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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE DPV2 TRANSMISSION PROJECT**

To: Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: January 18, 2012
Subject: Weekly Report 21, December 5 to December 11, 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 December 6 through December 9.

CPUC NTPS

DPV2 CONSTRUCTION AND MATERIAL YARDS

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

Summary of Activity:

1. All major construction activities for the construction yards covered under this NTP were completed prior to the subject period. At this time, activities at these locations are limited to minor maintenance, implementation of BMPs, and material deliveries.
2. Construction activities associated with the temporary power line for the Devers #1 Construction Yard approved under Variance Request #13 (see Table 2), including trenching, 4-inch conduit PVC installation, backfilling, and access road recontouring, were initiated on December 5 (see Figure 1).

Environmental Compliance:

1. The SCE General Monitor was onsite at the Devers #1 Construction Yard, including the area that was being trenched and backfilled for temporary power, from December 5 through December 7. As reported by the SCE General Monitor, BMPs at the construction yard were in place and effective. This was confirmed by the CPUC EM on December 8. Similarly, no compliance issues associated with temporary power construction activities occurred during the subject period.
2. The SCE Biological Monitor and Cultural Monitor were onsite throughout construction activities associated with the temporary power line at the Devers #1 Construction Yard throughout the subject period. Biological sweeps were conducted daily prior to any ground disturbing activities. Three barrel cacti located within 150 feet of the work area were flagged for avoidance. High winds resulted in damage to the flagging, which was immediately repaired by the SCE Biological Monitor. All trenches were either backfilled or securely covered with plywood to exclude wildlife from entering at the end of each work day. No special-status species or unanticipated discoveries were observed at this location throughout the subject period.



3. The SCE General Monitor conducted a spot check at the Menifee and Perris Construction Yards on December 7 and at the Beaumont #1 Construction Yard on December 9. No non-compliance issues were observed or reported by the SCE General Monitor during those spot checks.
4. The SCE Biological Monitor conducted biological sweeps at the Blythe, Desert Center #1, Desert Center #2, and Devers #1 Construction Yards on December 7. Similar efforts were conducted at the Beaumont #1, Perris, and Menifee Construction Yards on December 8. These included inspecting areas that wildlife could use for shelter, such as heavy equipment and materials, and conducting perimeter searches. No biological issues were reported and no special-status species were identified throughout the subject period.
5. The CPUC EMs conducted spot checks at the Blythe, Desert Center #1, and Desert Center #2 Construction Yards on December 6, the Summit Construction Yard on December 7, and the Devers #1 Construction Yard (including the temporary power work area) on December 8. There were no non-compliance issues observed during these site visits (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.

Environmental Compliance:

1. The CPUC EMs conducted a spot check at all 41 exclusionary fence tower locations on December 7. The two locations that had been previously identified last week (Tower #2132 and #2133) with damaged fencing were inspected. These locations had not been repaired as of December 7 (see Figures 4 and 5). The CPUC EM immediately notified Patty Nevins, SCE, of the damaged fencing and requested that SCE provide details on what specific measures would be implemented at these locations. The CPUC EM received a phone call from Ty Garrison, SCE Lead Biologist, the following day. Ty Garrison stated that a full suite of clearance surveys for fringe-toed lizard and flat-tailed horned lizard would not be required due to the time of year (inactive season for the species) and current weather conditions.

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 #1 CONSTRUCTION YARD

NTP #4 was issued for construction activities associated with the development of the Indio #1 Construction Yard.

Summary of Activity:

1. All major construction activities associated with the Indio #1 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. The SCE Biological Monitor conducted a biological sweep of the Indio #1 Construction Yard on December 7. Parked equipment, reels of ground wire, wooden pallets, cribbing, and sandbag piles were all inspected for nests, hiding lizards, and small mammals. The exclusionary bird netting for the parking garage was nearly completed. No special-status species were observed during the site visit.

RED BLUFF SUBSTATION DISTRIBUTION (NON-BLM LANDS)

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. All major construction activities associated with the Red Bluff distribution line were completed prior to 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. Activities associated with the CRS distribution line included the installation of crossbeams on the newly installed wooden poles.

Environmental Compliance:

1. An individual burrowing owl was observed by the SCE Biological Monitor at previously recorded kit fox burrow #14 on December 6 (see Figure 6). The SCE Biological Monitor immediately reported the event to Nicole Bentivegna, Lead Monitor (CH2MHILL) and Linda Sands, Project Lead (CH2MHILL). After consultation between these parties, it was determined that no buffer was required because it is not currently the breeding season. The SCE Biological Monitor reported that the construction crew avoided the burrow throughout activities.
2. During a December 8 site visit, the CPUC EM was informed that the construction crew was under the impression that the northern access road between the distribution alignment and Blythe was permitted for use. However, according to maps provided by SCE, the only access road identified for construction activities was the southern route, between the distribution alignment and Wiley's Well Road. The CPUC EM noted that the SCE Biological Monitor did not have any project maps or any way of knowing where the disturbance areas were located, nor did the construction crew. The CPUC EM informed the SCE Biological Monitor that the southern road was the only approved access route. From that point on, only that road was used by construction crews.
3. As reported by SCE Biological Monitors, clearance sweeps were conducted at all disturbance areas each day prior to construction activities. No kit fox burrows, which had been flagged and covered with plywood, were disturbed during activities.

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

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. All major construction activities that occurred at CRS during the subject period were associated with drilling of the water well. These included 24-hour drilling operations, reaming of the well, installation of well casing, relocation of cuttings from tanks to ground surface spreading, and the construction of earthen berms for water containment within the disturbance boundaries.
2. Activities associated with the CRS distribution line (on BLM-lands) that occurred throughout the subject period were limited to the installation of crossbeams on the newly installed wooden poles.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Brian Cayton, SCE SWPPP Monitor, visited the site on December 10 to inspect the well area and the holding pit. As reported by the SCE General Monitor, Brian Cayton recommended to Pat Gravener, SCE site rep, that before water is put into the holding pit, straw wattles should be installed around the downgrade perimeter to act as a safeguard in case the holding pit walls were compromised. He also suggested that the pit be constantly monitored in case the walls would need to be built higher to contain the water. These suggestions were implemented that day.
2. SCE General Monitors reported WEAP training was conducted for several new onsite personnel throughout the subject period.
3. SCE Biological Monitors reported that clearance sweeps of all work areas and access roads were continually conducted throughout the subject period. No special-status species were observed or reported at the substation site during the subject period.
4. On December 6, the CPUC EM confirmed with the SCE Biological Monitors that kit fox relocation efforts were permanently on hold pending further instructions from the BLM.

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. No major construction activities occurred at the Red Bluff site during the subject period due to pending results from the previous week's water well testing.
2. Activities were limited to regular services from the fuel company and sanitation company.
3. On December 7, drillers from ZIM were on-site to retrieve a boom truck and freight truck and to deliver equipment for anticipated deeper drilling at the well site.

Environmental Compliance:

1. The CPUC EMs conducted a site visit on December 6 and confirmed that BMPs were adequately implemented in the absence of major construction activities.
2. On December 8, a loggerhead shrike was observed and reported by the SCE Biological Monitor along the gas line road, adjacent to the substation site.

There were no non-compliance incidents reported or observed 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 1/18/12)

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.
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.

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment	Description
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 1/18/12)

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.

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
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 #1 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.
VR #16	12/22/11	01/04/12	Project-wide	Request to approve alternate/extended work hours project-wide.
VR #17	01/04/12	01/09/12	Project-wide	Request to utilize existing approved construction yard and/or exclusionary fencing water sources for transmission line construction needs.
VR #18	10/25/12 10/26/12	Denied 01/13/12	Substation	Request to formalize changes to the Red Bluff MMCRP Mitigation Measure BIO-4 and Applicant Measure BIO-5.
VR #19	01/06/12	01/18/12	T/L	Helicopter landing zone
VR #20	01/13/12	To CPUC	T/L	Request for the use of offsite water hydrants located in the Cabazon area for dust suppression.
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.
DNA #1	10/27/11	12/07/11	Series Capacitor	Request for a slight expansion of the Series Capacitor site due to engineering conflicts.
DNA #2	12/21/11	Under review	Red Bluff	Secondary well
DNA #3	12/22/11	Under review	Series Capacitor	Imperial Irrigation District distribution line relocation

TABLE 3
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS
(Updated 1/18/12)

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

Table 4 provides a summary of reported non-compliance incidents.

TABLE 4
CPUC PROJECT MEMORANDA & NON-COMPLIANCE REPORTS
 (Updated 1/18/12)

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.
CPUC Non-Compliance Reports (NCR)			
NCR #1	01/13/12	Project-wide	Unauthorized removal of stick nests from DPV1 Transmission Line towers.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Major construction activities associated with the underground temporary power at the Devers #1 Construction Yard.



Figure 2: Heavy equipment parked on plastic sheeting and secured trash containers at the Desert Center #1 Construction Yard.



Figure 3: Heavy equipment parked on plastic sheeting at the Desert Center #2 Construction Yard.



Figure 4: Damaged exclusionary fencing along northwest corner at Tower #2132.



Figure 5: Damaged exclusionary fencing at entrance gate and along back northern boundary at Tower #2133.



Figure 6: Kit fox burrow #14 along the CRS distribution line alignment where a burrowing owl individual was observed.