

This report provides a summary of environmental monitoring and compliance activities conducted by Burns and McDonnell (BMcD) staff and BMcD subconsultants for the San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) Sunrise Powerlink Project during the above weekly time period.

### **Training**

- Environmental training continued for new Project personnel every Tuesday and Thursday. Additional trainings were provided as requested.
- An Environmental Orientation for new Project monitors was held on Monday and Tuesday.
- A day long Classroom and Field Avian Team Training was held May 4th in Alpine, CA. All the Sunrise Powerlink Avian Monitors attended (28 monitors). The presentations and training was conducted by Pete Bloom of Bloom Biological one of the top avian specialists in the California.

### **Preconstruction**

- Avian biologists surveyed for nesting birds prior to work commencing in an area with guidance and concurrence from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). For any active nests found, a buffer was established and no construction activities were permitted within the buffer area without first consulting with agencies. Active nests were mapped and monitored for success or failure and updated on the nest monitoring log.
- Guard structure staking occurred at EP58-2, EP197-3, EP215, EP243, EP252-1, and EP290. Temporary TSAPs were staked at CP81-1, CP83-1, and CP86. Work limits were refreshed at EP356, EP357, EP358, EP359, EP360, EP361, EP362, and EP363. Reference points were set at EP280-2.
- Environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) were staked at EP320, EP337, access roads associated with the SDG&E Southwest Powerlink from EP346 to EP347, and at the Dunaway Yard. Water resources were staked, logged, and photographed at EP170, EP173-1, EP178, EP179, and EP188. Water resources were staked at EP291, EP297, and EP304. Access road signage was installed from Highway 98 to EP342, EP325 to EP322, and EP331 to 341.

### **Construction**

- Monitors were present during construction activities to ensure compliance with mitigation measures as identified in the Final EIR/EIS Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program. Archaeologists, Paleontologists, and Native American Monitors were present at sites where required as identified prior to construction activity and as approved in the NTPs.
  - 8 Archeological Monitors were present
  - 63 Biological Monitors were present
  - 7 Environmental Monitors were present
  - 15 Native American Monitors were present
  - 5 Paleontological Monitors were present
  - 8 SWPPP Monitors were present
- At tower sites CP25-2 and CP26, a golf-type cart is being used to shuttle workers from the access road parking area to the work areas. Project staff carpooled to site reviews, kick-off tailgates, and off-site meetings. Construction and traffic control crews were observed carpooling from yards to work areas.

- The table below demonstrates the construction progress to date:

<b>OVERHEAD</b>		
Agency	Foundations Drilled	Towers Erected
Non-Federal	32 of 744	7 of 186
Bureau of Land Management	2 of 716	0 of 179
US Forest Service	0 of 304	0 of 76
<b>UNDERGROUND</b>		
Agency	Vaults Installed	Trenches Excavated & Backfilled
Non-Federal	28 of 40	8 of 38
<b>SUBSTATIONS</b>		
A portion of the Imperial Valley Substation was energized the weekend of April 30 <sup>th</sup> .		

Overhead

- Link 1
  - Conventional foundations were drilled at EP337, EP338, EP343, and EP344.
  - Conventional foundations were poured and form disassembly occurred at EP338 and EP343.
  - Concrete prep work at EP337 and EP344.
  - Conventional structure assembly at EP210, EP211, EP213, EP214, EP215, EP217, EP218, EP219, EP220-1, EP243, and EP244.
  - Hand clearing around tower legs and BMP maintenance at EP343, EP344, EP348, EP349, EP350, EP351, EP352, EP356, EP357, EP358, EP359, EP360, EP361, EP362, EP363.
  - Micropile soil boring at EP329.
  - Micropile drilling and grouting at EP238-1 (re-drilled).
  - Micropile trimming at EP225-1.
  - Pole sites were excavated and set, and wire pulled on the 12kV line.
  - BMP crews at EP320-1, EP321, EP331, EP336, EP337, EP339, EP340, EP343, EP344, EP345, EP348, EP349, EP350, EP351, EP352, EP356, EP357, EP358, EP359, EP360, EP361, EP362, and EP363.
  - Desert pavement removal and salvage occurred at EP339.
  - Grading occurred at EP320, EP320 spur road, EP321, EP322-1 spur road, EP327, EP327 access road, EP331, EP336, EP337, EP337 access road, EP339, EP339 access road, EP343, EP345 access road, EP348 access road, EP350, EP350 access road,
  - A flat-tailed horned lizard (FTHL) monitor was onsite at EP320, EP321, EP322, EP331, EP336, EP337, EP338, EP339, EP343, EP344, EP348, EP350, and Plaster City Yard.
  - A Visible Emissions Evaluator (VEE) Monitor was onsite at EP320, EP321, EP322, EP331, EP336, EP337, EP339, EP343, EP344, EP350, and at the Plaster City Yard.
  - An unanticipated cultural discovery was made in the vicinity of EP337 on May 3 and 4, 2011. In both instances, ESA flagging was installed around the discovery and no impact occurred.

- Paleontological discoveries were made at EP32 on May 5, 6, and 7, 2011. The discovery was collected and reported to the appropriate agencies.
- Military training activities took place in the vicinity of EP322. Adequate dust control occurred at the work site; however, dust was visible due to the training activities.
- An unexploded ordinance (UXO) was discovered at the Dunaway Yard. SDG&E Field Safety personnel, a UXO Monitor, and the Imperial County Bomb Squad arrived onsite to perform an inspection. No additional UXO were identified. The UXO was deployed at the site by the onsite officials.
- Link 2
  - Micropile drilling at EP84 and EP86-1.
  - Micropile grouting and trimming at EP79.
- Link 5
  - Conventional foundation was drilled at CP25-2.
  - Foundation reveal and cleanup at CP26.
- 69kV Reconductoring Line
  - On the underground portion, trenching, conduit installation, backfilling, and re-paving occurred.
  - On the TL6919, safety grounding, reframe work, and BMP maintenance occurred.
  - On TL 639, BMP maintenance was performed.

#### Suncrest Substation

- Link 3
  - Rough grading continued on the pad.
  - Drilling and blasting continued in several locations on the pad.
  - Rock and soil were excavated and compacted in various locations on the pad.
  - The soil retention wall in the northern canyon was completed and work was begun on the wall in the southern drainage.
  - The SWPPP monitor conducted daily inspections and worked with the contractor for areas in need of repair.
  - Work continued on a block retaining wall in the northern drainage.
  - Concrete pouring in brow ditches along access road and substation pad continued.
  - Installation of the permanent drainage system continued.

#### Underground

- Link 4
  - Potholing from V3R to V4R and V7R to V8R.
  - Excavating at V9R and V15R.
  - Ins and outs at V3L, V5L, and V9R.
  - Trenching from V4L to V5L, V8R to V9R, and V11L to V12L.
  - Pre-drilling and drilling from V3R to V4R, V4L to V5L, V7L to V8L, and V14R.
  - Saw cutting from V2R to V4R, V5R to V7R, and V8R to V9R.
  - Encasement pouring from V4L to V5L.
  - Proofing from V13L to V15L, V16L, and V17L.
  - Milling and setting plates from V3L to V5L, V8R to V9R, V11L to V12L, V15R, and the Alpine Creek bore site.
  - Paving from V4L to V6L, V8R to V9R, V9L, V11L to V12L, and V16R.
  - Vault setting occurred at V9R and V16R.
  - Bridge work occurred at the Viejas Creek Bridge.

- Shoring at the Alpine Creek bore site.
- Cable pulling and testing from V17L to V18L.
- Conduit package installation at the Highway 8 bore site.
- BMP installation and maintenance continued along Alpine Blvd. and at the Loritz property.
- Grading at the Loritz property.
- No activity occurred at the Bauer Bridge location due to active nest buffer restrictions.
- At Vault 5, a crew was grinding trench plates to prepare for welding the plate closed for the day. Sparks bounced off of trackhoe bucket and landed in dry vegetation (grass) at the edge of the road. Quick action by the PAR fire watch held the fire to an area of 5x7 feet.

### Substation Upgrades

- Imperial Valley Substation
  - Conventional foundations were drilled.
  - Conventional structure assembly occurred.
  - Gas circuit breaker, potential transformer, switch stands, and bus supports were installed.
  - Trenching occurred in Bay #4 for cable vaults to tie into the control building.
  - Concrete pads and conduit were worked on in Bay #4.
  - Disconnects and circuit breakers were installed in Bay #4.
  - Active nest monitoring continued.
- Encina Switchyard
  - Conventional foundations were drilled.
  - A transmission pole was replaced in the southwest corner of the substation.
  - Gas circuit breaker, potential transformer, switch stands, and dead end pads were installed.
  - Crews continued building a perimeter fence around the switchyard.
  - Active nest monitoring continued.
- San Luis Rey Substation
  - Work was shut down due to active nest buffer restrictions.
- Sycamore Canyon Substation
  - A transmission pad was installed.
  - Active nest monitoring continued.
- Scripps Ranch Substation
  - Wiring and testing of a new breaker occurred.
  - Grounds were set.
  - Active nest monitoring continued.

### Construction Yards

- Jacumba Valley Ranch (JVR) Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
  - The yard was utilized for helicopter activities.

- Helix Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
- Hartung Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
- Kreuzkamp Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
- SWAT Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly occurred.
- Bartlett-Hauser Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
  - The yard was utilized for helicopter activities.
- Wilson Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
- Rough Acres Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
  - The yard was utilized for helicopter activities.
- Alpine Upper Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
- Alpine Regional Field Office
  - No work occurred at this location during this reporting period.
- Thomas Yard
  - No work occurred at this location during this reporting period.
- Plaster City Yard
  - Material staging and tower assembly continued.
  - A FTHL Monitor and VEE Monitor were onsite.
- Dunaway Yard
  - Perimeter fence was installed.
  - An unanticipated cultural discovery was made at the Dunaway Yard on May 7, 2011. ESA flagging was installed around the discovery and no impact occurred.

### Wildlife Reporting

The following listed or Species of Special Concern were found dead in Project construction limits during this reporting period:

- Coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*): Two (2) coast patch-nosed snakes were run over; one (1) in the Kreuzkamp Yard and one (1) in the Plaster City Yard.
- Coastal whiptail (*Aspidoscelis tigris stejnegeri*): Two (2) coastal whiptail were run over: one (1) in the Kreuzkamp Yard and one (1) on the 12kV Line
- San Diego ringneck snake (*Diadophis punctatus similis*): One (1) San Diego ringneck snake was run over in the Kreuzkamp Yard.

The following listed or Species of Special Concern were relocated during construction activities this reporting period:

- Coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma coronatum*): Three (3) coast horned lizards were relocated at Rough Acres Yard.
- Coast patch-nosed snake (*Salvadora hexalepis virgultea*): Three (3) coast patch-nosed snakes were relocated at Kreuzkamp Yard.

- Coronado skink (*Plestiodon skiltonianus interparietalis*): One (1) Coronado skink was relocated at Kreutzkamp Yard.
- Flat tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma mcallii*): Two (2) flat tailed horned lizards were relocated by a certified FTHL handler at Dunaway Road Yard.
- Red diamond rattlesnake (*Crotalus ruber ruber*): One (1) red diamond rattlesnake at the Suncrest Substation was discovered near the parking area and relocated outside the disturbance area.
- Two stripe garter snake (*Thamnophis hammondi*): Two (2) two stripe garter snakes were relocated from the snake fence along the road at Kreutzkamp Yard.

### **Spills/Hazardous Waste**

No spills were recorded this reporting period.

### **Non-Compliances**

No non-compliances were issued this reporting period.

### **Variations and TEWS**

- Variance #14 was approved for modification of the Construction Yard Visual Screening Plan. Due to high winds caused by helicopter use, visual screening blankets will replace the slotted fencing that was originally described.

## Weather

During this period, no rain events occurred and no precipitation was recorded. BMPs were installed or maintained as needed throughout Project areas.



Drilling activities taking place at EP337.  
*Photo courtesy of Don Spires*