EIR/ES should identify how any required investigation and/or remediation will be conducted, and which government agency will provide regulatory oversight.

DTSC provides guidance for Preliminary Endangerment Assessment preparation and cleanup oversight through the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). For additional information on the VCP please visit DTSC's web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov. If you would like to meet and discuss this matter further, please contact Mr. Alberto Valmidiano, Project Manager, at (818) 551-2870 or me at (818) 551-2973.

Sincerely.

Jennifer Jones Unit Chief Southern California Cleanup Operations Branch – Glendale Office

cc: See next page

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cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse P. O. Box 3044 Sacramento, California 95812-3044

> Mr. Guenther W. Moskat, Chief Planning and Environmental Analysis Section CEQA Tracking Center Department of Toxic Substances Control P. O. Box 806 Sacramento, California 95812-0806

Responses to Comment Set A.2: Department of Toxic Substances Control

A.2-1 As discussed in Section C.6 (Public Health and Safety), SCE shall conduct a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for all areas of Project-related ground disturbance prior to the initiation of construction (APM PHS-1). If the Phase I ESA indicates potential contamination along the Project route, then a Phase II ESA shall be conducted prior to commencement of construction activities, in accordance with Mitigation Measure PH-2 (Conduct Phase II Investigation). Appropriate worker protection measures and hazardous material handling and disposal procedures for any potentially contaminated areas shall be determined by the subsurface investigation/s conducted during the ESAs. The County of Los Angeles Fire Department, Health Hazardous Materials Division, and/or Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) shall be responsible for review and approval of the Phase II ESA and corresponding public health and safety measures prior to the onset of construction activities.

The procedure presented in the comment is substantially similar to Mitigation Measure PHS-3, which requires work to stop if contamination is suspected. The mitigation measure requires work in the area to cease until the material is properly characterized and appropriate measures are taken to protect human health and the environment. This includes immediately notifying the CPUC's Environmental Monitor regarding the exact location of the contamination.