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PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SCE RIVERWAY SUBSTATION PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: September 11, 2009
Subject: Construction Status Report # 12:

CPUC ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR (EM): Lynn Stafford

The SCE Riverway Project included 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 included installation of approximately 1,200 feet of underground 66 kV subtransmission lines starting at the intersection of Riggin 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.

Under Notice to Proceed (NTP) #4, construction included electrical and sub-transmission construction, site landscaping, fence/gate, and lighting. Substation electrical construction, which includes installation of the transformers, capacitor banks, MEER setup, and landscaping has been completed. Outside roadway and retention basin construction have been on hold. All civil work under NTP #4 has also been completed, including placement of crushed rock, concrete pads and shaker plates, and installation of the ground grid, concrete footings, and conduit.

Most of the construction work at the Riverway Substation in Visalia was completed by August 2008. According to SCE, work on the road and the retention basins on the north border of the substation was scheduled to restart in August 2009; however, this has not occurred. CPUC EM Lynn Stafford visited the site on September 9th, 2009. There was no evidence of recent construction.

PREPARATION OF LAYDOWN YARD AND SITE GRADING:

Summary of Activity:

The laydown yard was dismantled in summer 2008.

CIVIL CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

MCS Construction, Inc. began civil construction activities on March 7th, 2008. By May 27th, all civil work had been completed.

ELECTRICAL AND SUB-TRANSMISSION CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

The landscaping contractor discontinued construction of the road outside the north border of the substation in August 2008. This contractor later implemented landscaping on a ten-foot wide strip on the outsides of the east, south, and west walls of the substation. This landscaping included installation of a permanent irrigation system. In addition to the unfinished road, three retention basins between the north wall and the outside road have yet to be installed. These retention basins will hold water runoff from the outside road and the area surrounding the walls of the substation. Two shallow V-ditches have already been installed adjacent to the landscaping on the eastern and western borders to facilitate the drainage.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

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

On the September 9, 2009 site visit by the CPUC EM, the landscaping on the eastern, southern, and western perimeters appeared to be well cared for. The irrigation system was in place, the plants looked healthy, and there was evidence of weeding activity (see Figures 1, 2, and 3).

The uncompleted road on the north side of the station is grown over with weeds, mostly Russian thistle, *Salsola tragus* (see Figure 4). Although the weeds were still green at the time of the site visit, the area of the incomplete road could become a fire hazard in the near future.

Because of the incompleteness of the north side road and the retention basins, the storm water runoff system for the outside of the substation (road and the area surrounding the walls of the substation) remains nonfunctional.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

Table 1 summarizes the NTPs issued to date for the SCE Riverway Substation Project. No additional NTPs are anticipated.

TABLE 1
SCE RIVERWAY SUBSTATION PROJECT NTPS
(Updated 09-11-09)

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	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.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS

Figure 1: The shallow V-ditch outside the station on the eastern side is now surrounded by well-tended landscaping, including the climbing vine. The photograph faces southward.

Figure 2: The perimeter of the southern side of the station contains landscaping, but by design, no drainage ditch. The photograph faces westward.

Figure 3: The perimeter of the western side of the station contains well-tended landscaping on both sides of the shallow V-ditch. A secured pile of material remains from the earlier landscaping work. The photograph faces southward.

Figure 4: The access road from Mooney Street (behind the photograph) remains unfinished. The western end of the road is graveled. The road is used as access to the station, but is mostly clogged with Russian thistle. Apparently no work has been done on this road or the adjacent retention basins since August 2008. The substation lies to the right in the distance. The photograph faces eastward.