

# Mitigation Monitoring Plan

Southern California Edison Company (SCE) proposes to construct and operate the Riverway Substation Project (“Proposed Project”). An Initial Study was prepared to assess the Proposed Project’s potential environmental effects. The Initial Study was prepared based on information in the Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (PEA), project site visits, and supplemental research. The majority of the Proposed Project’s impacts would occur during project construction. Within SCE’s application, Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) were proposed to reduce potentially significant adverse impacts related to project construction and operation.

The purpose of this Mitigation Monitoring Plan is to ensure effective implementation of each APM, as well as the mitigation measures identified by the Initial Study and imposed by the CPUC as part of project approval.

This Mitigation Monitoring Plan includes:

- The Applicant Proposed Measures and mitigation measures that SCE must implement as part of the Proposed Project;
- The actions required to implement these measures;
- The monitoring requirements; and
- The timing of implementation for each measure.

A CPUC-designated environmental monitor will carry out all construction field monitoring by to ensure full implementation of all measures. In all instances where non-compliance occurs, the CPUC’s designated environmental monitor will issue a warning to the construction foreman and SCE’s project manager. Continued non-compliance shall be reported to the CPUC’s designated project manager. Any decisions to halt work due to non-compliance will be made by the CPUC. The CPUC’s designated environmental monitor will keep a record of any incidents of non-compliance with mitigation measures, APM, or other conditions of project approval. Copies of these documents shall be supplied to SCE and the CPUC.

**Project Variances.** The CPUC along with its environmental monitors will ensure that any project variance or deviation from the procedures identified under the monitoring program is consistent with CEQA requirements; no project variance will be approved by the CPUC if it creates new significant impacts. A variance should be strictly limited to minor project changes that will not trigger other permit requirements, that does not increase the severity of an impact or create a new impact, and that clearly and strictly complies with the intent of the mitigation measure. If a proposed change to the project has the potential for creating significant environmental effects, it will be evaluated to determine whether supplemental CEQA review is required. Any proposed deviation from the approved project, adopted mitigation measures, and Applicant Proposed Measures, and correction of such deviation, shall be reported immediately to the CPUC and the environmental monitor assigned to the construction spread for their review and approval. In some cases, a variance may also require approval by a CEQA responsible agency.

**Dispute Resolution.** It is expected that the Mitigation Monitoring Plan will reduce or eliminate many potential disputes. However, even with the best preparation, disputes may occur. In such event, the following procedure will be observed:

- **Step 1.** Disputes and complaints (including those of the public) should be directed first to the CPUC-designated Project Manager for resolution. The Project Manager will attempt to resolve the dispute.
- **Step 2.** Should this informal process fail, the CPUC Project Manager may initiate enforcement or compliance action to address deviations from the Proposed Project or adopted Mitigation Monitoring Plan.
- **Step 3.** If a dispute or complaint regarding the implementation or evaluation of the Mitigation Monitoring Plan cannot be resolved informally or through enforcement or compliance action by the CPUC, any affected participant in the dispute or complaint may file a written “notice of dispute” with the CPUC Executive Director. This notice should be filed in order to resolve the dispute in a timely manner, with copies concurrently served on other affected participants. Within 10 days of receipt, the Executive Director or designee(s) shall meet or confer with the filer and other affected participants for purposes of resolving the dispute. The Executive Director shall issue an Executive Resolution describing his/her decision, and serve it on the filer and other affected participants.
- **Step 4.** If one or more of the affected parties is not satisfied with the decision as described in the Resolution, such party(ies) may appeal it to the Commission via a procedure to be specified by the Commission.

Parties may also seek review by the Commission through existing procedures specified in the CPUC Rules of Practice and Procedure for formal and expedited dispute resolution, although a good faith effort should first be made to use the foregoing procedure.

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<b>Aesthetics</b>			
Existing Visual Character	<b>V-1 Retain walnut trees or establish evergreen vegetative screen.</b> SCE shall retain existing walnut trees or establish a permanent evergreen vegetative screen of sufficient height and density to provide for visual screening around the substation, consistent with safety, feasibility, and engineering requirements. SCE shall consult the Shannon Ranch Master Plan Design Guidelines to ensure compatibility of neighborhood design elements, and SCE shall survey existing walnut trees and select trees to be retained as a "nurse-grove," at the discretion of the City of Visalia. SCE shall provide a water supply and permanent drip irrigation system for landscaping survival. Plant materials selected for screening shall be evergreen and acclimated to the environment of Visalia. Landscape screening shall be consistent with a landscaping and maintenance plan developed by SCE and submitted for review and approval by the City of Visalia. Any dispute that cannot be resolved shall be referred to CPUC staff for timely determination.	Survey existing walnut trees and retain or establish permanent vegetative screen	Prior to construction, during construction, and during operation
Existing Visual Character	<b>V-2 Construct visually opaque gate at substation entrance.</b> SCE shall design and construct the gate at the substation entrance in a way that obscures views through the gate, using materials that are compatible with the perimeter screening wall and neighborhood visual standards. SCE shall consult the Shannon Ranch Master Plan Design Guidelines to ensure compatibility of neighborhood design elements. Entrance gate shall be consistent with the landscaping plan developed by SCE and submitted for review and approval by the City of Visalia. Any dispute that cannot be resolved shall be referred to CPUC staff for timely determination.	Review design of gate and inspect after installation	Prior to construction and prior to operation
Existing Visual Character	<b>V-3 Provide TSP riser surfaces galvanized with appropriate colors, textures, and finishes.</b> SCE shall install, as available, the tubular steel pole (TSP) riser galvanized with appropriate colors, finishes, and textures to most effectively blend the new steel structure with the dark brown, mottled appearance of the existing wood poles of the Rector–Oak Grove No. 1 66 kV subtransmission line.	Review design of TSP riser surface treatment and inspect after installation	Prior to construction and prior to operation
Construction-Phase Aesthetics	<b>V-4 Restore and revegetate ground disturbances due to construction staging.</b> SCE shall restore all ground disturbances caused by construction, staging, and temporary access road construction to original, natural-appearing contours and shall revegetate disturbed areas at the earliest feasible time.	Inspect revegetation of project-related ground disturbances	Following site restoration activities and prior to operation
Light and Glare	<b>V-5 Shroud and minimize unnecessary sources of light.</b> SCE shall design and install new permanent substation lighting such that light bulbs, lenses, and reflectors are not visible from public viewing areas; lighting does not cause reflected glare; and illumination of the project, vicinity, and nighttime sky is minimized. To achieve this, SCE shall ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lighting shall be designed so exterior light fixtures are hooded, with lights directed downward or toward the area to be illuminated and so that backscatter to the nighttime sky is minimized. The design of the lighting shall be such that the luminescence or light source is shielded to prevent light trespass outside the project boundary.</li> <li>• All lighting shall be of minimum necessary brightness consistent with worker safety.</li> <li>• Wherever feasible and safe, lighting shall be kept off when not in use.</li> </ul>	Inspect plans for permanent lighting and descriptions of fixtures, hoods, and shields and implementation of lighting	Prior to ordering permanent lighting and prior to operation

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<b>Air Quality</b>			
APM Air-1	<p>Proposed Project construction activities would include implementation of emission control measures as listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All disturbed areas, including storage piles, which are not being actively utilized for construction purposes, shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water, chemical stabilizer/suppressant, covered with a tarp or other suitable cover or vegetative ground cover.</li> <li>• All on-site unpaved roads and off-site unpaved access roads shall be effectively stabilized of dust emissions using water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant.</li> <li>• All land clearing, grubbing, scraping, excavation, land leveling, grading, cut &amp; fill, and demolition activities shall be effectively controlled of fugitive dust emissions utilizing application of water or by presoaking.</li> <li>• With the demolition of buildings up to six stories in height, all exterior surfaces of the building shall be wetted during demolition.</li> <li>• When materials are transported off-site, all material shall be covered, or effectively wetted to limit visible dust emissions, and at least six inches of freeboard space from the top of the container shall be maintained.</li> <li>• All operations shall limit or expeditiously remove the accumulation of mud or dirt from adjacent public streets at the end of each workday. (The use of dry rotary brushes is expressly prohibited except where preceded or accompanied by sufficient wetting to limit the visible dust emissions.) (Use of blower devices is expressly forbidden.)</li> <li>• Following the addition of materials to, or the removal of materials from, the surface of outdoor storage piles, said piles shall be effectively stabilized of fugitive dust emissions utilizing sufficient water or chemical stabilizer/suppressant.</li> <li>• Within urban areas, trackout shall be immediately removed when it extends 50 or more feet from the site and at the end of each workday.</li> <li>• Any site with 150 or more vehicle trips per day shall prevent carryout and trackout.</li> </ul>	Implementation of applicable control measures in accordance with SJVAPCD requirements	During construction

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Construction-Phase Air Quality	<p><b>AQ-1 Implement enhanced dust control measures in the event that occupied homes occur nearby.</b> SCE shall implement enhanced dust control measures for construction of the proposed substation if new residential development includes homes within 200 feet of the substation site during any phase of substation construction. The enhanced dust control measures shall incorporate the applicant proposed measure (APM Air-1) and the following additional measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• limit the speeds of construction vehicles on unpaved surfaces to 15 miles per hour,</li> <li>• install sandbags or other erosion control measures to prevent silt runoff to public roadways from sites with a slope greater than 1 percent,</li> <li>• suspend excavation and grading activities when winds exceed 20 miles per hour,</li> <li>• limit size of area subject to excavation, grading, or other construction disturbance at any one time to avoid excessive dust, and</li> <li>• expeditiously remove the accumulation of mud or dirt from adjacent public streets at least once every 24 hours when construction activities are occurring.</li> </ul>	Emissions from construction equipment exhaust are reduced	During construction
Construction-Phase Air Quality	<p><b>AQ-2 Minimize construction equipment exhaust by using Tier 1 engines.</b> All diesel fueled off-road construction equipment with engines 50 hp or larger shall at a minimum meet U.S. EPA/CARB Tier 1 engine standards. Records of equipment compliance shall be kept by the general construction contractor. This measure does not apply to equipment permitted by the local air quality district or certified through the CARB's Statewide Portable Equipment Registration Program. This also does not apply to any single specialized equipment items that will be used for less than five days total during the project construction.</p>	Low emitting engines are used	During construction
<b>Biological Resources</b>			
APM Bio-1	<p><b>San Joaquin Kit Foxes.</b> If evidence of the San Joaquin kit foxes are found, SCE Proposed Measures would be implemented as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prevent inadvertent entrapment of kit foxes or other animals during the construction phase of the project, all excavated, steep-walled holes or trenches more than 2 feet deep would be covered at the close of each working day by plywood or similar materials, or provided with one or more escape ramps constructed of earth fill or wooden planks. Before such holes or trenches are filled, they would be thoroughly inspected for trapped animals. If at any time a trapped or injured kit fox is discovered, the procedures are listed below.</li> <li>• Kit foxes are attracted to den-like structures such as pipes and may enter stored pipe becoming trapped or injured. All construction pipes, culverts, or similar structures with a diameter of 4 inches or greater that are stored at a construction site for one or more overnight periods would be thoroughly inspected for kit foxes before the pipe is subsequently buried, capped, or otherwise used or moved in any way. If a kit fox is discovered inside a pipe, that section of pipe would not be moved until the Service has been consulted. If necessary, and under the direct supervision of the biologist, the pipe may be moved once to remove it from the path of construction activity, until the fox has escaped.</li> </ul>	Protective measures are implemented; employee education program is completed. Disturbance to sensitive habitat is minimal. Sensitive species are avoided to the extent possible.	Prior to and during construction

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All food-related trash items such as wrappers, cans, bottles, and food scraps would be disposed of in closed containers and removed at least once a week from the project site.</li> <li>• To prevent harassment, mortality of kit foxes or destruction of dens by dogs or cats, no pets would be permitted on the project site.</li> <li>• Use of rodenticides and herbicides in project areas would be restricted. This is necessary to prevent primary or secondary poisoning of kit foxes and the depletion of prey populations on which they depend. All uses of such compounds would observe label and other restrictions mandated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and other State and federal legislation, as well as additional project-related restrictions deemed necessary by the USFWS. If rodent control must be conducted, zinc phosphide would be used because of proven lower risk to kit fox.</li> <li>• A representative shall be appointed by the project proponent who would be the contact source for any employee or contractor who might inadvertently kill or injure a kit fox or who finds a dead, injured or entrapped individual. The representative would be identified during the employee education program. The representative's name and telephone number shall be provided to the USFWS.</li> <li>• An employee education program would be conducted for any project that has expected impacts to kit foxes. The program would consist of a brief presentation by persons knowledgeable in kit fox biology and legislative protection to explain endangered species concerns to contractors, their employees, and military and agency personnel involved in the Project. The program would include the following: a description of the San Joaquin kit fox and its habitat need; a report of the occurrence of kit fox in the Project Area; an explanation of the status of the species and its protection under the Endangered Species Act; and a list of measures being taken to reduce impacts to the species during Project construction and implementation. A fact sheet conveying this information would be prepared for distribution to the above-mentioned people and anyone else who may enter the project site.</li> <li>• Upon completion of the project, all areas subject to temporary ground disturbances, including storage and staging areas, temporary roads, pipeline corridors, etc. would be re-contoured if necessary, and revegetated to promote restoration of the area to pre-project conditions. An area subject to "temporary" disturbance means any area that is potential to be revegetated. Appropriate methods and plant species used to revegetate such areas would be determined on a site-specific basis in consultation with the USFWS, California Department of Fish and Game, and revegetation experts.</li> <li>• In case of trapped animals, escape ramps or structures would be installed immediately to allow the animal(s) to escape, or the USFWS would be contacted for advice.</li> <li>• Any contractor, employee, or military or agency personnel who inadvertently kills or injures an SJKF shall immediately report the incident to their representative. This representative shall contact the CDFG immediately in the case of a dead, injured or entrapped kit fox. The CDFG contact for immediate assistance is State Dispatch at (916) 445-0045. They would contact the local warden or biologist.</li> </ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office and CDFG would be notified in writing within three working days of the accidental death or injury to a SJKF during project-related activities. Notification must include the date, time, and location of the incident or of the finding of a dead or injured animal and any other pertinent information. The USFWS contact is the Chief of the Division of Endangered Species, at 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W2605, Sacramento, CA 95825-1846. The CDFG contact is Mr. Ron Schorloff at 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 654-4262.</li> </ul>		
APM Bio-2	<b>Migratory Birds.</b> Tree removal for substation construction activities would not take place during nesting season (March – May) unless pre-construction surveys are conducted, and a qualified biologist verifies that no nests are present. If nests are located, the nest area will be avoided if feasible (with an appropriate buffer as determined by a qualified biologist. If avoidance is not feasible, the qualified biologist will confer with USFWS and CDFG on nest/chick relocation measures.	Survey sensitive habitat. Sensitive species are avoided to the extent possible.	Prior to and during construction
APM Bio-3	<b>Minimization of Ground Disturbance.</b> Clearing of vegetation would be confined to the minimal area needed to conduct the construction activities.	Disturbance to sensitive habitat is minimal	During construction
APM Bio-4	<b>Spill Containment/Management.</b> Construction personnel would ensure that contamination of habitat does not occur and would have a plan to promptly address any accidental spills. The contractor would have an emergency spill containment kit to contain and remove spilled fuels, hydraulic fluids, etc. Likewise, equipment refueling or storage of these materials would not occur within 100 feet of streams, lakes or other waterways. If a 100-foot buffer is not feasible for a given refueling activity, secondary containment would be employed during the fuel transfer and the transfer would be continuously monitored to prevent accidental spills. All contaminated soils and materials would be excavated and removed from the site and disposed of appropriately to prevent sensitive animal species from becoming exposed or killed by the effects of crude oil or other chemicals used during construction.	Hazardous substance and spill control plans are in place; disturbance of sensitive species and habitat is avoided.	During construction
APM Bio-5	<b>Trash Removal.</b> To reduce the potential for attracting wildlife species to the area, all trash would be properly contained and removed from the work site and disposed of regularly.	disturbance of sensitive species and habitat is avoided.	During construction
APM Bio-6	<b>Raptor-Safe Design.</b> All subtransmission poles would be designed raptor-safe in accordance with the Suggested Practices for Raptor Protection on Power Lines. (Avian Power Line Interaction Committee, 1996).	Raptor-safe designs are used in accordance with guidelines	During construction

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Special Status Animal Species	<b>B-1 Eliminate injury or mortality to kit foxes during construction.</b> SCE shall implement the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Standardized Recommendations for Protection of the San Joaquin kit fox Prior to or During Ground Disturbance (Service, 1999). SCE shall provide the results of the surveys to the CPUC prior to ground disturbance.	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommendations are implemented.	Prior to and during construction
<b>Cultural Resources</b>			
APM Cult-1	If previously unidentified archaeological resources are unearthed during construction activities, construction would be halted in that area and directed away from the discovery until a qualified archaeologist assesses the significance of the resource. The archaeologist would recommend appropriate measures to record, preserve or recover the resources.	Construction personnel sign an environmental training attendance sheet. No damage to archaeological resources results from project construction.	Prior to and during construction
APM Cult-2	If human remains are encountered during construction or any other phase of development, work in the area of the discovery must be halted in that area and directed away from the discovery. No further disturbance would occur until the county coroner makes the necessary findings as to origin pursuant to Public Resources Code 5097.98-99, Health and Safety Code 7050.5. If the remains are determined to be Native American, then the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) would be notified within 24 hours as required by Public Resources Code 5097. The NAHC would notify the designated Most Likely Descendants who would provide recommendations for the treatment of the remains within 24 hours. The NAHC mediates any disputes regarding treatment of remains.	No damage to human remains results from the project. Any discovered cultural resources are treated according to agency-approved mitigation and in compliance with state and federal regulations.	During construction
<b>Hazards and Hazardous Materials</b>			
Hazards and Hazardous Materials	<b>H-1 Control release of residual herbicides, pesticides, and/or fumigants.</b> SCE shall analyze soil samples in construction areas where the land has historically or is currently being farmed to verify and delineate the possibility of and extent of herbicide, pesticide, and/or fumigant contamination of the underlying soils. Samples shall be collected by properly trained personnel and submitted to a state approved laboratory for analysis. Any soil with pesticide, herbicide, or fumigant concentration levels that exceed California State Title 26 threshold limits would be classified as hazardous material. SCE shall implement appropriate handling and disposal procedures for any excavated materials containing elevated levels of contaminants. Prior to disturbing additional contaminated soil, SCE shall prepare and submit a health and safety plan that is approved by a certified industrial hygienist to address handling, treatment, and/or disposal options. Personnel working around, handling, and disposing of contaminated soil shall meet the federal OSHA requirement for the 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard. The investigation results, and health and safety plan if needed, shall be submitted for review and approval by the appropriate regulatory agencies (i.e., Department of Toxic Substances Control and/or Regional Water Quality Control Board). SCE shall submit to the CPUC copies of correspondence with regulatory agencies including the health and safety plan and any approvals.	Collect and analyze soil samples and, if contamination is discovered, ensure that construction activities are conducted according to a health and safety plan approved by regulatory agencies.	Prior to and during construction



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<b>Noise</b>			
Construction Noise	<b>N-1 Properly minimize construction vehicle noise.</b> SCE shall maintain mufflers in accordance with equipment vendor specifications on all internal combustion and vehicle engines used in construction.	Noise-related complaints from nearby residents are minimized.	During construction
Construction Noise	<b>N-2 Avoid unnecessary construction traffic noise.</b> Where feasible, construction traffic shall be routed to avoid noise-sensitive areas, such as residences, schools, religious facilities, hospitals, and parks.	Noise-related complaints from nearby residents are minimized.	During construction
<b>Traffic/Transportation</b>			
APM Traffic-1	To the extent feasible, truck traffic would be scheduled for off-peak hours to reduce impacts during periods of peak traffic.	Schedule truck deliveries during off-peak hours	During construction
APM Traffic-2	To the extent feasible, truck traffic would be staggered throughout the 4-week grading and site preparation construction phase.	Stagger truck traffic	During construction
APM Traffic-3	Truck traffic would use designated truck routes to access the substation site, the majority of which are currently designated Level of Service B.	Use designated truck routes	During construction
APM Traffic-4	If lane closures are required, SCE would comply with best management practices established by the Work Area Protection and Traffic Control Manual (California Joint Utility Traffic Control Committee 1996).	Lane closures occur in accordance with guidelines	During construction

Note: Applicant Proposed Measures appear in the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (A.06-06-004).  
Source: SCE, 2006.