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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE DPV2 TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

To: Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: November 10, 2011
Subject: Weekly Report 14, October 17 to October 23, 2011

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the SCE DPV2 Transmission and Red Bluff Substation Projects.

A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTPs) with construction and Variance Request activity are also provided (see Tables 1 and 2, respectively, near the end of this report). Additionally, a summary of Temporary Extra Workspace Requests (TEWS) is provided in Table 3.

CPUC/BLM/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM): Jamie Miner and Rosina Gallego were on site October 17 through October 20.

CPUC NTPS

DPV2 CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIAL YARDS

NTP #1 was issued for construction and set-up of construction yards, including the Devers, Desert Center 1 (DC1), Desert Center 2 (DC2), Blythe, Beaumont, Menifee, and Perris Construction Yards.

Summary of Activity:

1. Minor activities occurring at the construction yards during the subject period included dust suppression and deliveries of materials.
2. Through the subject period, SCE submitted daily and weekly monitoring reports for the Devers and Menifee Construction Yards. Additionally, the CPUC EMs conducted monitoring visits to the Blythe, Menifee, and Perris Construction Yards.

Environmental Compliance:

1. SCE Biological Monitors reported that tortoise fencing at the Devers Construction Yard was in good working condition during a weekly inspection conducted on October 19.
2. SCE Biological Monitor reported that all steel materials (stub angles) and equipment were covered thoroughly with bird netting and all ground wire was wrapped and tied with tarps at the Menifee Construction Yard during a weekly inspection conducted on October 19. This was confirmed by the CPUC EM during an October 20 site visit (see Figure 1).
3. CPUC EM identified appropriate BMPs in place or implemented at the Blythe and Perris Construction Yards during a site visit on October 20.



DPV2 EXCLUSIONARY FENCING AT 41 TOWER LOCATIONS

NTP #2 was issued by CPUC for the installation of Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard (*Uma inornata*) and flat-tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma mcallii*) exclusionary fencing at 41 tower locations between the Devers Substation and Indio.

Summary of Activity:

1. During the subject period, exclusionary fencing activities were completed at several locations, including Towers #2201 through #2208, #2211, and #2013. These activities included trenching and installation of fencing (see Figure 2).

Environmental Compliance:

1. Throughout the subject period, dust suppression activities were effectively conducted and no fugitive dust issues were reported.
2. All work trucks and heavy equipment were inspected and verified for CA-registration and CARB stickers.
3. Secondary containment was reported where appropriate, such as at portable toilet locations.
4. No open trenches remained onsite at the end of each workday, including along areas that were only partially completed (see Figure 3).
5. SCE General Monitor(s) reported that all materials and equipment were picked up and taken offsite for overnight storage.
6. On October 19, the CPUC EM reinvestigated the potential jurisdictional drainage at Tower #2101 with Ty Garrison (SCE Biologist). During this investigation, the CPUC EM noted that heavy equipment had been recently driven across the drainage as fresh tracks were observed (see Figure 4). The CPUC EM called SCE to inquire about this incident and it was confirmed that an SCE Operation & Maintenance crew had been in the area earlier that day.

BEAUMONT #2 CONSTRUCTION YARD

NTP #3 was issued for construction activities associated with the development of the Beaumont #2 Construction Yard.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #3 were conducted during the subject period.

INDIO CONSTRUCTION YARD

NTP #4 was issued for construction activities associated with the development of the Indio Construction Yard.

Summary of Activity:

1. Construction activities that occurred at the Indio Construction Yard during the subject period included grading, compacting soils, gravel placement, and installation of perimeter fencing and shaker plates.

Environmental Compliance:

1. No compliance issues were reported during the subject period. Effective clean-up of track out, implementation of dust suppression, secondary containment, removal of trash, and vehicle and equipment standards was reported.

RED BLUFF SUBSTATION DISTRIBUTION

NTP #5 was issued for upgrades of a segment of the existing SCE 12 kV circuit overhead distribution line to supply light and power to the Red Bluff Substation.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #5 were conducted during the subject period.

COLORADO RIVER SUBSTATION DISTRIBUTION

NTP #6 was authorized for the construction and occupation of the following components associated with the CRS on non-BLM lands: (1) extension of an existing 33 kV distribution line to supply substation light and power; (2) installation of a telecommunications line; and, (3) access road improvements (including a new access road driveway) to serve the CRS.

Summary of Activity:

1. CPUC EMs conducted a field verification of the CRS Distribution Project area on October 17. The purpose of this visit was to verify SCE pre-construction survey results and to verify appropriate staking of disturbance limits. The CPUC EMs also met with representatives from SCE on October 20 to further discuss concerns associated with the staking of a new “drive and crush” road that would be used during installation of wooden distribution poles. Original project maps identified the approximate location of this road and the October 20 site meeting was to verify that the route had been finalized and staked. This was confirmed by the CPUC EMs during the meeting.

BLM NTPS

DPV2 AND COLORADO RIVER SUBSTATION

BLM NTP #1 and a Right-of-Way grant were issued by BLM on September 19, 2011 for construction of the DPV2 Project on BLM lands, which included the Colorado River Substation and associated components.

Summary of Activity:

1. Major activities occurring at the Red Bluff Substation during the subject period included the well site preparation, drill rig erection, the drilling of a 50-foot pilot shaft, installation of well conductor casing, and road maintenance and improvement (see Figure 5).

Environmental Compliance:

1. A small oil spill (less than 1 ounce) from a security guard vehicle was detected on October 17. The SCE General Monitor notified Pat Gravener (site representative) and the contaminated soil was disposed of in a spill kit drum. Thereafter, a drip pan was placed under the engine of the vehicle. Two additional minor spills were reported on October 19. The first was an approximate 4-ounce leak of motor oil and hydraulic fluid from a crane tractor that was

observed along one of the spur roads. The contaminated soil was shoveled into a plastic bag and removed offsite and the path of the crane tractor was surveyed for additional leaks. The second was a motor oil leak of approximately 2 ounces that likely originated from a crane tractor and occurred along another spur road. The impacted soil was removed the following day and disposed of offsite and the crane tractor was removed from the site. Based on previous coordination between Aspen and SCE, these spills were not significant enough to warrant immediate reporting to the CPUC. They were, however, documented in SCE's monitoring reports.

2. On October 18, a backhoe and trash pump were observed to be too dirty to enter the site. The SCE General Monitor refused entry and the equipment was removed from the area for cleaning.
3. All personnel entering the work area, including delivery drivers, were WEAP trained.
4. Clearance surveys for desert tortoise were initiated on October 17 within the fenced portion of the substation site.
5. SCE Biological Monitors conducted daily clearance sweeps of work areas and surveyed access routes while vehicles and equipment were mobilizing.
6. General BMPs, including secondary containment and dust suppression were inspected and confirmed to be adequate by the CPUC EMs during the subject period (see Figure 6).

RED BLUFF SUBSTATION

BLM NTP #2 and a Right-of-Way grant were issued by BLM on September 19, 2011 for construction of the Red Bluff Substation and the Desert Center Communication Site.

Summary of Activity:

1. Digging at the previously staked pothole locations commenced on October 17. The purpose of the digging was to further investigate the depth of an existing gas pipeline prior to conducting road improvements along the gas line road. All digging and measurements were completed on October 18.
2. Rough grading for the eastern substation access road was initiated on October 19 (see Figure 7). A D6-Dozer was used to clear rocks and vegetation within the previously staked boundaries between the existing gas line road and the incised eastern channel just outside the eastern fence line. An access road within the fenced boundaries of the substation site was also roughly graded, starting from the southwest corner and following the southern fence line to the eastern corner. On October 20, a grader was used to smooth the newly constructed road.
3. On October 20, work on the eastern access road continued through the incised eastern channel. An excavator was used to remove vegetation while a D6-Dozer rough graded the wash until a passable road was created. Two 48-inch, 40-foot long corrugated metal pipes (CMPs) were then installed within the wash and dirt was compacted on top to create a passable culvert.
4. Gates along the tortoise fence were installed on October 20.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Two weed monitoring plots were selected on October 20, located one mile and two miles west of Corn Springs Road.
2. SCE Biological Monitors reported two sightings of Swainson’s hawk on October 18 and October 20 just east of the substation site. The individuals were observed within a group of turkey vultures and were headed in an easterly direction. This coincides with recent regional observations reported by the lead CPUC EM.

No Non-Compliance Reports (NCRs) or Project Memoranda (PM) were issued for construction activities during the subject period.

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES DURING CONSTRUCTION (OTHER THAN CPUC EMs):

None

CPUC/BLM NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTPS)

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC/BLM Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for the DPV2 and Red Bluff Projects, to date.

TABLE 1
NTPS
(Updated 11/10/11)

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment	Description
CPUC NTPs				
NTP #1	04/28/11	06/23/11	Yards	Authorization to proceed with the development of the Devers, Desert Center 1, Desert Center 2, Summit, Blythe, Perris, Beaumont, and Menifee Construction Yards.
NTP #2	08/05/11	09/09/11	T/L	Installation of exclusionary fencing, Devers to Blythe. No cultural resources affected. Bio pending.
NTP #3	08/26/11	09/19/11	Yards	Construction of Beaumont Construction Yard #2.
NTP #4	09/09/11	09/20/11	Yards	Construction of Indio Construction Yard.
NTP #5	09/16/11	10/11/11	Red Bluff Distribution Line	Upgrades to a segment of the existing SCE 12 kV circuit overhead distribution line to supply light and power to the Red Bluff Substation, non-BLM lands.
NTP #6	09/16/11	10/17/11	Substation	Authorization to proceed with improvements to the new Colorado River Substation on private lands, including extension of the existing 33 kV distribution line, installation of a new telecommunication line, and access road improvements.
	09/09/11	Under Review	T/L – DPV1	Construction activities associated with a minor relocation of the Devers-Valley No. 1 Line (DV1); waiting for response from SCE on request for additional information.
	10/08/11	Under Review	T/L – CRS to Red Bluff	Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between Red Bluff and Colorado River Substations and replacement of existing DPV1 overhead ground wire; non-BLM lands.
	10/08/11	Under Review	T/L – Devers to Red Bluff	Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between the existing Devers Substation and the new Red Bluff Substation; non-BLM lands.
	10/08/11	Under Review	T/L – Devers to Valley	Construction of the DPV2 transmission line between existing Devers and Valley Substations; not including San Bernardino National Forest lands.

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment	Description
	11/08/11	Under Review	Yards	Devers 2 and Indio 2 Construction Yards.
BLM NTPs				
BLM NTP #1	08/26/11	09/19/11	DPV2 Substation, T/L	Authorization to proceed with construction of the DPV2 Transmission Line, Colorado River Substation, and associated project components on BLM lands.
BLM NTP #2	08/26/11	09/19/11	Substation,	Construction of Red Bluff Substation and associated project components, BLM lands.

VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

Variance Requests and Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) Requests submitted to date are summarized in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

TABLE 2
VARIANCE REQUESTS
(Updated 11/10/11)

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
VR #1	05/06/11	05/24/11	Devers- Valley	Construction of traditional lattice towers instead of "Tetra" towers at two locations (Structures #1139 and #1140)
VR #2	04/21/11	05/26/11	All	Revisions to Mitigation Measure B-7d pertaining to seasonal restrictions for Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard and flat-tailed horned lizard to support consistency with conditions provided in the Biological Opinion.
VR #3	07/12/11	07/18/11	DC 1 & DC 2 Yards	Utilize offsite well location and installation of 12,000- gallon water tank for filling trucks.
VR #4	07/06/11	07/21/11	Menifee Yard	Expansion of Menifee Construction Yard, which would include approximately 5 acres of additional disturbance within the western portion of the parcel, for material storage and other activities.
VR #5	04/22/11	07/28/11	CRS Devers and Valley Substations, Series Capacitor Site	Modification of APM A-7 regarding carpooling for construction at substations.
VR #6	07/07/11	08/01/11	Menifee, Beaumont, Perris Yards	Request to remove Mitigation Measures B-13a and B-13b, and to modify B-1a, B-1a (revised), and B-7e pertaining to Western Riverside County MSHCP compliance.
VR #7	08/11/11	08/22/11	Perris, Beaumont, Menifee, Blythe Yards	Request to utilize offsite water hydrants at Perris, Beaumont, Menifee, and Blythe Construction Yards.
VR #8	08/26/11	08/27/11	Beaumont Yard	Request to install seeded jute netting along the property frontage at Beaumont Construction Yard.
VR #9	08/24/11	09/01/11	DC 2 Yard	Request for installation of temporary power poles outside of Desert Center 2 Construction Yard.
VR #10	08/26/11	09/01/11	Devers & Summit Yards	Utilize offsite water locations needed for dust suppression at Devers and Summit Construction Yards.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
—	09/21/11	Retracted	Perris Yard	Request for additional workspace involving vegetation clearing, installation of BMPs, and temporary driveway installation at Perris Construction Yard.
VR #11	09/26/11	09/28/11	T/L	Two water sources for exclusionary fencing work.
VR #12	10/13/11	10/18/11	T/L	Request for parking/temporary staging of vehicles along existing access road within the Coachella Valley Preserve during exclusionary fencing activities.
BLM VR #1	10/18/11	10/27/11	Substation	Request to install a temporary guard structure along the entrance of the existing transmission line access road for Colorado River Substation.
BLM VR #2	10/19/11	10/27/11	Substation	Request to approve 24-hour drilling operations at the CRS site.
VR #13	10/26/11	11/10/11	Devers Yard	Request for temporary power supply to provide power to construction trailer at the Devers Construction Yard.
	10/25/11	Under Review	Substation	Request to formalize changes to the Red Bluff MMRP Mitigation Measure BIO-4 and Applicant Measure BIO-5.
	10/26/11	Under Review	Substation	Request to formalize clarifications to Mitigation Measure BIO-4 regarding plant salvage performance standards.
	10/27/11	Under Review	Series Capacitor	Request for a slight expansion of the Series Capacitor site due to engineering conflicts.

TABLE 3
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS
(Updated 11/07/11)

TEWS Request	Date Requested	Date Approved	Segment #	Description
#1	07/20/11	07/27/11	Blythe Yard	Use of offsite hydrant and installation of water tank at location adjacent to Blythe Construction Yard
#2	07/28/11	08/04/11	Menifee Yard	Use of offsite hydrant, located along the frontage of the Menifee Construction Yard, and a flexible hose to supply water to a 4,000 gallon water truck.
#3	08/16/11	08/16/11	Menifee Yard	Revised use of offsite hydrant, located along the frontage of the Menifee Construction Yard, approximately 200 yards north of previously approved location.
—	09/06/11	Retracted	Devers Yard	Revised use of offsite hydrant, including installation of above ground pipeline and water towers.
#4	09/29/11	09/29/11	T/L	Use of parking areas along primary access road within 400-ft total distance exclusionary fencing locations with exception of sites within the Coachella Valley Preserve.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Bird netting and BMPs effectively installed at Meniffee Construction Yard.



Figure 2: Backfilling of trench at Tower #2013 during exclusionary fencing activities.



Figure 3: View southeast along partially completed fencing at Tower #2204. No open trenches were left overnight.



Figure 4: View south along stub road and across potential jurisdictional drainage at Tower #2101. Note fresh equipment tracks crossing drainage that were later confirmed to be the result of O&M crew in the area.



Figure 5: Erection of drill rig at CRS.



Figure 6: Secondary containment confirmed by CPUC EM at CRS. Note plastic sheeting and sandbag containment of generator and fuel tank.



Figure 7: Rough grading of eastern access road and dust suppression occurring at Red Bluff Substation site.