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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE RIVERWAY SUBSTATION PROJECT**

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: April 1, 2008
Subject: Construction Status Report #3: February 10, 2008 –March 8, 2008

CPUC ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR (EM): Lynn Stafford

CPUC EM, Lynn Stafford, was on site February 11th, February 24th, and March 7th, 2008. During each visit, he met with Ed Lucas, SCE Inspector.

The SCE Riverway Project includes construction of a new 66/12-kilovolt (kV) low-profile substation on an approximate two acre walnut orchard site in the City of Visalia, California. The project also includes installation of approximately 1,200 feet of underground 66 kV subtransmission lines starting at the intersection of Riggan Avenue and the extended North Mooney Boulevard and ending at the substation; and installation of new fiber optic cable and communication equipment to connect the substation to SCE's existing telecommunication system.

Currently, under Notice to Proceed #3, construction during this phase is limited to site grading and civil work. This work will include grading the site, installation of temporary fencing, placement of crushed rock and shaker plates, installation of the ground grid, installation of concrete footings, placement of concrete pads, and the installation of conduit.

PREPARATION OF LAYDOWN YARD:

Summary of Activity:

Prior to the February 10th CPUC EM site visit, the laydown yard had been prepared and stacked with materials for the civil phase of the Project (see Figure 1).

GRADING OF THE SITE

Summary of Activity:

Site grading began on January 28th, 2008 and ended on March 7th, 2008. The grading contractor, Union Engineering Co. Inc., excavated material, moved it, stored it within the site, then relocated it using water and mechanical means to achieve required compaction and moisture content (see Figure 2). Soil testing was conducted on site. During these processes, the walnut tree roots remaining from the tree removal stage of the Project, were gathered and removed from the site (see Figure 3). The grading contractor finished its activities on March 7, 2008.

Per Erika Wilder, SCE Environmental Coordinator, prior to the commencement of construction activities, all crew personnel were appropriately trained on environmental issues including protocols for biological resources including San Joaquin kit fox (SJKF) protection, unanticipated cultural materials, as well as Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) mandates.

The SJKF has potential to occur in the project area. Pre-construction surveys did not reveal any evidence of SJKF or burrowing owls. Under Mitigation Measure B-1 "SCE shall implement the USFWS Standardized Recommendations for protection of the SJKF."



CIVIL CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

MCS Construction, Inc. began construction activities on March 7th, 2008 beginning with construction of the ground electrical grid in the area where the SCE field office trailer will be located, excavation of the retention basin (see Figure 4), and construction of the perimeter fence (see Figure 5).

The civil contractor was on site by March 7, and was preparing for construction of the MEER building and the power grid.

Per SCE, prior to construction, silt fence had been installed around the entire substation boundary (see Figure 5).

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

Table 1 summarizes the NTPs issued to date for the SCE Riverway Substation Project.

TABLE 1
SCE RIVERWAY SUBSTATION PROJECT NTPS
(Updated 04-01-08)

NTP #/	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
#1	October 10, 2007	October 16, 2007	Preliminary construction activities, including tree removal, preparation of a laydown yard adjacent to the substation site, and installation of temporary fencing.
#2	January 23, 2008	January 25, 2008	Installation of new fiber optic cable and communication equipment to connect the substation to SCE's existing telecommunication system.
#3 Mod	January 24, 2008	January 28, 2008	Grading and civil work, including substation site grading, installation of temporary fencing, placement of crushed rock and shaker plates, installation of the ground grid, installation of concrete footings, placement of concrete pads, and the installation of conduit.
#4	March 6, 2008	March 27, 2008	Substation electrical and sub-transmission construction activities. In addition, the site Landscaping Plan, fence/gate plans, and Lighting Plan were submitted which fulfill the remaining preconstruction requirements for the project.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No Variance Requests have been submitted to date.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

No Project Memorandums or Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) has been issued by the CPUC EM for the project to date.

On March 5, 2008, the CPUC EM was contacted by SCE concerning a new bird nest that was detected by the SCE Inspector, and confirmed by SCE biologist, Paul Yamazaki. The nest is in the process of being built by a pair of American crows. It is approximately 200 feet from the Project site.

The CPUC surveyed the walnut grove and other surrounding areas bordering the project site on March 7, 2008. The bird species observed that have the potential to nest in the immediate vicinity of the Project site include red-

tailed hawk, American kestrel, mourning dove, Nuttall's woodpecker, American crow, American robin, western bluebird, house finch, and lesser goldfinch. In addition to the partially completed crow nest, the only other possibly nesting behavior was displayed by a female Nuttall's woodpecker which appeared to be enlarging a natural cavity in a walnut tree. Many sites for cavity and platform nesting bird species exist in the walnut grove immediately adjacent to the Project site (see Figure 6). It is highly unlikely that Project activity will negatively affect any nearby nesting activity. The greatest amount of construction-produced sound occurred during the grading portion of the Project, which has been completed. Sound measurements taken by the CPUC EM on March 7, 2008 indicated that the greatest source of sound was vehicular traffic on Riggin Avenue.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Prior to February 10th, 2008, the laydown yard had been prepared and stacked with materials for the civil phase of the Project.



Figure 2: Site grading involved excavating material, moving it, storing it within the site, and then repositioning it using water and mechanical means to achieve required compaction and moisture content.



Figure 3: During the excavation processes, the walnut tree roots remaining from the tree removal stage of the Project were gathered and removed from the site.



Figure 4: Silt fencing had been installed around the entire substation boundary before any construction activity occurred. The perimeter chain link fence was installed by the civil contractor.



Figure 5: The civil contractor began construction activities with the excavation of the retention basin.



Figure 6: Many sites for cavity and platform nesting bird species exist in the walnut grove immediately adjacent to the Project site.