Alternative 3 Single-Circuit 500-kV Towers between Haskell Canyon and Pardee Substation



Haskell Canyon facing south from border of ANF.

Description

This alternative is a minor variation of the proposed Project; between Mile 0.0 and Mile 20.3, Alternative 3 is identical to the proposed Project. From Mile 20.3 to Mile 25.6, between Haskell Canyon and Pardee Substation, Alternative 3 includes the construction of 21 single-circuit 500-kV transmission towers, rather than removing the existing single-circuit 500-kV towers and replacing them with double-circuit 500-kV towers.

Location

As shown in the figure on the back of this page, this alternative follows the same route as the proposed Project. The single-circuit towers would be built in the vacant position of the Pardee-Vincent 500-kV ROW, which is situated near the north edge of the ROW between Mile 20.3 and Mile 22.3 (see inset of cross-section), and near the center of the ROW between Mile 25.6 (see inset of cross-section).

Key Environmental Issues

- Air Quality Lowest annual and overall construction emissions compared to all the other alternatives due to less existing tower demolition.
- **Geology, Soils, Paleontology** Results in the least ground disturbance and thus results in the lowest potential for construction-related slope instability and erosion compared to all the other alternatives.
- Forest Management Activities This alternative would adversely affect Forest Management Activities, including fire suppression and firefighter safety.
- **Hydrology and Water Quality** This is the preferred alternative from a hydrology and water quality perspective. Avoids the demolition of the existing 500-kV transmission towers and therefore avoids the production of associated soil erosion and sedimentation that could degrade local water quality.
- Land Use and Public Recreation Would avoid significant impacts to the Bouquet Canyon Stone Quarry and recreational trails. Would require acquisition of private land, but would not require the removal of existing residences.
- Noise Would avoid construction impacts associated with the removal of the existing single-circuit 500-kV towers, thereby reducing associated noise impacts. Noise impacts to the Angeles National Forest (ANF) and Veluzat Motion Picture Ranch would be significant.
- Socioeconomics Would avoid significant impacts to the Bouquet Canyon Stone Quarry, but would result in direct impacts to operations of the Veluzat Motion Picture Ranch.
- **Traffic and Transportation** Would result in the least traffic compared to all the other alternatives due to fewer haul truck trips associated with tower removal activities.
- Utilities and Service Systems Would require the least water and generate the least amount of waste compared to all the other alternatives.
- Visual Resources Would avoid taller, more visually obtrusive, double-circuit towers in Santa Clarita.

Summary Facts

- Total miles: 25.6
- Single-circuit 500-kV towers: **114**
- Double-circuit 500-kV towers: 1 existing
- Miles of new ROW: 2.8
- Distance from Haskell Canyon to Pardee Substation: 5.3 miles
- Use 21 single-circuit 500-kV towers (113 to 178 feet tall) between Haskell Canyon and Pardee Substation, instead of 22 doublecircuit 500-kV towers (175 to 230 feet tall)

