



**Notice of Availability
for the Southern California Edison Company's
El Casco System Project
Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Report
California SCH #2007071076**

To: Readers of the Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Report
From: Juralynne Mosley, CPUC – EIR Project Manager
Subject: **Notice of Availability**, Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed El Casco System Project
Date: February 17, 2012

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has prepared a Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in response to Southern California Edison Company's (SCE) Petition to Modify (August 29, 2011) on the approved El Casco System Project (Project). The Supplemental Final EIR has been prepared in compliance with CEQA (CEQA Guidelines §15163).

The Supplemental Final EIR for the Project informs the public of changes to the approved Project, which includes new design information provided by Southern California Edison (SCE) for the 115 kV subtransmission line, and the associated environmental impacts resulting from these changes. SCE provided this information subsequent to the CPUC certifying the Final EIR and approving the Project on December 18, 2008.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The approved Project includes construction of a new 220/115/12 kV substation (the El Casco Substation), upgrading of the existing Zanja and Banning Substations and SCE's Mill Creek Communications Site, upgrading a total of 15.4 miles of 115 kV electric subtransmission line and associated structures, and installation of fiber optic communication cables within existing conduits in public streets and on existing SCE structures between the Cities of Redlands and Banning. The entire project is located within Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

As part of final engineering, SCE determined that additional poles will be required along portions of the 115 kV subtransmission line alignment. The revised design analyzed in the Supplemental Final EIR includes a total of 248 new steel poles (versus the approximately 225 steel poles described in the approved EIR based on a conceptual design). The additional structures would be limited to two segments of the overall 115 kV alignment. The revised project would introduce approximately double the number of 115 kV structures than originally proposed along Segment 2 (33 vs. 61 structures), which begins just west of South Highland Home Road and continues east to a point just west of South San Gorgonio Avenue/Highway 243 (approximately 2.85 miles), and along Segment 4 (30 vs. 57 structures), which begins just east of Bolo Court/Westward Avenue and continues east to just west of Highland Springs Avenue (approximately 2.75 miles). Additionally, the structure heights within Segments 2 and 4 would increase from the approved design (65 to 85 feet tall) and would instead range from 75 to 120 feet. The typical light-weight steel pole height would be 80 feet and the typical tubular steel pole height would be 85 feet.

CONTENTS OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL EIR

The Supplemental Final EIR includes the Supplemental Draft EIR (November 2011) in its entirety, with revisions resulting from comments received on the Supplemental Draft EIR shown in

underline text for additions and strikeout text for deletions, as well as all of the comment letters received during the public review period for the Supplemental Draft EIR (November 30, 2011 to January 17, 2012) and responses to those comments (see Section F).

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL FINAL EIR

Printed and electronic copies of the Supplemental Final EIR have been mailed to parties of the CPUC’s General Proceeding; to federal, State, and local government agencies that commented on the Supplemental Draft EIR; as well as to some members of the public. The electronic version of the document is available on the CPUC’s project website at:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/asp/en/elcasco/elcasco.htm>

Table 1 lists the public repository sites where printed copies of the Supplemental Final EIR may be reviewed.

Table 1. Repository Sites

Library Sites	Address	Phone Number	Hours
Yucaipa Branch Library	12040 5th Street, Yucaipa, CA 92399	(909) 790-3146	M-W 11am - 7pm; Th- F 10am - 6 pm; Sat 9am - 5pm
Calimesa Branch Library	974 Calimesa Boulevard, Calimesa, CA 92320	(909) 795-9807	T, Th, F 10am - 6pm; W 12pm - 8pm; Sat 9am - 5pm
Beaumont Library District	125 East 8th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223	(951) 845-1357	M, W, F, Sat 10am - 6pm; T, Th 10am - 8pm; Sun 1pm - 6pm
Banning Public Library	21 W Nicolet Street, Banning, CA 92220	(951) 849-3192	M-Th 9am - 7pm; F, Sat 9am - 5pm
University of Redlands Armacost Library	1200 East Colton Avenue, Redlands, CA 92373	(951) 849-5937	M-Th 8am - midnight; F 8am - 7pm; Sat 10am - 7pm; Sun 1pm - midnight (Jan. 3 to April 29, 2012)