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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE DPV2 TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

To: Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: December 16, 2011
Subject: Weekly Report 18, November 14 to November 20, 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 (TEWS) and non-compliance activities are provided in Tables 3 and 4, respectively.

CPUC/BLM/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM): Jamie Miner and Rosina Gallego were on site November 14 through November 18.

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. During the subject period, major construction activities were limited to the Summit Construction Yard and included the installation of chain link fence and privacy screening and demobilization of all equipment (see Figure 1). Major activities at the Summit Construction Yard concluded on November 16.
2. Activities at the remaining yards consisted of ongoing dust suppression, material deliveries, office trailer maintenance, and general site maintenance.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Throughout the subject period, SCE General and Biological Monitors reported that compliance efforts were effectively implemented, including dust suppression, secondary containment, monitoring coverage, WEAP training of personnel, and cleanup activities. This was confirmed by the CPUC EMs during site visits throughout the subject period (see Figures 2 and 3).

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. All major construction activities associated with exclusionary fencing under NTP #2 were completed prior to the subject period.



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. All major construction activities associated with the Indio Construction Yard under NTP #4 were completed prior to the subject period. Activities occurring during the subject period at this location included minor site maintenance and deliveries only.

Environmental Compliance:

1. On November 14, the CPUC EMs conducted a site visit to the Indio Construction Yard and confirmed that BMPs and other compliance measures were adequately in place and/or implemented. Activities during the visit were limited to receiving deliveries.
2. On November 17, the SCE General Monitor conducted a weekly spot check and reported that BMPs and secondary containment were in good condition, fencing was adequately maintained, heavy equipment was properly numbered, and dust control measures were in place.

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 on non-BLM lands.

Summary of Activity:

1. Construction activities associated with the Red Bluff distribution line that were conducted during the subject period included the replacement of rotted poles with new wooden poles, installation of new cross bars, removal of existing line, and stringing of new line. Pulling of wire along Aztec Road (non-BLM lands) began on November 17. That particular section of line was energized during the subject period and old material was completely removed.

Environmental Compliance:

1. All work on non-BLM lands during the subject period was conducted from Aztec Road via bucket trucks. No non-compliance issues were observed or reported.

COLORADO RIVER SUBSTATION (CRS) 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. All activities associated with setting distribution poles were completed prior to the subject period, with the exception of one remaining pole located within the CRS boundaries. The rig that is currently drilling the water well is located in an area that restricts the placement of this last pole.

2. Activities associated with installation of the underground telecommunications line near the Buck Substation continued. These included trenching, installation of fiber optic cable, inspection, and backfilling.

Environmental Compliance:

1. As no activities associated with the CRS distribution line occurred, no non-compliance issues were observed or reported. Additionally, no issues were reported from activities associated with the underground telecommunications line installation.

DPV1 MINOR RELOCATION

NTP #7 was authorized for the construction activities associated with the minor relocation of the existing Devers-Valley 500 kV transmission line as part of the DPV2 Project. These activities include the construction of stub roads, foundations, steel assembly, erection of four lattice steel towers (LSTs), and the installation of associated hardware assemblies and interconnecting wires. Activities will also include the removal of structures, foundations, associated hardware assemblies, and interconnecting wires for three existing LSTs.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #7 were conducted during the subject period.

TRANSMISSION LINE: RED BLUFF SUBSTATION TO COLORADO RIVER SUBSTATION

NTP #8 was authorized for the construction of 31 miles of overhead 500 kV transmission line from CRS to the new Red Bluff Substation and the replacement of five miles of existing overhead ground wire (OHGW) with new optical ground wire (OPGW) on the existing Devers-Palo Verde No. 1 (DPV1) transmission line. Project elements associated with NTP #8 include new stub roads and maintenance of existing access roads, development of wire set up sites (e.g., pull sites, splicing sites, tensioning sites), and the installation of tower foundations, structures, wires, and guard structures.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #8 were conducted during the subject period.

TRANSMISSION LINE: DEVERS SUBSTATION TO RED BLUFF SUBSTATION

NTP #9 was authorized for the construction of 81-miles of overhead 500 kV transmission line from the existing Devers Substation to the new Red Bluff Substation. Project elements associated with NTP #9 include new stub roads and maintenance of existing access roads, development of wire set up sites (e.g., pull sites, splicing sites, tensioning sites), and the installation of tower foundations, structures, wires, and guard structures.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #9 were conducted during the subject period.

TRANSMISSION LINE: DEVERS SUBSTATION TO VALLEY SUBSTATION

NTP #10 was authorized for the construction of the overhead 500 kV transmission line from the existing Devers Substation to the existing Valley Substation, excluding the portion of the line that would traverse the San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF) property. Project elements associated with NTP #10 include new stub roads and maintenance of existing access roads, development of wire set up sites (e.g., pull sites, splicing sites, tensioning sites), and the installation of tower foundations, structures, wires, and guard structures.

Summary of Activity:

1. Activities associated with this NTP during the subject period were limited to survey staking of the center hubs at Tower #1078 and #1079.

Environmental Compliance:

1. During staking activities conducted on November 16, the SCE General Monitor reported that there was no ground disturbance. Additionally, 15 mph speed limits were maintained and no issues occurred related to fugitive dust.

DEVERS #2 AND INDIO #2 CONSTRUCTION YARDS

NTP #11 was authorized for the construction and occupation of the Devers #2 and Indio #2 Construction Yards.

Summary of Activity:

1. No activities associated with NTP #11 were conducted during the subject period.

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 were limited to 24-hour drilling associated with zone testing of the water well throughout the subject period. Zone 2 testing was completed by November 16 and Zone 3 testing was initiated and completed by November 17. Upon completion of zone testing, gravel was placed inside the well and activities at the well were halted pending zone test results.
2. Per approvals from the Riverside County Health Department and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, surface spreading of well release water was initiated during the subject period.
3. Two new office trailers were delivered to the substation site on November 16 and November 17.
4. Excavations of cultural ESAs were conducted by SCE Cultural Monitors on November 14 and 15.

Environmental Compliance:

1. During cultural Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) installations, SCE Biological Monitors were present to ensure that no biological resources were impacted. No issues were reported during these activities.
2. On November 17, a small section of exclusionary fencing was torn by a semi-truck delivering an office trailer. The area where the tear occurred was monitored for biological resources the entire time until repairs, which occurred within one hour, were made.
3. On November 18, the CPUC EM was informed by the SCE site representative of an issue related to surface spreading of water from the well release that occurred the previous evening. Water that was being spread (per approvals) had flowed beyond the delineated disturbance limits by breaking through a small earthen check dam (see Figures 4 and 5). The CPUC EM observed a small channel that showed evidence of recent water flow, but had dried by the time it was inspected. Based on conditions at the location of the event, including moist soil, it was estimated that the water had reached a point approximately 200 feet west of the disturbance limits. This event was not immediately reported

to the CPUC EM because SCE considered it a Level 1 non-compliance incident as no biological resources were affected. Per MMCRP conditions, SCE is not responsible for immediate reporting of Level 1 incidents.

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. Due to mechanical breakdown, 24-hour drilling operations were halted until the evening of November 15.
2. Activities associated with the Red Bluff distribution (on BLM lands) that were conducted during the subject period included replacement of existing poles with new wooden poles, installation of new crossbars, and stringing new line (see Figure 6).
3. Civil surveyors began staking the loop-in spur roads just east of the substation and towers locations along the gas line road from Corn Springs Road to Highway 177 during the subject period.

Environmental Compliance:

1. All tailings from drilling were contained onsite and release water was either reused or fully contained within tanks (see Figure 7). This will continue until approval from appropriate agencies is obtained for surface spreading.
2. A pair of desert tortoises was identified along the distribution line road near existing pole #592 during the subject period. The tortoises were detected at an existing burrow that was initially deemed inactive during pre-construction surveys. According to the SCE Authorized Biologist, it is likely that the pair is just passing through the area. The Authorized Biologist maintained a presence at the location throughout the subject period to make sure the tortoises were not affected by activities. These observations were reported by the SCE Authorized Biologist to the CPUC EMs on November 16.

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 12/16/11)

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 #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment	Description
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.
NTP #7	09/09/11	12/01/11	T/L – DPV1	Construction activities associated with a minor relocation of the Devers-Valley No. 1 Line (DV1).
NTP #8	10/08/11	12/01/11	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.
NTP #9	10/08/11	12/02/11	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.
NTP #10	10/08/11	12/02/11	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 #11	11/08/11	12/09/11	Yards	Construction of 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 12/16/11)

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.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
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.
—	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.
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.
VR #14	11/10/11	11/28/11	Substation	Request for increased well pumping to support civil work, including access road improvements, at Colorado River Substation.
VR #15	12/13/11	12/14/11	Summit Yard	Request for temporary power outside yard boundaries required to power office trailers.
BLM				
BLM #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 #2	10/19/11	10/27/11	Substation	Request to approve 24-hour drilling operations at the CRS site.
BLM #3	10/27/11	12/07/11	Series Capacitor	Request for a slight expansion of the Series Capacitor site due to engineering conflicts.
	10/25/11	Under Review	Substation	Request to formalize changes to the Red Bluff MMCRP 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.

TABLE 3
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS
 (Updated 12/16/11)

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.

NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS

A summary of CPUC Non-Compliance Reports and Project Memorandum is provided in Table 4.

TABLE 4
CPUC NON-COMPLIANCE REPORTS & PROJECT MEMORANDA
 (Updated 12/16/11)

Type	Date Issued	Location	Description
CPUC Project Memoranda (PM)			
PM #1	10/28/11	CRS Dist. Line	Construction vehicles leaving marked disturbance limits at two locations along Red Bluff distribution line.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Fence installation, grading, and gravel placement activities occurring at the Summit Construction Yard.



Figure 2: Netted equipment port constructed at Devers Construction Yard to limit impacts from nesting birds.



Figure 3: Maintained parking areas for heavy equipment at Blythe Construction Yard.



Figure 4: Location of check dam at CRS that was breached by surface flows resulting from well water release (reported as a Level 1 non-compliance incident by SCE).



Figure 5: View west towards area where surface flows from well release had flowed outside of CRS disturbance boundaries. Note moist soils that were identified to approximately 200 feet downstream of this location.



Figure 6: Activities associated with the Red Bluff distribution line on BLM lands.



Figure 7: Containment of drill tailings at Red Bluff Substation.