

# 1. Introduction and Purpose

This Policy Screening Report provides a preliminary or screening evaluation of federal, State, and local policies applicable to the Proposed Project and alternatives and whether the project would be consistent with these policies. This analysis serves as a tool for focusing the technical sections of the Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) on relevant policies of concern to jurisdictions. Plans applicable to the jurisdictions through which the project would pass were reviewed. The policies associated with these plans are evaluated in this report.

The policies are organized by plan and then by environmental discipline (e.g., resource topic). Some of the policies have been summarized or abbreviated to make this document easier to read.

## 1.1 CEQA/NEPA Requirements

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not specifically require that a policy analysis be completed for a project. The only mention of policy analysis is in the CEQA Checklist, Appendix G, which includes under the land use and planning portion of the checklist the following:

*Would the project conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?*

While an Applicant for construction of a transmission project is required to obtain local ministerial permits, such as grading permits and road encroachment permits, investor-owned utility transmission projects are under sole the jurisdiction of the CPUC and are exempt from local approval. However, as a matter of practice, CPUC considers local plans and policies when making decisions and imposing conditions on projects.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) applies to federal decisions. Unlike CEQA, NEPA does address policy analysis. 40 CFR 1502.16 states the environmental consequences portion of an environmental analysis shall include discussion of:

*(c) Possible conflicts between the proposed action and the objectives of Federal, regional, State, and local (and in the case of a reservation, Indian tribe) land use plans, policies and controls for the area concerned.*

Additionally, 40 CFR 1506.2 addresses elimination of duplication with state and local procedures, and states:

*(d) To better integrate environmental impact statements into state or local planning processes, statements shall discuss any inconsistency of a proposed action with any approved State or local plan and laws (whether or not federally sanctioned). Where an inconsistency exists, the statement should describe the extent to which the agency would reconcile its proposed action with the plan or law.*

However, decision-makers retain the authority to go forward with a project despite the potential conflict (CEQ 40 FAQ Response 23c).<sup>1</sup> In addition, the Record of Decision under NEPA must explain how the decision was made and what mitigation measures are being imposed to reduce impacts (CEQ, 40 FAQs, Response 23c).<sup>2</sup>

To assist with the requirement for a policy analysis, this screening report documents policies considered in preparation of the EIR/EIS, and determines whether the project is consistent with the policy. The intent of this review is to focus the EIR/EIS impact analysis on those concerns identified in policy statements that are directly relevant to the Proposed Project and/or alternatives.

## 1.2 Screening Methodology

The Policy Screening Report summarizes each applicable federal, State, and local agency plan. As part of this summary, applicable policies are identified and categorized by environmental discipline. Each policy is assessed to determine its relevance to the Proposed Project and alternatives and whether the project would be consistent with the policy. For purposes of this screening effort, relevant policies or standards relate to the Proposed Project's compatibility with the intent of specific policies. In many cases, policies are stated as general objectives and are open to interpretation as to whether a particular action would be consistent with the policy.

Sections 2 through 4 below discuss policies from federal, state, and local plans or program for those jurisdictions that would be traversed by the Proposed Project and the alternatives.

## 2. Federal Plans and Documents

### 2.1 U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, 1980 as Amended

The 25-million-acre CDCA contains over 12 million acres of public lands spread across the California Desert, which includes the Mojave and the Sonoran deserts and a small portion of the Great Basin. Segment 6, an eight-mile length of the Proposed Project, is within the western boundary of the CDCA, between Morongo reservation land and Devers Substation. In this segment, approximately one mile of the transmission corridor would be on BLM land. The BLM land through which the transmission line would pass is not covered by a specific multiple-use classification under the CDCA. The southern edge of the Whitewater Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC), which includes arroyo toad critical habitat along the Whitewater River, is approximately 0.3 miles north of where the alignment crosses Whitewater Canyon. The Whitewater Canyon Grazing Allotment also occurs north of the project alignment, and the alignment passes through an area of burro range. In Segment 6 the Proposed Project would include upgrading the existing 220 kV line and towers.

The purpose of the CDCA Plan is to guide development of public lands, and resources, including economic, educational, scientific, and recreational uses, in a manner that enhances wherever possible — and that does not diminish, on balance — the environmental, cultural, and aesthetic values of the desert

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<sup>1</sup> Reference refers to “Memorandum: Forty Most Asked Questions Concerning CEQs (Council of Environmental Quality) NEPA Regulations (40 Questions).”

<sup>2</sup> Other federal regulations address streamlining EISs including 40 CFR 1502.15 (Affected Environment) and 40CFR 1502.21 (Incorporation by Reference).

and its productivity. This is to be achieved in the Plan through the direction given for management actions and resolution of conflicts

**California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, 1980 as Amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Wildlife Element, Pages 28-30</b>		
Goals 1–5: The Wildlife Element includes five goals that direct the BLM to mitigate for impacts, develop and implement detailed plans, manage wildlife habitats, and to consider crucial habitats in all decisions.	The Wildlife Element goals require programmatic actions that are the responsibility of the BLM, but the results of these programmatic actions will be considered in the BLM's evaluation of the ROW grant.	YES
Policy 1: The protection afforded federally and State-listed species will remain the same for all multiple-use classes. Any federal action which may impact either the habitat or individuals of federally listed species must be put into formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). Species officially proposed for listing, which may be impacted through the federal action, may be dealt with through conference with the FWS.	The Proposed Project is not within a multiple-use classification. However, the project requires formal consultation with the USFWS, which the BLM performs as part of the review process. The results of the consultation are presented in this EIR/EIS. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
Policy 2: Discovery of previously unknown but significant wildlife values may serve as the basis for initiating the amendment of a multiple-use class designation. Designation of "Critical Habitat" for a federally listed species may necessitate a change in multiple-use class designation.	The Proposed Project would be in a designated utility corridor, which was studied when the existing transmission line was permitted. As such, there is a low possibility that studies associated with the Proposed Project would discover significant wildlife values.	YES
Policy 3: Protective provisions, stipulations, or objectives for wildlife will be considered in all permits, licenses, activity plans, etc., to avoid or minimize habitat deterioration.	Permits, licenses and activity plans would be considered to avoid or minimize habitat deterioration. T	YES
<b>Vegetation Element, Pages 37-38</b>		
Goal 1: Maintain the productivity of the vegetative resource while meeting the consumptive needs of wildlife, livestock, wild horses and burrows, and man. Provide for such uses under the principles of sustained yield.	The Proposed Project would not change the productivity of vegetative resources. The Proposed Project would be placed in an existing corridor where once in operation the corridor would continue to serve as open space area.	YES
Goal 2: Manage those plant species on the federal and State lists of threatened and endangered species and their habitats so that the continued existence of each is not jeopardized. Stabilize and, where possible, improve populations through management and recovery plans developed and implemented cooperatively with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game [now Wildlife].	The loss of habitat due to the Proposed Project would require mitigation to manage those plant species federally and State listed.	YES
Goal 3: Manage those plant species officially designated as sensitive by the BLM for California and their habitats so that the potential for federal or State listing is minimized. Include consideration of sensitive species habitats in all decisions such that impacts are avoided, mitigated, or compensated.	Plant species officially designated as sensitive by the BLM and their habitats may be affected by the Proposed Project. Appropriate protective measures and mitigation measures would be required.	YES
Goal 4: Manage unusual plant assemblages (UPAs) so that their continued existence is maintained. In all actions, include consideration of UPAs so that impacts are avoided, mitigated or compensated.	UPAs would not be affected by the Proposed Project.	YES

**California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, 1980 as Amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>Goal 5: Manage wetland and riparian areas in the CDCA, with the following specific objectives; (a) To avoid the long-term and short-term impacts associated with the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetland and riparian areas; (b) To preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetland and riparian areas which may include constraining or excluding those uses that cause significant long-term ecological damage; (c) To include practical measures to minimize harm in all actions causing adverse impacts on wetlands and riparian areas; and (d) To retain all wetlands and riparian habitats presently under BLM administration wherever high resource values exist and adverse impacts cannot be mitigated.</p>	<p>This policy requires the management of wetland and riparian areas in the CDCA. This policy will not be evaluated further because the Proposed Project would not cross any riparian drainage on BLM land.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Visual Resources Management Program, Page 71**

<p>(1) The appropriate levels of management, protection, and rehabilitation on all public lands in the CDCA will be identified, commensurate with visual resource management objectives in the multiple-use class guidelines. (2) Proposed activities will be evaluated to determine the extent of change created in any given landscape and to specify appropriate design or mitigation measures using the Bureau's contrast rating process.</p> <p><i>(Based on their general characteristics, BLM-managed lands in the Coachella Valley have been assigned VRM classes I through IV. Segment 6 of the Proposed Project is located within a portion of the Coachella Valley Planning Area southwest of Desert Hot Springs and northwest of Palm Springs. Segment 6 crosses a small portion of BLM-managed land (less than one mile), which is designated VRM Class II, with a smaller adjacent area designated as VRM Class IV).</i></p> <p><i>The VRM Class II Management Objective requires that a project or action retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the landscape should be low. Activities may be seen but should not attract attention of the casual observer. Changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape).</i></p>	<p>Segment 6 crosses a small portion of BLM land, which is designated VRM Class II, with a smaller adjacent area designated as VRM Class IV. This policy is addressed further in the EIR/EIS.</p> <p>While the Proposed Project would have a low level of visual change and would: (a) repeat the characteristics of the existing three lattice tower transmission lines that it would replace; (b) improve the characteristics of this portion of the ROW by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast; and (c) introduce replacement structures that would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer. Also, it would not repeat the basic elements of the existing natural features in the landscape, as required by the VRM Class II Management Objective. However, this inconsistency is not considered substantial given the structural context that is already established with the existing multi-facility transmission line corridor and the adjacent wind energy facilities (wind turbines) through which much of this route segment passes.</p>	<p>NO</p>
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**LAND USE**

**7. Transmission Facilities, Table 1: Multiple-Use Class Guidelines, Page 15**

<p>New gas, electric, and water transmission facilities and cables for interstate communication may be allowed only within designated corridors.</p>	<p>The project crosses land having no specific multiple-use classification. It is an existing line that would be upgraded, located in and existing transmission corridor.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, 1980 as Amended**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>WILDERNESS AND RECREATION</b>		
<b>15. Recreation, Table 1: Multiple-Use Class Guidelines, Pages 19-20</b>		
<p>Class C – This class is suitable for nonmechanical types of recreational experience which generally involve low to very low user densities.</p> <p>Class L – This class is suitable for recreation which generally involves low to moderate user densities.</p> <p>Class M – This class is suitable for a wide range of recreation activities which may involve moderate to high user densities.</p> <p>Class I – This class is suitable for recreation activities which generally involve high user densities.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that has been designated for public facility or open space use. As such, the Proposed Project would not conflict with recreational use designations.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Motorized-Vehicle Access Element, Goals, Page 75</b>		
<p>Provide for constrained motorized vehicle access in a manner that balances the needs of all desert users, private landowners and other public agencies.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that has been designated for public facility or open space use. As such, the Proposed Project would not conflict with recreational use designations.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Use maps, signs and published information to communicate the motorized vehicle access situation to desert users. Be sure all information materials are understandable and easy to follow.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that has been designated for public facility or open space use. As such, the Proposed Project would not conflict with recreational use designations.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Cultural Resources</b>		
<p>The Programmatic Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) covering the implementation of the Desert Plan among the Bureau of Land Management, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation outlines the implementation of the Cultural Resource Element.</p>	<p>This policy consists of a MOA that includes programmatic policies that are the responsibility of the agencies and would not be applied to the Proposed Project.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Record of Decision for California Desert Conservation Area Plan Amendment for the Coachella Valley, December 27, 2002 – Cultural Resources – Page 5</b>		
<p>Cultural Resources: All management actions shall comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, which provides for the protection of significant cultural resources. In furtherance of this Act, the 36 Code of Federal Regulations 800 procedures shall be conducted pursuant to the State Protocol Agreement (1998) between the BLM and the California State Historic Preservation Officer. An appropriate level of inventory shall be conducted for all actions with a potential to affect cultural resources.</p>	<p>The requirements of this policy would be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes. These may include inventory, evaluation, avoidance, mitigation, and/or monitoring.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Native American Concerns: For all public land activities adjacent to reservation lands, the BLM shall consult with the relevant tribes to determine potential impact to Native American trust assets and cultural values and to develop mitigation measures as needed.</p>	<p>The requirements of this policy would be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes. These may include inventory, Native American consultation, evaluation, avoidance, mitigation, and/or monitoring.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC</b>		
<p>Policy 1: Provide for constrained motorized vehicle access in a manner that balances the needs of all desert users, private landowners and other public agencies.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not provide additional long-term access over existing conditions in the Plan area.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan, 1980 as Amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS</b>		
Goals 1 and 2: Assure the availability of known mineral resource lands for exploration and development, and encourage the development of mineral resources in an environmentally sound manner.	The Proposed Project would not restrict access to or availability of minerals, and would not impact mining operations on federal lands. Thus, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**2.2 Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan, 2008**

The Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) is a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional plan focusing on the conservation of federal and State-listed species, other rare and sensitive species, and their habitats. Segment 6 of the Proposed Project is within the Coachella Valley MSHCP area and passes through portions of four Conservation Areas designated under the Plan: Cabazon; Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons; Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon; and Whitewater Canyon.

The MSHCP balances environmental protection and economic development objectives in the plan area and simplifies compliance with endangered species related laws. The MSHCP satisfies the legal requirements for the issuance of state and federal permits that will allow the take of species covered by the plan in the course of otherwise lawful activities. To the maximum extent practicable, the plan provides measures to minimize and mitigate the impacts of the taking and provides for conservation of Covered Species. The MSHCP is regulated by the Coachella Valley Association of Governments in cooperation and coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

The Proposed Project element within the MSHCP area would include the upgrade of the existing 220 kV transmission conductors and structures.

**Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan, 2008 (being amended in 2015 to include Desert Hot Springs)**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Analyzed Further
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Section 4.3 Conservation Areas, Pages 4-20 through 4-192.</b>		
The Cabazon Conservation Area consists of the San Gorgonio River and several tributaries in the westernmost part of the Plan Area, and portions of the San Jacinto Mountains and the San Bernardino Mountains, which function as a sand source area. The Conservation Area contains Essential Habitat for Peninsular bighorn sheep, mesquite hummocks, southern sycamore-alder riparian woodland, sand source areas, fluvial sand transport areas, and the Fornat Wash Biological Corridor.	The biological assessment considered the information for this conservation area and incorporated data and measures as appropriate.	YES
The desert tortoise population in the Stubbe and Cottonwood Canyons Conservation Area centers on the mesas to the west of the Whitewater River. The Stubbe Canyon and Cottonwood Canyon also contains suitable migration and breeding Habitat for least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher, summer tanager, yellow-breasted chat, and yellow warbler. Other Conserved Habitat and Natural Communities	The biological assessment considered the information for this conservation area and incorporated data and measures as appropriate.	YES

**Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural Community Conservation Plan, 2008 (being amended in 2015 to include Desert Hot Springs)**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Analyzed Further
The Whitewater Canyon Conservation Area contains historic Habitat for the arroyo toad, riparian birds, and some habitat for the desert tortoise and triple-ribbed milk-vetch. Natural community such as Sonoran cottonwood-willow riparian forest, desert palm woodlands, sand source, fluvial sand transport areas, and biological corridors are conserved in Whitewater Canyon.	The biological assessment considered the information for this conservation area and incorporated data and measures as appropriate.	YES
The Upper Mission Creek/Big Morongo Canyon Conservation Area encompasses the Mission Creek and Big Morongo Canyon watersheds and the portions of the Mission Creek flood control channel and Morongo Wash within the City of Desert Hot Springs. This Conservation Area includes sand source and the upper of the fluvial sand transport system that provides blow-sand to the Willow Hole Preserve. Two bridges on Highway 62 provide movement corridors under highway that provide habitat connectivity for wildlife.	The biological assessment considered the information for this conservation area and incorporated data and measures as appropriate.	YES
<b>LAND USE</b>		
<b>Chapter 4.5: Land Use Adjacency Guidelines, 4.5.6 Barriers, Page 4-200</b>		
Land uses adjacent to or within a Conservation Area shall incorporate barriers in individual project designs to minimize unauthorized public access, domestic animal predation, illegal trespass, or dumping in a Conservation Area. Such barriers may include native landscaping, rocks/boulders, fencing, walls and/or signage.	The Proposed Project would be located within a Conservation Area. Measures to comply with this land use policy will be evaluated further in the land use section of the report.	YES
<b>NOISE</b>		
<b>Establishment of the MSHCP Reserve System, Land Use Adjacency Guidelines, 4.5.4 Noise, Page 4-196</b>		
Land uses adjacent to or within a Conservation Area that generate noise above 105 dBA hourly shall incorporate setbacks, berms, or walls to minimize the effects of noise on the Conservation Area resources.	The Proposed Project could generate noise above 105 dBA. This policy will be evaluated further in the EIR/EIS.	YES

**2.3 Western Riverside Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan, 2003**

The Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) is a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) focusing on Conservation of species and their associated Habitats in Western Riverside County. The MSHCP Plan Area encompasses approximately 1.26 million acres (1,966 square miles); it includes all unincorporated Riverside County land west of the crest of the San Jacinto Mountains to the Orange County line, as well as the jurisdictional areas of the Cities of Temecula, Murrieta, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, Norco, Corona, Riverside, Moreno Valley, Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Perris, Hemet, and San Jacinto.

The overall goal of the Western Riverside MSHCP is to enhance and maintain biological diversity and ecosystem processes while allowing future economic growth. This includes preserving a quality of life characterized by well-managed and well-planned growth integrated with an associated open-space system. The MSHCP has an MSHCP Conservation Area in excess of 500,000 acres and focuses on Conservation of 146 species. The MSHCP Conservation Area includes approximately 347,000 acres on existing

Public/Quasi-Public Lands and approximately 153,000 acres of Additional Reserve Land. The overall goals of the MSHCP are:

- Biological Goal: In the MSHCP Plan Area, Conserve Covered Species and their Habitats.
- Economic Goal: Improve the future economic development in the County by providing an efficient, streamlined regulatory process through which Development can proceed in an efficient way. The MSHCP and the General Plan will provide the County with a clearly articulated blueprint describing where future Development should and should not occur.
- Social Goal: Provide for permanent open space, community edges, and recreational opportunities, which contribute to maintaining the community character of Western Riverside County.

The policies of the MSHCP are addressed through the local plans under Riverside County and its incorporated cities in Section 4 below.

### **3. State Plans and Policies**

#### **3.1 Caltrans – Scenic Highways Guidelines**

The Scenic Highway Program was created to preserve and protect scenic highway corridors from changes that would diminish the aesthetic value of lands adjacent to highways. The State Scenic Highway System includes highways that are either eligible for designation as scenic highways or have been designated as such. Streets and Highways Code Section 260-263 defines California’s scenic highways

No highways designated or eligible to be designated Scenic Highways are crossed by the Proposed Project in San Bernardino County. In Riverside County Highway 62 and Highway 243 are designated Scenic Highways. Highway 62 would be crossed by the Proposed Project’s 220 kV transmission line upgrades approximately 1 mile west of Devers Substation. Highway 243 would be crossed by a fiber optic ground wire between Banning Substation and a connection with the Devers-Valley transmission line. While the Proposed Project would be visible from these highways, it would be located within an existing utility corridor. The Proposed Project would repeat the characteristics of the existing three lattice tower transmission lines that it would replace and would improve the characteristics of the portions of the ROW visible from the Designated and Eligible scenic highways identified above by reducing the ROW’s structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Also, the new structures would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer relative to the existing infrastructure. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this program.

The State Legislature established the California Scenic Highway Program in 1963. Subsequently, Caltrans established criteria for designating a roadway as a Scenic Highway. Responsibility for the development of scenic highways rests with local jurisdictions. After it is determined the proposed scenic highway satisfies the Caltrans criteria, the local jurisdiction must adopt a program to protect the scenic corridor. In the case of Highway 62, the Riverside County General Plan would be the local program applicable to the scenic highway..

The Public Utilities Code (Division 1, Part 1, Chapter 2, 320) addresses the undergrounding of utilities in proximity to any highway designated a state scenic highway. This part of the Code declares that it is State policy to “achieve, wherever feasible and not inconsistent with sound environmental planning, the undergrounding of all future electric and communication distribution facilities which are proposed to be erected in proximity to any highway designated a state scenic highway...” The 220 kV element of the Proposed Project is a transmission facility and not a distribution facility. Therefore, this section of the Code



does not apply to that line. The fiber optic cable that would cross Highway 243 near Wesley Street would be on existing poles supporting existing distribution and communications lines.

## 4. Local Plans and Policies

### 4.1 San Bernardino County, California

**San Bernardino County General Plan, 2007 as amended.** The county lies within the Riverside–San Bernardino metro area and contains over 30 incorporated cities, towns, and communities. It extends from central southern California to the Arizona border, covering 20,160 square miles. Approximately 90 percent of the county's area is desert; the remainder consists of the San Bernardino Valley and the San Bernardino Mountains. In San Bernardino County, the Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line, improvements to the San Bernardino and Vista Substations, relocation of 66 kV and 12 kV lines, and installation of fiber optic communications lines. Most of the project would be in incorporated cities. The 220 kV ROW would pass through a small area of unincorporated land within Colton and 2 miles of unincorporated land south of Loma Linda.

The General Plan is the fundamental policy document for the unincorporated, privately owned county lands. It is a comprehensive document that must address seven mandatory elements or issue topics. Those elements are Land Use, Housing, Circulation, Conservation, Open Space, Noise and Safety. The Proposed Project is to upgrade and existing transmission line in an existing ROW; many of the Goals and Policies of the General Plan do not apply.

#### San Bernardino County General Plan, 2007 as amended

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>CIRCULATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE ELEMENT</b>		
<b>5. Fire Protection, Page III-45</b>		
GOAL CI 16. The County will protect its residents and visitors from injury and loss of life and protect property from fires through the continued improvement of existing Fire Department facilities and the creation of new facilities, but also through the improvement of related infrastructure that is necessary for the provision of fire service delivery such as water systems and transportation networks.	The County, in coordination with CALFIRE and local cities, has responsibility for ensuring adequate fire protection in areas under its jurisdiction, including adequate facilities. The Proposed Project would not create conditions that would increase fire risk nor diminish the ability of the County to respond to a fire.	YES
<b>7. Natural Gas and Electricity, Page III-47</b>		
GOAL CI 18. The County will ensure efficient and cost effective utilities that serve the existing and future needs of people in the unincorporated areas are provided.	The Proposed Project would increase reliability of the electrical system in the County.	YES

**San Bernardino County General Plan, 2007 as amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>CONSERVATION ELEMENT</b>		
<b>1. Biological Resources, Page V-15</b>		
<p>GOAL CO 2. The County will maintain and enhance biological diversity and healthy ecosystems throughout the County.</p> <p>POLICIES:</p> <p>CO 2.1 The County will coordinate with state and federal agencies and departments to ensure that their programs to preserve rare and endangered species and protect areas of special habitat value, as well as conserve populations and habitats of commonly occurring species, are reflected in reviews and approvals of development programs.</p> <p>CO 2.4 All discretionary approvals requiring mitigation measures for impacts to biological resources will include the condition that the mitigation measures be monitored and modified, if necessary, unless a finding is made that such monitoring is not feasible.</p>	<p>A portion of the Proposed Project will be constructed in open space areas in the County and habitat for listed and candidate species may be affected. Because the County's Goal and Policies require preservation and protection of resources, mitigation measures are required. These have been included in the EIR/EIS</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>2. Cultural Resources, Page V-18</b>		
<p>GOAL CO 3. The County will preserve and promote its historic and prehistoric cultural heritage.</p> <p>POLICIES</p> <p>CO 3.1 Identify and protect important archaeological and historic cultural resources in areas of the County that have been determined to have known cultural resource sensitivity.</p> <p>CO 3.2 Identify and protect important archaeological and historic cultural resources in all lands that involves disturbance of previously undisturbed ground.</p> <p>CO 3.3 Establish programs to preserve the information and heritage value of cultural and historical resources.</p> <p>CO 3.4 The County will comply with Government Code Section 65352.2 (SB 18) by consulting with tribes as identified by the California Native American Heritage Commission on all General Plan and specific plan actions.</p> <p>CO 3.5 Ensure that important cultural resources are avoided or minimized to protect Native American beliefs and traditions.</p>	<p>As identified in the Cultural Resources sections of the EIR/EIS, pre-construction surveys for undiscovered cultural resources will be required. Any resources discovered will be appropriately documented and recorded. The project will comply with State and federal laws and requirements with regard to cultural resources and Native American consultation. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this goal and these policies.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>3. Air Quality, Page V-23</b>		
<p>GOAL CO 4. The County will ensure good air quality for its residents, businesses, and visitors to reduce impacts on human health and the economy.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be required to be in compliance with mitigation measures to minimize ground disturbance, control dust, and use State-approved equipment designed to minimize air pollutants and reduce energy consumption. Therefore, the project would be consistent with this County Goal.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**San Bernardino County General Plan, 2007 as amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>4, Water, Page V-27</b>		
<p>GOAL CO 5. The County will protect and preserve water resources for the maintenance, enhancement, and restoration of environmental resources.</p> <p>POLICIES</p> <p>CO 5.3 The County will promote conservation of water and maximize the use of existing water resources by promoting activities/measures that facilitate the reclamation and reuse of water and wastewater.</p> <p>CO 5.4 Drainage courses will be kept in their natural condition to the greatest extent feasible to retain habitat, allow some recharge of groundwater basins and resultant savings. The feasibility of retaining features of existing drainage courses will be determined by evaluating the engineering feasibility and overall costs of the improvements to the drainage courses balanced with the extent of the retention of existing habitat and recharge potential.</p>	<p>Project components in San Bernardino County would not be located in water courses or drainages and will not pave potential recharge areas. To the extent available, reclaimed water would be used for dust control. Otherwise, water would come from an approved municipal source. Therefore, the project would be consistent with this Goal and these Policies.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>5. Soils/Agriculture, Page V-30</b>		
<p>GOAL CO 6. The County will balance the productivity and conservation of soil resources.</p> <p>POLICIES</p> <p>CO 6.1 Protect prime agricultural lands from the adverse effects of urban encroachment, particularly increased erosion and sedimentation, trespass, and non-agricultural land development.</p>	<p>The 220 kV ROW passes through a small area of prime agricultural land on Reche Road. The Proposed Project would not alter existing use of the land or increase the project footprint at this location. Therefore, the project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>NO</p>
<b>6. Minerals, Page V-32</b>		
<p>GOAL CO 7. The County will protect the current and future extraction of mineral resources that are important to the County's economy while minimizing impacts of this use on the public and the environment.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not include any areas of current or future mineral resource extraction in the County. If resources were discovered and extracted, excavation could occur under the transmission line. The project would be consistent with this Goal.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>7. Energy, Page V-34</b>		
<p>GOAL CO 8. The County will minimize energy consumption and promote safe energy extraction, uses and systems to benefit local regional and global environmental goals.</p> <p>POLICIES</p> <p>CO 8.1 – Maximize the beneficial effects and minimize the adverse effects associated with the siting of major energy facilities... Energy planning should...minimize environmental impacts... in...locating energy facilities.</p> <p>CO 8.2 Conserve energy and minimize peak load demands through the efficient production, distribution and use of energy.</p> <p>GOAL CO 10. The General Plan will anticipate and accommodate future electric facility planning and will enable information sharing to improve electric load forecasting.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would upgrade transmission from Devers Substation into San Bernardino County. This would allow for additional delivery of renewable wind and solar energy from the desert region of Riverside County. The Project would be located within an existing utility corridor, and the structures would be similar to the design of some of the existing structures within the corridor. Also, by removing three transmission lines of different design and replacing them with two transmission lines of the same design (in San Timoteo Canyon), the Proposed Project would improve the visual characteristics of the ROW visible from San Timoteo Canyon Road by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**San Bernardino County General Plan, 2007 as amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>OPEN SPACE ELEMENT</b>		
<p>GOAL OS 1. The County will provide plentiful open spaces, local parks, and a wide variety of recreational amenities for all residents.</p> <p>GOAL OS 2. The County will expand its trail systems for pedestrians, equestrians, and bicyclists to connect with the local, state, and federal trail systems.</p>	<p>During construction trails and access roads used by the Applicant to reach tower sites may be temporarily closed. Once construction is complete, those roads and trails open to the public would remain available. The project would not result in any permanent closures. Therefore, the project would be consistent with these Goals.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>GOAL OS 5. The County will maintain and enhance the visual character of scenic routes in the County.</p> <p>Policy OS 5.2 – Define the scenic corridor on either side of the designated route, measured from the outside edge of the right-of-way, trail, or path.</p> <p>Development along scenic corridors will be required to demonstrate through visual analysis that proposed improvements are compatible with the scenic qualities present.</p> <p>Policy OS 5.3 – The County desires to retain the scenic character of visually important roadways throughout the County. A “scenic route” is a roadway that has scenic vistas and other scenic and aesthetic qualities that over time have been found to add beauty to the County. Therefore, the County designates the following routes as scenic highways and applies all applicable policies to development on these routes</p> <p>GOAL OS 6. Improve and preserve open space corridors throughout the County.</p> <p>GOAL OS 7. The County will minimize land use conflict between open spaces and surrounding land uses.</p> <p>Policy OS 7.6 – Require that hillside development be compatible with natural features and the ability to develop the site in a manner which preserves the integrity and character of the hillside environment, including but not limited to, consideration of terrain, landform, access needs, fire and erosion hazards, watershed and flood factors, tree preservation, and scenic amenities and quality</p>	<p>The Proposed Project is approximately 1 mile southwest of San Timoteo Canyon Road in hilly terrain. The project may be visible from this road and other scenic routes, therefore, these Goals are considered further in the Visual Resources section of the EIR/EIS.</p> <p>While the project would be in an existing corridor through open space, it would not enhance the character of scenic routes in the County or improved open space corridors.</p> <p>Two County Eligible scenic highways are present in the Proposed Project study area: Beaumont Avenue and San Timoteo Canyon Road, both within the Loma Linda SOI. The Proposed Project would be located within an existing utility corridor, and the structures would be similar to the design of some of the existing structures within the corridor. By removing three transmission lines of different design and replacing them with two transmission lines of the same design, the Proposed Project would improve the visual characteristics of the ROW by reducing the ROW’s structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast.</p> <p>The Project would be located within an established utility corridor, which would avoid the proliferation of additional ROWs across the hillside landscapes. Also, the Proposed Project would improve the visual characteristics of the ROW and hillside environment by replacing three transmission lines of different design with two lines of the same design, thereby reducing the ROW’s structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>NOISE ELEMENT</b>		
<p>GOAL N 1. The County will abate and avoid excessive noise exposures through noise mitigation measures incorporated into the design of new noise-generating and new noise-sensitive land uses, while protecting areas within the County where the present noise environment is within acceptable limits.</p> <p>GOAL N 2. The County will strive to preserve and maintain the quiet environment of mountain, desert and other rural areas.</p>	<p>During construction, the Proposed Project would include the use of equipment and helicopters that could generate excessive noise at noise-sensitive land uses. During construction, the ambient noise environment will increase, but this impact will cease with the conclusion of construction. Attainment of these Goals is evaluated in the EIR/EIS</p>	<p>NO</p>

**San Bernardino County General Plan, 2007 as amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>SAFETY ELEMENT</b>		
GOAL S 1. The County will minimize the potential risks resulting from exposure of County residents to natural and man-made hazards in the following priority: loss of life or injury, damage to property, litigation, excessive maintenance and other social and economic costs.	Various aspects of the Proposed Project could pose risk of exposure to natural and man-made hazards. These are evaluated in various sections of the EIR/EIS, including: Geology, Mineral Resources, and Soils; Hydrology; and Wildland Fire. Through design, siting, and application of mitigation measures, risks are minimized.	YES
GOAL S 3. The County will protect its residents and visitors from injury and loss of life and protect property from fires.	Wildland fire is evaluated in the EIR/EIS and mitigation recommended to ensure that project construction activities do not increase fire risk. Operation of the upgraded line will not increase fire risk over current conditions.	YES
GOAL S 6. The County will protect residents from natural and manmade hazards.	Various aspects of the Proposed Project could pose risk of exposure to natural and man-made hazards. These are evaluated in various sections of the EIR/EIS, including: Geology, Mineral Resources, and Soils; Hydrology; and Wildland Fire and mitigation measures recommended where appropriate.	YES
GOAL S 7. The County will minimize exposure to hazards and structural damage from geologic and seismic conditions.	Geologic and seismic conditions are evaluated in the Geology, Mineral Resources, and Soils; section of the EIR/EIS. Mitigation measures address this issue.	YES
GOAL S 8. The County will minimize exposure and potential of damage posed by aviation activity.	Aviation activity is evaluated in the Traffic and Transportation section of the EIR/EIS. Specific measures are required by FAA to ensure safety. Helicopter use will be consistent with FAA regulations and will follow a CPUC/BLM approved helicopter use plan.	YES
GOAL S 9. The County's emergency evacuation routes will quickly and efficiently evacuate all residents in the event of wildland fires and other natural disasters, and will ensure adequate access of emergency vehicles to all communities.	The Proposed Project would not block access or evacuation routes. Where road closures are required, these could be lifted during any emergency situation. Therefore, the project would be consistent with this Goal.	YES

**4.2 Riverside County, California**

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 2014.** Riverside County is the fourth-largest county in the State, stretching nearly 200 miles across and comprising over 7,200 square miles of river valleys, low deserts, mountains, foothills and rolling plains. Approximately 37 miles of the 45-mile 220 kV upgrade are in western Riverside County or its incorporated cities.

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Chapter 3: Land Use Element; Open Space, Habitat &amp; Natural Resource Preservation, Page LU-32</b>		
LU 8.1: Provide for permanent preservation of open space lands that contain important natural resources, hazards, watercourses, and scenic and recreational values.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County. Because the County's policies require the preservation of these areas, this policy is evaluated further in the biological resources section of the EIR/EIS. Mitigation measures are designed to address adverse impacts. In addition, the project is in a corridor already used for electric transmission.	YES
<b>Chapter 3: Land Use Element; Watercourse Overlay, Page LU-74</b>		
LU 29.1: Require that proposed projects on properties containing the Watercourse Overlay be reviewed for compliance with habitat, endangered species, flood control and applicable area plan-specific design standards.	The Proposed Project would not cross a Watercourse Overlay area. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
<b>Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Floodplain and Riparian Area Management, Page OS-12</b>		
OS 5.1: Substantially alter floodways or implement other channelization only as a "last resort," and limit the alteration to: a. that necessary for the protection of public health and safety only after all other options are exhausted; b. essential public service projects where no other feasible construction method or alternative project location exists; or c. projects where the primary function is improvement of fish and wildlife habitat.	The Proposed Project would not substantially alter floodways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
OS 5.2: If substantial modification to a floodway is proposed, design it to reduce adverse environmental effects to the maximum extent feasible, considering the following factors: a. stream scour; b. erosion protection and sedimentation; c. wildlife habitat and linkages; d. groundwater recharge capability; e. adjacent property; and f. design (a natural effect, examples could include soft riparian bottoms and gentle bank slopes, wide and shallow floodways, minimization of visible use of concrete, and landscaping with native plants to the maximum extent possible). A site specific hydrologic study may be required.	The Proposed Project would not involve modification of floodways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
OS 5.3: Based upon site, specific study, all development shall be set back from the floodway boundary a distance adequate to address the following issues: a. public safety; b. erosion; c. riparian or wetland buffer; d. wildlife movement corridor or linkage; and e. slopes.	The Proposed Project would not impact wildlife movement and is, therefore, consistent with this policy.	YES
OS 5.5: New development shall preserve and enhance existing native riparian habitat and prevent obstruction of natural watercourses. Incentives shall be utilized to the maximum extent possible.	The Proposed Project would not obstruct watercourses or significantly impact native riparian habitat. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
OS 5.6: Identify and, to the maximum extent possible, conserve remaining upland habitat areas adjacent to wetland and riparian areas that are critical to the feeding, hibernation, or nesting of wildlife species associated with these wetland and riparian areas.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, potentially impacting wetland and riparian areas. Because the County's policies require the preservation of these areas, this policy will be evaluated further in the biological resources section of the EIR/EIS.	YES
OS 5.7: Where land is prohibited from development due to its retention as natural floodways, floodplains and watercourses, incentives should be available to the owner of the land including density transfer and other mechanisms as may be adopted. These incentives will be provided for the purpose of encouraging the preservation of natural watercourses without creating undue hardship on the owner of properties following these policies.	This policy addresses an incentives program for the preservation of natural watercourses and does not apply to the Proposed Project.	N/A
<b>Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Wetlands, Page OS-13</b>		
OS 6.1: During the development review process, ensure compliance with the Clean Water Act's Section 404 in terms of wetlands mitigation policies and policies concerning fill material in jurisdictional wetlands.	The Proposed Project would be ensured for compliance with the Clean Water Act. Potential impacts to wetlands are discussed in the biological resources sections of the EIR/EIS. The project would comply with 404 permit obligations. Wetlands would not be filled.	YES
OS 6.2: Preserve buffer zones around wetlands where feasible and biologically appropriate.	Potential buffer areas adjacent to the proposed transmission line and associated site improvements are discussed in the EIR/EIS. Wetlands and areas around wetlands are avoided where feasible.	YES
OS 6.3: Consider wetlands for use as natural water treatment areas that will result in improvement of water quality.	The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.	YES
<b>Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Forest Resources, Page OS-19</b>		
OS 8.1: Cooperate with federal and State agencies to achieve the sustainable conservation of forest land as a means of providing open space and protecting natural resources and habitat lands included within the MSHCPs.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County. Review of the Proposed Project involves coordination with federal and State agencies. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
<b>Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Vegetation, Page OS-20</b>		
OS 9.1: Update the Vegetation Map for Western Riverside County in consultation with the California Department of Fish and Game, the Natural Diversity Data Base, the United States Forest Service, and other knowledgeable agencies. The County shall also provide these agencies with data as needed.	This policy requires coordination between Riverside County and the resources agencies in order to update the Vegetation Map for western Riverside County. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy; therefore, no further analysis is necessary.	YES
OS 9.3: Maintain and conserve superior examples of native trees, natural vegetation, stands of established trees, and other features for ecosystem, aesthetic, and water conservation purposes.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County. The Proposed Project would include measures to protect biological resources; therefore, it would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
OS 9.4: Conserve the oak tree resources in the County.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County that may contain oak trees. The Proposed Project would incorporate measures to protect oak trees if identified along the Proposed Project and alternative routes. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plans, Page OS-35**

OS 17.4: Require the preparation of biological reports in compliance with Riverside County Planning Department Biological Report Guidelines for development related uses that require discretionary approval to assess the impacts of such development and provide mitigation for impacts to biological resources until such time as the CVAG MSHCP and/or Western Riverside County MSHCP are adopted or should one or both MSHCP's not be adopted.	Biological surveys and reports were prepared for the Proposed Project. The results are incorporated into the biological resources sections of the EIR/EIS in compliance with County guidelines. The EIR/EIS takes into consideration the Western Riverside MSHCP and the Coachella Valley MSHCP. Appropriate mitigation measures are discussed as well.	YES
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OS 17.5: Establish baseline ratios for mitigating the impacts of development related uses to rare, threatened and endangered species and their associated habitats to be used until such time as the CVAG MSHCP and/or Western Riverside County MSHCP are adopted or should one or both MSHCP's not be adopted.	Biological surveys and reports were prepared for the Proposed Project. The results are incorporated into the biological resources sections of the EIR/EIS in compliance with County guidelines. Appropriate mitigation measures will be discussed as well.	YES
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**Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Environmentally Sensitive Lands, Page OS-36**

OS 18.1: Preserve multi-species habitat resources in the County of Riverside through the enforcement of the provisions of applicable MSHCP's, if adopted.	The Proposed Project would comply with the provisions of the applicable MSHCP's.	YES
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OS 18.2: Provide incentives to landowners that will encourage the protection of significant resources in the County beyond the preservation and/or conservation required to mitigate project impacts.	The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.	YES
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**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Land Use Element, Project Design, Page LU-22**

LU 4.1: Require that new developments be located and designed to visually enhance, not degrade the character of the surrounding area through consideration of the following concepts: a. Compliance with the design standards of the appropriate area plan land use category. l. Mitigate noise, odor, lighting, and other impacts on surrounding properties.	There are no aesthetic design standards pertaining to high-voltage transmission lines in the Land Use Element. The Proposed Project would result in the construction of upgraded transmission structures that would have a manufactured appearance with the potential to visually degrade the surrounding area. With mitigation, the project would be consistent with this policy	YES
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**Land Use Element, Land Use Compatibility , Page LU-28-30**

LU 6.1: Require land uses to develop in accordance with the General Plan and area plans to ensure compatibility and minimize impacts.	The Proposed Project would result in the construction of upgraded transmission facilities in an existing corridor with existing facilities; the continued use of the corridor for transmission would be consistent.	YES
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**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>LU 6.4: Retain and enhance the integrity of existing residential, employment, agricultural, and open space areas by protecting them from encroachment of land uses that would result in impacts from noise, noxious fumes, glare, shadowing, and traffic.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would result in the construction of upgraded transmission facilities with the potential to cause glare and shadows. However, this would be similar to existing conditions. Mitigation measures would address night lighting and surface treatments to prevent glare. As an existing land use, the line would not be an encroachment of a new land use. After construction, it would not create noise, fumes, or traffic.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p><b>Land Use Element, Open Space, Habitat &amp; Natural Resource Preservation, Page LU-32</b></p>		
<p>LU 8.2: Require that development protect environmental resources by compliance with the Multipurpose Open Space Element of the General Plan and federal and State regulations such as CEQA, NEPA, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act.</p>	<p>The project would be required to federal and State laws and regulations. Compliance with applicable laws and regulations would ensure consistency with the Open Space Element.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p><b>Land Use Element, Hillside Development &amp; Slope, Page LU-34</b></p>		
<p>LU 11.1: Apply the following policies to areas where development is allowed and that contain natural slopes, canyons, or other significant elevation changes, regardless of land use designation:</p> <p>a. Restrict development on visually significant ridgelines, canyon edges and hilltops through sensitive siting and appropriate landscaping to ensure development is visually unobtrusive.</p>	<p>The Project would cross several hilltops and ridgelines and would be located on canyon edges in Riverside County with the potential to cause additional skylining and appear more prominent and obtrusive due to greater structure heights. However, this potential impact would be offset by the reduction in structural complexity and industrial character in the ROW by eliminating the existing three transmission lines of different design and heights and replacing them with two transmission lines of identical design. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p><b>Land Use Element, Scenic Corridors, Page LU-36</b></p>		
<p>LU 13.1: Preserve and protect outstanding scenic vistas and visual features for the enjoyment of the traveling public.</p>	<p>There are no designated scenic vistas in the Proposed Project study area though the Proposed Project would be visible from two Officially Designated State Scenic Highways (SR 62 and SR 243), one Eligible State Scenic Highway (SR 111), and three County Eligible Scenic Highways (San Timoteo Canyon Road, Beaumont Avenue, and Whitewater Canyon Road). However, the Proposed Project would improve the characteristics of the portions of the ROW visible from the Designated and Eligible scenic highways, by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Also, the new structures would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer from these roadways. The resulting visual change would be incremental and not inconsistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>LU 13.3: Ensure that the design and appearance of new landscaping, structures, equipment, signs, or grading within Designated and Eligible State and County scenic highway corridors are compatible with the surrounding scenic setting or environment.</p>	<p>The Project would be visible from two Officially Designated State Scenic Highways (SR 62 and SR 243), one Eligible State Scenic Highway (SR 111), and three County Eligible Scenic Highways (San Timoteo Canyon Road, Beaumont Avenue, and Whitewater Canyon Road). However, the Proposed Project would improve the characteristics of the portions of the ROW visible from the Designated and Eligible scenic highways, by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Also, the new structures would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer from these roadways. The resulting visual change would not be inconsistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>LU 13.4: Maintain at least a 50-foot setback from the edge of the right-of-way for new development adjacent to Designated and Eligible State and County Scenic Highways.</p>	<p>Project structures would be located within an existing utility corridor and would be more than 50 feet from the edge of scenic highway ROWs. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p><b>Land Use Element, Open Space Area Plan Land Use Designations: Recreation, Page LU-57</b></p>		
<p>LU 19.4: Encourage that structures be designed to maintain the environmental character in which they are located.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project has the potential to be located within areas designated as Open Space/ Recreation. In many cases, the replacement transmission structures would be taller than existing structures. The overall environmental character would remain that of an electric transmission corridor.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>LU 20.2: Require that development be designed to blend with undeveloped natural contours of the site and avoid an unvaried, unnatural, or manufactured appearance.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project has the potential to contrast with the natural contours and appearance of the surrounding landscape. It is not possible to blend transmission structures with natural contours and to avoid a manufactured appearance.</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>Policy LU 22.2 – Require that development be designed to blend with undeveloped natural contours of the site and avoid an unvaried, unnatural, or manufactured appearance.</p>	<p>Although the Proposed Project would be located within an established utility corridor and would have similar visual characteristics as the existing transmission line structures, the Proposed Project would still exhibit an industrial, manufactured appearance. Although the resulting visual impact would not be substantial, there is no mitigation available that would bring the Proposed Project as proposed, into consistency with this policy.</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p>LU 20.4: Ensure that development does not adversely impact the open space and rural character of the surrounding area.</p>	<p>The Project would be located within an established utility corridor, which would avoid the proliferation of additional ROWs. Also, the Proposed Project would improve the visual characteristics of the ROW by replacing three transmission lines of different design with two lines of the same design, thereby reducing structural complexity and industrial character within the ROW. Therefore, the Proposed Project would not adversely impact the open space and rural character of the surrounding area and would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>Circulation Element, Scenic Corridors, Page C-49</b>		
<p>C 19.1: Preserve scenic routes that have exceptional or unique visual features in accordance with Caltrans' Scenic Highways Plan.</p>	<p>Portions of the Proposed Project would be located in close proximity to designated and eligible scenic highways within Riverside County. This policy is directive to County officials. The Project would be visible from two Officially Designated State Scenic Highways (SR 62 and SR 243), one Eligible State Scenic Highway (SR 111), and three County Eligible Scenic Highways (San Timoteo Canyon Road, Beaumont Avenue, and Whitewater Canyon Road). However, the Proposed Project would improve the characteristics of the portions of the ROW visible from the Designated and Eligible scenic highways by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Also, although taller than the existing structures, the incrementally greater height of the new structures would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer from these roadways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Circulation Element: Major Utility Corridors, Page C-58</b>		
<p>C 25.2: Locate new and relocated utilities underground when possible. All remaining utilities shall be located or screened in a manner that minimizes their visibility by the public.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be a major aboveground utility that would be visible from public roads. It is not feasible to place the high-voltage transmission lines underground.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Multipurpose Open Space Element: Scenic Resources, Page OS- 44</b>		
<p>OS 21.1: Identify and conserve the skylines, view corridors, and outstanding scenic vistas within Riverside County.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would affect a number of skyline views within the County. The Project would cross several hilltops and ridgelines and would be located on canyon edges in Riverside County with the potential to cause additional skylining and appear more prominent and obtrusive due to greater structure heights. However, this potential impact would be offset by the reduction in structural complexity and industrial character in the ROW by eliminating the existing three transmission lines of different design and heights and replacing them with two transmission lines of identical design. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**Multipurpose Open Space Element: Scenic Corridors, Page OS-45**

<p>OS 22.1: Design developments within designated scenic highway corridors to balance the objectives of maintaining scenic resources with accommodating compatible land uses.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would affect views within eligible and designated scenic highways within Riverside County. However, the changes would be minor in the context of existing conditions. The Project would be visible two Officially Designated State Scenic Highways (SR 62 and SR 243), one Eligible State Scenic Highways (SR 111), and three County Eligible Scenic Highways (San Timoteo Canyon Road, Beaumont Avenue, and Whitewater Canyon Road). However, the Proposed Project would improve the characteristics of the portions of the ROW visible from the Designated and Eligible scenic highways by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Also, although taller than the existing structures, the incrementally greater height of the new structures would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer from these roadways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**LAND USE**

**Chapter 3: Land Use Element, Infrastructure, Public Facilities & Service Provision, Page LU-28**

<p>LU 5.4: Ensure that development and conservation land uses do not infringe upon existing public utility corridors, including fee owned rights-of-way and permanent easements, whose true land use is that of "public facilities." This policy will ensure that the "public facilities" designation governs over what otherwise may be inferred by the large scale general plan maps.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor and would continue to be compatible with public facility and open space land use designations. As such, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**Chapter 3: Land Use Element, Public Facility Area Plan Land Use Designation, Page LU-67**

<p>LU 25.6: Ensure that development and conservation land uses do not infringe upon existing public utility corridors, including fee owned rights-of-way and permanent easements, whose true land use is that of Public Facilities. This policy will ensure that the "public facilities" designation governs over what otherwise may be inferred by the large-scale general plan maps.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor and would continue to be compatible with public facility and open space land use designations. As such, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element, Mineral Resources, Page OS-29**

<p>OS 14.2: Restrict incompatible land uses within the impact area of existing or potential surface mining areas.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would traverse mining areas, but would be compatible with this land use.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>OS 14.5: Require that new non-mining land uses adjacent to existing mining operations be designed to provide a buffer between the new development and the mining operations. The buffer distance shall be based on an evaluation of noise, aesthetics, drainage, operating conditions, biological resources, topography, lighting, traffic, operating hours, and air quality.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would traverse mining areas, but would be compatible with this land use designation. Construction of the transmission line would be coordinated with the mine owner.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>WILDERNESS AND RECREATION</b>		
<b>Chapter 5: Multipurpose Open Space Element; Open Space, Parks and Recreation; Page OS-44</b>		
OS 20.2: Prevent unnecessary extension of public facilities, services, and utilities, for urban uses, into Open Space–Conservation designated areas.	The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that has been designated for public facility or open space use. It would not expand the ROW in the County, therefore, the project would be consistent with this policy	YES
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>		
<b>Land Use, Land Use Compatibility, Page LU-30</b>		
LU 6.4 Retain and enhance the integrity of existing residential, employment, agricultural, and open space areas by protecting them from encroachment of land uses that would result in impacts from noise, noxious fumes, glare, shadowing, and traffic.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would occur within an existing utility ROW and would not introduce an incompatible land use, nor would it create noise, fumes, substantial glare, or traffic. The shadowing that could result would be minor and would not impact agricultural areas. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.	YES
<b>Land Use, Agriculture, Page LU-49</b>		
LU 16.1 Encourage retaining agriculturally designated lands where agricultural activity can be sustained at an operational scale, where it accommodates lifestyle choice, and in locations where impacts to and from potentially incompatible uses, such as residential uses, are minimized, through incentives such as tax credits.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would not preclude the retention of agriculturally designated lands at an operational scale. In addition, the Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility ROW and would not introduce an incompatible land use. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.	YES
LU 16.4 Encourage conservation of productive agricultural lands. Preserve prime agricultural lands for high-value crop production.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would have the potential to impact agricultural resources. Some transmission structure sites may require occupation of prime or high-value crop land.	NO
<b>Agricultural Resources – Page OS-18</b>		
OS 7.3 Encourage conservation of productive agricultural lands and preservation of prime agricultural lands.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would have a potential to impact agricultural resources. To the extent feasible, prime lands would be avoided.	YES
OS 7.5 Encourage the combination of Agriculture with other compatible open space uses in order to provide an economic advantage to Agriculture. Allow by right, in areas designated Agriculture, activities related to the production of food and fiber, and support uses incidental and secondary to the onsite agricultural operation.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility ROW in which transmission line operation would be a compatible use and would not conflict with this policy.	YES

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>CULTURAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Cultural Resources, Page OS-42</b>		
<p>OS 19.3 Review proposed development for the possibility of cultural resources and for compliance with the cultural resources program.</p> <p>OS 19.4 To the extent feasible, designate as open space and allocate resources and/or tax credits to prioritize the protection of cultural resources preserved in place or left in an undisturbed state. (AI 145)</p> <p>OS 19.5 Exercise sensitivity and respect for human remains from both prehistoric and historic time periods and comply with all applicable laws concerning such remains.</p>	<p>The requirements of these policies will be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes. These may include inventory, evaluation, avoidance, mitigation, and/or monitoring. Mitigation measures would require the development and implementation of a Historic Properties Treatment Plan, which would include a research design and scope of work for evaluation of cultural resources and for data recovery or additional treatment of NRHP-eligible sites. Mitigation and treatment plans would need to be approved by State and local governments, and Native Americans. The Proposed Project and alternatives would be consistent with this policy</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Paleontological Resources, Page OS-42</b>		
<p>OS 19.6 Whenever existing information indicated that a site proposed for development has high paleontological sensitivity, a paleontological resource impact mitigation program (PRIMP) shall be filed with the County Geologist. The PRIMP shall specify the steps to be taken to mitigate impacts to paleontological resources.</p> <p>OS 19.7 Whenever existing information indicates that a site proposed for development has low paleontological sensitivity as shown in Figure OS-7, no direct mitigation is required unless a fossil is encountered during site development. Should a fossil be encountered, the County Geologist shall be notified and a paleontologist shall document the extent and potential significance of the paleontological resources on the site and establish appropriate mitigation measures for further site development.</p> <p>OS 19.8 Whenever existing information indicates that a site proposed for development has undetermined paleontological sensitivity as shown on Figure OS-7, a report shall be filed with the County Geologist documenting the extent and potential significance of the paleontological resources on site and identifying mitigation measures for the fossil and for impacts to significant paleontological resources.</p>	<p>The requirements of this policy will be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes. These may include inventory, evaluation, avoidance, mitigation, and/or monitoring.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>NOISE</b>		
<b>Noise Element</b>		
<p>Policy N.1.1: Protect noise-sensitive land uses from high levels of noise by restricting noise-producing land uses from these areas. If the noise producing land use cannot be relocated, then noise buffers such as setbacks, landscaping, or block walls shall be used.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would involve new sources of noise that could affect noise-sensitive land uses. This policy was evaluated further in the EIR/EIS. However, noise from construction is a short tem impact, and noise from operations would not be at a high level.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>Policy N.1.3: Consider the following uses noise-sensitive and discourage these uses in areas in excess of 65 CNEL: Schools; Hospitals; Rest Homes; Long Term Care Facilities; Mental Care Facilities; Residential Uses; Libraries; Passive Recreation Uses; and Schools.</p> <p>According to the State of California Office of Planning and Research General Plan Guidelines, and acoustical study may be required in cases where these noise-sensitive land uses are located in an area of 60 CNEL or greater. Any land use that is exposed to levels higher than 65 CNEL will require noise attenuation measures.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located near some noise-sensitive land uses. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy N.1.4: Determine if existing land uses will present noise compatibility issues with proposed project by undertaking site surveys.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located near some noise-sensitive land uses. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy N.1.5: Prevent and mitigate the adverse impacts of excessive noise exposure on the residents, employees, visitors, and noise-sensitive uses of Riverside County.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located near some noise-sensitive land uses. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy N.1.8: Limit the maximum permitted noise levels that cross property lines and impact adjacent land uses....</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located near some noise-sensitive land uses. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy N.3.6: Discourage projects that are incapable of successfully mitigating excessive noise.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not result in excessive noise.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy N.12.1: Minimize the impacts of construction noise on adjacent uses within acceptable practices.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located near some noise-sensitive land uses. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy N.12.2: Ensure that construction activities are regulated to establish hours of operation in order to prevent and/or mitigate the generation of excessive or adverse noise impacts on surrounding areas.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located near some noise-sensitive land uses. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy N.12.4: Require that all construction equipment utilizes noise reduction features (e.g., mufflers and engine shrouds) that are no less effective than those originally installed by the manufacturer.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located near some noise-sensitive land uses. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC</b>		
<b>Circulation Element</b>		
Policy C 2.1: Maintain the countywide target Levels of Service.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would result in temporary construction traffic. Required traffic controls and coordination with agencies having jurisdiction over roads would reduce expected construction traffic impacts. The Proposed Project and alternatives would not include significant operational traffic. Therefore, the Proposed Project and alternatives would be consistent with this policy.	YES
Policy C 3.6: Require private developers to be primarily responsible for the improvement of streets and highways service access to developing commercial, industrial, and residential areas.	The Proposed Project would not result in new substations or other industrial facilities. There would be no long-term future traffic loads created.	YES
Policy C 3.8: Restrict heavy-duty truck through-traffic in residential and community center areas and plan land uses so that trucks do not need to traverse these areas.	The Proposed Project would result in temporary heavy-duty truck trips during its construction phase. However, construction traffic would be limited to public roadways with minimal travel through residential areas. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>		
<b>Air Quality Element, Sensitive Receptor Policies</b>		
AQ 2.1: The County land use planning efforts shall ensure that sensitive receptors are separated and protected from polluting point sources to the greatest extent possible. AQ 2.2: Require site plan designs to protect people and land uses sensitive to air pollution through the use of barriers and/or distance from emissions sources when possible. AQ 2.3: Encourage the use of pollution control measures such as landscaping, vegetation and other materials, which trap particulate matter or control pollution.	The Proposed Project would not have substantial ongoing air pollution activities in this jurisdiction that could affect sensitive receptors, and the potential for sensitive receptor impacts for this area are addressed in the EIR/EIS.	YES
<b>Stationary Source Policies</b>		
AQ 4.1: Encourage the use of building materials/methods which reduce emissions.	The Proposed Project would implement Best Management Practices and comply with AQMD requirements. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
AQ 4.5: Require stationary pollution sources to minimize the release of toxic pollutants through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design features;</li> <li>• Operating procedures;</li> <li>• Preventive maintenance;</li> <li>• Operator training; and</li> <li>• Emergency response planning</li> </ul>	The Proposed Project is not likely to include stationary pollution sources in this jurisdiction.	YES
AQ 4.6: Require stationary air pollution sources to comply with applicable air district rules and control measures.		
AQ 4.7: To the greatest extent possible, require every project to mitigate any of its anticipated emissions which exceed allowable emissions as established by the SCAQMD, MDAQMD, SOGAB, the Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources Board.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of air quality mitigation measures.	YES



**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>AQ 4.8: Expand, as appropriate, measures contained in the County's Fugitive Dust Reduction Program for the Coachella Valley to the entire County.</p> <p>AQ 4.9: Require compliance with SCAQMD Rules 403 and 403.1, and support appropriate future measures to reduce fugitive dust emanating from construction sites.</p> <p>AQ 4.10: Coordinate with the SCAQMD and MDAQMD to create a communications plan to alert those conducting grading operations in the County of first, second, and third stage smog alerts, and when wind speeds exceed 25 miles per hour. During these instances all grading operations should be suspended.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would comply with SCAQMD Rule 403/403.1. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with these policies.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>HYDROLOGY &amp; WATER RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Water Resources/Flooding, Page LU-74, Water Quality, Page OS-10, Floodplain and Riparian Management, Page OS-11, Flood and Inundation, Page S-33</b>		
<p>LU 29.1: Require that proposed projects on properties containing the Watercourse Overlay be reviewed for compliance with habitat, endangered species, flood control, and applicable area plan-specific design standards.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>OS 3.3: Minimize pollutant discharge into storm drainage systems and natural drainage and aquifers.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through implementation mitigation measures, which provide policies and procedures for hazardous substance storage, use and control.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>OS 5.1: Substantially alter floodways or implement other channelization only as a "last resort," and limit the alteration to: a. that necessary for the protection of public health and safety only after all other options are exhausted; b. essential public service projects where no other feasible construction method or alternative project location exists; or c. projects where the primary function is improvement of fish and wildlife habitat.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation mitigation measures, which provide procedures to avoid active drainage channels.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>OS 5.3: Based upon site specific study, all development shall be set back from the floodway boundary a distance adequate to address the following issues: a. public safety; b. erosion; c. riparian or wetland buffer; d. wildlife movement corridor or linkage; and e. slopes.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation mitigation measures, which provide erosion control procedures.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>S 4.1: For new construction and proposals for substantial improvements to residential and nonresidential development within 100-year floodplains as mapped by FEMA or as determined by site specific hydrologic studies for areas not mapped by FEMA, the County shall apply a minimum level of acceptable risk; and disapprove projects that cannot mitigate the hazard to the satisfaction of the Building Official or other responsible agency.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures. Riverside County will have the opportunity to review and comment on the EIR/EIS.</p>	<p>YES</p>

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Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>S 4.2: Enforce provisions of the Building Code in conjunction with the following guidelines: <b>a.</b> All residential, commercial and industrial structures shall be flood-proofed from the 100-year storm flow, and the finished floor elevation shall be constructed at such a height as to meet this requirement. Critical facilities should be constructed above grade to the satisfaction of the Building Official, based on federal, State, or other reliable hydrologic studies. <b>b.</b> Critical facilities shall not be permitted in floodplains unless the project design ensures that there are two routes for emergency egress and regress, and minimizes the potential for debris or flooding to block emergency routes, either through the construction of dikes, bridges, or large-diameter storm drains under roads used for primary access. <b>c.</b> Development using, storing, or otherwise involved with substantial quantities of onsite hazardous materials shall not be permitted, unless all standards for evaluation, anchoring, and flood-proofing have been satisfied; and hazardous materials are stored in watertight containers, not capable of floating, to the extent required by State and federal laws and regulations. <b>d.</b> Specific flood-proofing measures may require: use of paints, membranes, or mortar to reduce water seepage through walls; installation of water tight doors, bulkheads, and shutters; installation of flood water pumps in structures; and proper modification and protection of all electrical equipment, circuits, and appliances so that the risk of electrocution or fire is eliminated. However, fully enclosed areas that are below finished floors shall require openings to equalize the forces on both sides of the walls.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures. Use and storage of hazardous materials would be consistent with legal requirements and a hazardous materials management plan.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>S 4.4: Prohibit alteration of floodways and channelization unless alternative methods of flood control are not technically feasible or unless alternative methods are utilized to the maximum extent practicable.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures to avoid active drainage channels.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>S 4.8: Allow development within the floodway fringe, if the proposed structures can be adequately flood-proofed and will not contribute to property damage or risks to public safety.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>S 4.9: Within the floodway fringe of a floodplain as mapped by FEMA or as determined by site specific hydrologic studies for areas not mapped by FEMA, require development to be capable of withstanding flooding and to minimize use of fill. However, some development may be compatible within flood plains and floodways, as may some other land uses. In such cases, flood proofing would not be required. Compatible uses shall not, however, obstruct flows or adversely affect upstream or downstream properties with increased velocities, erosion backwater effects, or concentrations of flows.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS</b>		
<b>Fault Rupture Safety Element, Page S-9</b>		
<p>Policy S 2.1: Minimize fault rupture hazards through enforcement of Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act provisions and the following policies:</p> <p>a. Require geologic studies or analyses for critical structures, and lifeline, high-occupancy, schools, and high-risk structures, within 0.5 miles of all Quaternary to historic faults shown on the Earthquake Fault Studies Zones map.</p> <p>b. Require geologic trenching studies within all designated Earthquake Fault Studies Zones, unless adequate evidence, as determined and accepted by the County Engineering Geologist, is presented.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation mitigation measures, which provide procedures to analyze, confirm, and avoid active fault locations.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Seismically induced liquefaction, landslides, and slope failure Safety Element, Page S-10</b>		
<p>Policy S 2.1: Minimize fault rupture hazards through enforcement of Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Act provisions and the following policies:</p> <p>a. Require geologic studies or analyses for critical structures, and lifeline, high-occupancy, schools, and high-risk structures, within 0.5 miles of all Quaternary to historic faults shown on the Earthquake Fault Studies Zones map.</p> <p>b. Require geologic trenching studies within all designated Earthquake Fault Studies Zones, unless adequate evidence, as determined and accepted by the County Engineering Geologist, is presented.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures to analyze, confirm, and avoid active fault locations.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy S 2.2: Require geological and geotechnical investigations in areas with potential for earthquake-induced liquefaction, landsliding or settlement as part of the environmental and development review process, for any structure proposed for human occupancy, and any structure whose damage would cause harm.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures for evaluating, avoiding and minimizing earthquake-induced soil instability impacts.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy S 2.3: Require that a State-licensed professional investigate the potential for liquefaction in areas designated as underlain by "Susceptible Sediments" and "Shallow Ground Water" for all general construction projects.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures for investigating the potential for liquefaction in suspect areas.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Slope and soil instability hazards, Hillside areas Safety Element, Page S-25</b>		
<p>Policy S 3.1: Require the following in landslide potential hazard management zones, or when deemed necessary by the California Environmental Quality Act:</p> <p>a. Preliminary geotechnical and geologic investigations.</p> <p>b. Evaluations of site stability, including any possible impact on adjacent properties, before final project design is approved.</p> <p>c. Consultant reports, investigations, and design recommendations required for grading permits, building permits, and subdivision applications be prepared by State-licensed professionals.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures for evaluating, avoiding and minimizing potential soil instability impacts.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>Policy S 3.3: Before issuance of building permits, require certification regarding the stability of the site against adverse effects of rain, earthquakes, and subsidence.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures for preparation of professionally certified geologic/geotechnical soil investigations and reports.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, 2003, as amended through 3-11-14**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
Policy S 3.4: Require adequate mitigation of potential impacts from erosion, slope instability, or other hazardous slope conditions, or from loss of aesthetic resources for development occurring on slope and hillside areas.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of several Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for evaluating, avoiding and minimizing potential erosion and soil instability impacts.	YES
<b>Wind Erosion Safety Element, Page S-30</b>		
Policy S 3.11: Require studies that address the potential of this hazard on proposed development within "High" and "Very High" wind erosion hazard zones.	The Proposed Project would be constructed in High Wind Erosion Susceptibility areas. This issue would be evaluated as part of the EIR/EIS analysis. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
Policy S 3.13: Require buildings to be designed to resist wind loads.	The Proposed Project would follow design standards for wind loads on towers. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.	YES

**Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan, Area Plans.** The following area plans are an extension of the County of Riverside General Plan and Vision Statement. The Goals and Policies identified above for the Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan are applicable and express the goals of the following area plans. The area plans detail the specific physical, environmental, and economic characteristics for areas within the Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan area. While the area plans do not include specific policies for the development of utility corridors, construction and operation of the Proposed Project would be evaluated for consistency with both the specific area plans and the Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan policies and goals.

Using the Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan as the primary foundation, the area plans establish policies for development and conservation within the identified area. Because the Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line these area plans identify additional policies and direction for development and conservation specifically for the following specific geographic areas:

- **Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan, 2011.** The Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan contains policies that guide the physical development and land uses in this rugged unincorporated portion of Riverside County. The Reche Canyon/Badlands area is a predominantly mountainous, rural residential, and rugged natural open space region in northwestern Riverside County. The area consists of expansive rural and mountainous terrain, with low-lying habitat and agricultural valley areas in the southern portion of the planning area. It is distinguished by the immense variety of physical features found in this singular portion of the county. The land is devoted to agriculture, rural residential, commercial, mining, public facility and recreational uses. Of these, rural and hillside residential uses consume the largest territory. The rural communities of Reche Canyon and Pigeon Pass are located in the northwesterly portion of the planning area. Scattered and clustered hillside and rural residential uses are situated in the area.

**Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan, 2011**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Land Use, Local Land Use Policies, Page 29</b>		
<b>Equestrian Uses</b>		
RCBAP 2.1: Ensure the provision and/or preservation of equestrian trails and related facilities in the Reche Canyon/Badlands area.	The Proposed Project includes the construction of an access road that could potentially be used for recreation. Existing equestrian trails would not be removed as a result of the Proposed Project.	YES
<b>Multipurpose Open Space, Local Open Space Policies, Pages 45-48</b>		
<b>RCIP Vision/Multipurpose Open Space</b>		
RCBAP 13.1: Protect visual and biological resources in the Reche Canyon/Badlands area through adherence to General Plan policies found in the Multipurpose Open Space Element.	The Multipurpose Open Space Element of the County General Plan has been reviewed and considered during the EIR/EIS analysis. Mitigation measures are designed to be protective of resources or to provide offsetting mitigation.	YES
<b>Floodplains and Watercourses</b>		
RCBAP 14.1: Protect the watercourse and floodplain areas, and provide recreational opportunities and flood protection through adherence to policies in the Open Space, Habitat and Natural Resources Preservation section of the General Plan Land Use Element, and the Watershed Management section of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, and potentially affect watercourses and floodplain areas. Most structures would be at higher elevations in this area, along ridges and away from watercourses and floodplains. Policies of the General Plan are considered when developing mitigation measures protective of these resources.	YES
<b>Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan</b>		
RCBAP 16.1: Conserve habitat that captures the diversity of the Riverside Lowlands bioregion within the Reche Canyon/Badlands area. The Reche Canyon/Badlands region includes substantial areas of remaining natural habitat within the Riverside Lowlands, including portion of the San Jacinto River, the Badlands, Reche Canyon area, and the Mystic Lake/San Jacinto Wildlife Area.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County in and existing transmission corridor. It would have minimal impact on habitat, and those impacts would be offset by mitigation.	YES
RCBAP 16.2: Conserve the existing habitat values in the Reche Canyon/Badlands portion of the San Jacinto River with a focus on conservation of flood plain areas supporting Traver-Domino-Willows soils. Conservation should focus on maintaining habitat for sensitive plant species and maintaining habitat for sensitive plant species and maintaining and enhancing linkage values along this portion of the San Jacinto River between the San Jacinto and Santa Ana Mountains.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County. The Proposed Project would include measures to protect biological resources. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
RCBAP 16.3: Conserve existing vernal pool complexes associated with the San Jacinto River flood plain, in the Mystic Lake/San Jacinto Wildlife Area. Conservation should focus on vernal pool surface area and supporting watersheds.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, and potentially affect vernal pools. However, the Proposed Project would include measures to protect biological resources. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
RCBAP 16.4: Conserve existing, intact upland habitat blocks between Sycamore Canyon Park area, Box Springs Mountain Reserve, and San Bernardino County to the north, focusing on sage scrub, grassland, and chaparral habitat.	The project would not be located in this area. Connections between these habitat areas would not be impeded by the Proposed Project	YES

**Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan, 2011**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
RCBAP 16.5: Provide for a connection of intact habitat between San Jacinto Wildlife Area/Mystic Lake and adjacent Badlands area to the north.	Connections between these habitat areas would not be impeded by the Proposed Project.	YES
RCBAP 16.6: Provide for connection of intact habitat between the Badlands and San Bernardino National Forest to the south.	Connections between these habitat areas would not be impeded by the Proposed Project.	YES
RCBAP 16.7: Conserve high-quality sage scrub and chamise chaparral in order to protect core population of Bell's sage sparrow in Badlands area.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, and potentially impact sage scrub and chamise chaparral. Mitigation is provided for any loss of this habitat.	YES
RCBAP 16.8: Conserve San Jacinto Valley crownscale, vernal barley, Davidson's saltbush, Coulter's goldfields, and spreading navarretia. Conservation should focus on the Traver-Domino-Willows soil series occurring in the San Jacinto River flood plain. Key populations of these three species are known to exist within this section of the San Jacinto River	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County. Mitigation is provided for any loss of this habitat.	YES
RCBAP 16.9: Conserve vernal pool complexes supporting thread-leaved brodiaea and California Orcutt grass known to exist within the Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, and potentially affect vernal pools. Mitigation is provided for any loss of this habitat.	YES
RCBAP 16.10: Conserve alluvial scrub and alkali vernal plain habitat supporting a key population of smooth tarplant, Wright's trichocoronis, and little mousetail within this section of the San Jacinto River system.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, and potentially affect vernal pools. Mitigation is provided for any loss of this habitat...	YES
RCBAP 16.11: Conserve sandy-granitic soils within chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitats capable of supporting Payson's jewelflower and prostrate spineflower known to exist within the Reche Canyon/Badlands area.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, and would potentially affect these soils. Mitigation is provided for any loss of this habitat.	YES
RCBAP 16.12: Conserve existing populations of the California gnatcatcher in the Reche Canyon/Badlands area.	The Proposed Project may impact gnatcatchers and their habitat. However, the Proposed Project would include measures to protect biological resources. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Circulation: Scenic Highways, Page 36**

RCBAP 11.1: Protect the scenic highways in the Reche Canyon/Badlands area from change that would diminish the aesthetic value of adjacent properties through policies in the Scenic Corridors sections of the General Plan Land Use, Multipurpose Open Space, and Circulation Elements.	The Proposed Project would affect views within two County eligible scenic roadways (San Timoteo Canyon Road and Redlands Boulevard) within the Reche Canyon/Badlands Planning Area. The project is not on adjacent properties to these roads and is in an existing corridor wherein transmission structures already exist.	YES
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**Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan, 2011**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**Multipurpose Open Space**

RCBAP 13.1: Protect visual and biological resources in the Reche Canyon/Badlands area through adherence to General Plan policies found in the Multipurpose Open Space Element.	General Plan Policy OS 21.1 is to identify and conserve the skylines, view corridors, and outstanding scenic vistas within Riverside County. Although the Proposed Project would cross Reche Canyon, the Proposed Project would be replacing one transmission line with a new transmission line of similar design. Therefore, the perceptible change by the casual viewer would be minimal, and the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy..	YES
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**AGRICULTURE**

**Land Use, Agriculture, Page 29**

RCBAP 3.1: Preserve the viability of Agriculture in the region through adherence to policies found in the Agriculture Area Plan Designation section of the General Plan Land Use Element, and policies located in the Agricultural Resources section of the Multipurpose Open Space Element.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would not preclude the retention of agriculturally designated lands at an operational scale. In addition, the Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility ROW and would not introduce an incompatible land use..	YES
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**TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC**

RCBAP 9.2: Maintain the County's roadway Level of Service standards as described in the Level of Service section of the Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan Circulation Element.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would result in temporary construction traffic. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure T-7a would reduce expected construction traffic impacts. The Proposed Project and alternatives would not include significant operational traffic. Therefore, the Proposed Project and alternatives would be consistent with this policy.	YES
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**HYDROLOGY & WATER RESOURCES**

**Water Resources/Flooding, Local Hazards Policies, Flooding, Page 49**

RCBAP 17.2: Require that proposed development projects that are subject to flood hazards, surface ponding, high erosion potential or sheet flow be submitted to the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for review.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of all APMs and Mitigation Measures associated with Hydrology and Water Resources. Riverside County will have the opportunity to review and comment on this EIR/EIS.	YES
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**GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS**

**Seismic/Liquefaction Local Hazard Policies, Page 50**

Policy RCBAP 19.1: Protect life and property from seismic-related incidents through adherence to policies in the Seismic Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of several Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for avoiding and minimizing earthquake-induced soil instability impacts.	YES
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■ **Pass Area Plan, 2003, as amended.** The Pass, or more specifically the San Gorgonio Pass Area, is a distinctive geographical area between the Coachella, San Jacinto, and Moreno Valleys. The Badlands separate the Pass Area Plan from Moreno Valley to the west and the San Jacinto Valley to the south. The San Jacinto Mountains form the southern boundary and the San Bernardino Mountains generally define the northern boundary. The Coachella Valley lies immediately to the east of the planning area. In relation to other area plans, the Pass is bounded by the Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan to the west, the San Jacinto Valley Area Plan and Riverside Extended Mountain Area Plan (REMAP) to the

south, and the Western Coachella Valley Area Plan to the east. The Cities of Redlands and Yucaipa, which are located within the County of San Bernardino, lie to the north. The incorporated Cities of Banning, Beaumont, and Calimesa are located within the Pass, as well as the unincorporated communities of Cherry Valley, Cabazon, and Banning Bench.

<b>Pass Area Plan, 2003, as amended</b>		
<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Multipurpose Open Space, Local Open Space Policies, Watersheds, Floodplains, and Watercourses, Pages 49 and 51</b>		
PAP 14.1: Protect the Santa Ana, San Jacinto, and Salton Sea watersheds and surrounding habitats, and provide flood protection through adherence to the Watershed Management section of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.	Watersheds would not be significantly impacted by the Proposed Project. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
PAP 15.1: Protect viable oak woodlands through adherence to the Oak Tree Management Guidelines and Best Management Practices adopted by Riverside County.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County that may contain oak trees. Mitigation for any loss of this vegetation is provided in the EIR/EIS.	YES
PAP 16.5: Conserve coastal sage scrub patches which support known populations of granite night lizard and granite spiny lizard.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County that may contain coastal sage scrub patches. Mitigation for any loss of this vegetation is provided in the EIR/EIS.	YES
PAP 16.8: Maintain wetlands and wetland connections via Noble Creek to conserve wetland species and wildlife dispersal.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County that may contain wetlands. Mitigation for any loss of this resource is provided in the EIR/EIS.	YES
PAP 16.9: Maintain a contiguous connection between the proposed reserves in San Bernardino County and the Badlands area.	Connections between the proposed San Bernardino County and the Badlands areas preserves would not be impeded by the Proposed Project.	YES
<b>VISUAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Land Use, Mt. Palomar Nighttime Lighting</b>		
PAP 9.1: Adhere to the County's lighting requirements for standards that are intended to limit light leakage and spillage that may interfere with the operations of the Palomar Observatory.	It is not expected that the Proposed Project would require additional night lighting within the Pass Planning Area. If the FAA requires lighting on certain towers, such as near the Banning Municipal Airport, this would take precedence over local policy. Such lighting would not be significant in comparison to existing highway and urban lighting in the vicinity.	YES



**Pass Area Plan, 2003, as amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>Circulation, Scenic Highways</b>		
<p>PAP 12.1: Protect the scenic highways in the Pass from change that would diminish the aesthetic value of adjacent properties in accordance with the Scenic Corridors sections of the General Plan Land Use, Multipurpose Open Space, and Circulation Elements.</p>	<p>Within the Pass Area Plan boundaries, the Proposed Project would be visible from one Officially Designated State Scenic Highway (SR 243), and two County Eligible Scenic Highways (San Timoteo Canyon Road and Beaumont Avenue). However, the Proposed Project would improve the characteristics of the portions of the ROW visible from the designated and eligible scenic highways by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Also, although taller than the existing structures, the incrementally greater height of the new structures would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer from these roadways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>		
<b>Agricultural Preservation, Page 35</b>		
<p>PAP 7.1: Protect farmland and agricultural resources within the Pass planning area through adherence to the Agricultural Resources section of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element and the Agriculture Land Use Designation Policies section of the General Plan Land Use Element.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would have a potential to impact agricultural resources during construction. However, this is a short-term impact. Operation of the project would not affect agriculture.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC</b>		
<p>PAP 1.1 To provide for the orderly development of Banning Municipal Airport and the surrounding area, comply with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan for Banning Municipal Airport as fully set forth in Appendix L and as summarized in Table 4, as well as any applicable policies related to airports in the Land Use, Circulation, Safety and Noise Elements of the Riverside County General Plan.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be subject to FAA requirements regarding the height of structures near the airport and any need for hazard lighting or marker balls. As described in the Traffic and Transportation section of the EIR/EIS, compliance with FAA requirements would ensure consistency with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>PAP 10.2: Maintain the County's roadway Level of Service standards as described in the Level of Service section of the Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan Circulation Element.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would result in temporary construction traffic. However, implementation of a traffic management plan and coordination with agencies having jurisdictions over roads would address this policy. The Proposed Project would not include significant operational traffic; therefore, it would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>HYDROLOGY &amp; WATER RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Water Resources/Flooding – Cabazon, Page 32</b>		
<p>PAP 5.3: Allow uses that can be periodically flooded in areas within the 100-year flood zone. Such uses might include agriculture, golf courses, recreational uses, utilities, surface mining operations, parking, landscaping, and compatible resource development.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>PAP 5.4: Require building pads to be raised, at minimum, to the elevation of the 100-year flood zone, for any habitable structures within the 100-year flood zone.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not place any habitable structures within the 100-year flood zone; therefore, it would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Pass Area Plan, 2003, as amended**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>Flooding, Page 56</b>		
PAP 17.3: Require that proposed development projects that are subject to flood hazards, surface ponding, high erosion potential or sheet flow be submitted to the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for review.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of Mitigation Measures associated with Hydrology and Water Resources. Riverside County will have the opportunity to review and comment on this EIR/EIS.	YES

**GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES AND SOILS**

**Seismic/Liquefaction**

PAP 19.1: Protect life and property from seismic-related incidents through adherence to policies in the Seismic Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for avoiding and minimizing earthquake-induced soil instability impacts.	YES
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■ **Western Coachella Valley Area Plan, 2012.** As the entryway to the vast desert areas of eastern Riverside County, Western Coachella Valley is surrounded by the mountainous area of the REMAP to the west and southwest, The Pass Area Plan to the west, the Eastern Coachella Valley Area Plan to the east, and San Bernardino County and Joshua Tree National Park to the northeast. The Western Coachella Valley Area Plan boundary encompasses eight cities: Desert Hot Springs, Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, La Quinta, and Indio.

**Western Coachella Valley Area Plan, 2012**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Watershed, Floodplains, and Watercourses, Page 59</b>		
WCVAP 21.1: Protect the Whitewater River watershed and habitat, and provide recreational opportunities and flood protection through adherence to policies in the Open Space, Habitat and Natural Resources Preservation section of the General Plan Land Use Element and the Watershed Management section of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be constructed on open space areas of the County, and potentially affect the Whitewater River watershed. The watershed would be spanned by the project and would not be affected except for visually. However, visual impacts would be similar to existing conditions with regard to the presence of transmission structures and conductors spanning the river.	YES

**Habitat Conservation**

WCVAP 22.1: Protect biological resources in the Western Coachella Valley through adherence to General Plan policies found in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat section of the Multipurpose Open Space Element, as well as policies contained in the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, upon the latter's adoption.	The Proposed Project would adhere to the policies in the General Plan and the Coachella Valley MSHCP.	YES
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**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Land Use: Industrial Uses**

WCVAP 12.4: Require the screening and/or landscaping of outdoor storage areas, such as contractor storage yards and similar uses.	The Proposed Project would require the establishment of a construction yard at Devers, within the Western Coachella Valley Plan Area. This yard would use existing disturbed land and would be among other electric transmission and generation facilities existing in the vicinity.	YES
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**Western Coachella Valley Area Plan, 2012**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>Policy WCVAP 13.4 – Require the screening and/or landscaping of outdoor storage areas, such as contractor storage yards and similar uses.</p>	<p>The Project would require the establishment of the Devers Material and Equipment Staging Area within the Western Coachella Valley Plan Area boundaries. The staging area would be located east of the Devers Substation on 9.5 acres that are currently in use as a gravel-topped, fenced staging yard for an electrical project. Effective implementation of Mitigation Measure VR-1a (<i>Construction Activities</i>) would help to minimize the temporary visual impacts from construction and storage yards to be consistent with this policy</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Land Use: Light Pollution</b>		
<p>WCVAP 16.1: Where outdoor lighting is proposed, require the inclusion of outdoor lighting features that would minimize the effects on the nighttime sky and wildlife habitat areas.</p>	<p>Some Proposed Project facilities (construction yards) may include night lighting with the potential to impact the nighttime sky and adjacent wildlife habitat areas. However, the lighting would be minimal and focused so as to not extend off properties or into the sky. Implementation of required mitigation would ensure that significant night lighting impacts do not occur and that the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>WCVAP 16.2: Adhere to the lighting requirements of the County Ordinance Regulating Light Pollution for standards that are intended to limit light leakage and spillage that may interfere with the operations of the Palomar Observatory.</p>	<p>Some Proposed Project facilities (construction yards) may include night lighting with the potential to impact the nighttime sky and adjacent wildlife habitat areas. Lighting would be minimal, consistent with safety and security needs, and focused so as to not extend offsite or upward into the night sky. Implementation of required mitigation would ensure that significant night lighting impacts do not occur and that the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Circulation: Scenic Highways</b>		
<p>WCVAP 19.1: Protect the scenic highways in the Western Coachella Valley from change that would diminish the aesthetic value of adjacent properties in accordance with the Scenic Corridors sections of the General Plan Land Use, Multipurpose Open Space, and Circulation Elements.</p>	<p>Within the WCVAP boundaries, the Proposed Project would be visible from one Officially Designated State Scenic Highway (SR 62), one Eligible State Scenic Highway (SR 111), and one County Eligible Scenic Highway (Whitewater Canyon Road). However, by replacing three transmission lines of different design with two transmission lines of the same design, the Proposed Project would improve the visual characteristics of the portions of the ROW visible from the Designated and Eligible scenic highways by reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Also, although taller than the existing structures, the incrementally greater height of the new structures would not dominate the view of, nor attract the attention of, the casual observer from these roadways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy..</p>	<p>YES</p>

**Western Coachella Valley Area Plan, 2012**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**Multipurpose Open Space**

WCVAP 20.1: Protect visual and biological resources in the Western Coachella Valley through adherence to General Plan policies found in the Fish and Wildlife Habitat section of the Multipurpose Open Space Element.	The Proposed Project would affect visual and biological resources within the Western Coachella Valley Planning Area. To the extent feasible, these are mitigated. However, significant visual impacts could remain. Therefore, the project may not be consistent with this policy.	NO
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**TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC**

WCVAP 17.2: Maintain the County's roadway Level of Service standards as described in the Riverside County Comprehensive General Plan Circulation Element.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would result in temporary construction traffic. However, implementation mitigation measures would reduce expected construction traffic impacts. The Proposed Project and alternatives would not include significant operational traffic. Therefore, the Proposed Project and alternatives would be consistent with this policy.	YES
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**GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS**

**Wind Erosion and Blow Sand – Local Hazard Policies, Page 66**

WCVAP 24.2: Require protection of soil in areas subject to wind erosion or blowsand. Mitigation measures that may be required include, but are not limited to, windbreaks, walls, fences, vegetative groundcover, rock, other stabilizing materials, and installation of an irrigation system or provision of other means of irrigation.	Wind erosion and blows would occur during construction only; permanent structures for the Proposed Project would not be susceptible or expected to cause unusual wind erosion.	YES
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**Seismic/Liquefaction – Local Hazard Policies, Page 67**

WCAVP 26.1: Protect life and property from seismic-related incidents through adherence to policies in the Seismic Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of several Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for avoiding and minimizing earthquake-induced soil instability impacts.	YES
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**Slope – Local Hazard Policies, Page 67**

WCAVP 26.1: Protect life and property through adherence to the Slope and Soil Instability Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element, the Environmentally Sensitive Lands section of the General Plan Multipurpose Open Space Element, the Hillside Development and Slope section of the General Plan Land Use Element, and the policies of the Rural Mountainous and Open Space-Rural Land Use Designations.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of several Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for evaluating, avoiding and minimizing potential erosion and soil instability impacts.	YES
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**Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), 2003.** The Western Riverside County MSHCP is a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional habitat Conservation Plan focusing on conservation of species and their associated habitats in Western Riverside County. The MSHCP Area covers approximately 1.26 million acres (1,966 square miles); it includes all unincorporated county from the crest of the San Jacinto Mountains to the Orange County line, as well as the jurisdictional areas of the Cities of Temecula, Murrieta, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, Norco, Corona, Riverside, Moreno Valley, Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Perris, Hemet, and San Jacinto.

The MSHCP serves as a Habitat Conservation Plan pursuant to Section 10(a)(1)(B) of the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973, as well as a Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) under the NCCP Act of 2001. The MSHCP is used to allow the participating jurisdictions to authorize “take” of plant and wildlife species identified within the Plan Area. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife have authority to regulate the take of Threatened, Endangered, and

Rare Species. The overall goal of the MSHCP is to enhance and maintain biological diversity and ecosystem processes while allowing future economic growth within the Plan Area.

**Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), 2003**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>The Pass Area Plan, Section 3.3.10, the Pass Area Plan</b>		
The City of Banning, City of Beaumont, and City of Calimesa sit within the Pass Panning Area Plan. The three cities combined are included within the 8,540-13,925-acre target conservation range on Additional Reserve Lands for the entire Pass Area Plan. The Pass Area Plan is divided into three Subunits which includes the Potrero/Badlands area, the Badlands/San Bernardino National Forest, and San Timoteo Creek. Descriptions of Planning Species, Biological Issues and Considerations and Criteria for each Area Plan Subunit within the Pass Area Plan are presented in this plan.	The Proposed Project would cross the three Pass Area Plan subunits, but would include measures to reduce potential impacts to the area.	YES
<b>Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan, Section 3.3.11, Reche Canyon/Badlands Area Plan</b>		
The Reche Canyon/Badlands Area is comprised of existing Public/Quasi-Public Lands and Additional Reserve Lands. The City of Moreno Valley sits entirely within this area plan. This plan is divided into four subunits which include the Box Springs (East), Reche Canyon, Badlands (North), and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area/Mystic Lake.	The Proposed Project would cross Reche Canyon/Badlands, but would include measures to reduce potential impacts to the area.	YES

**4.3 City of Redlands, California**

**City of Redlands General Plan, 1995 as amended.** The City of Redlands is located in San Bernardino County, halfway between Los Angeles and Palm Springs. The General Plan area is bounded on the north by the Santa Ana Wash, the City of Highland, and the San Bernardino Mountains, on the east by the Crafton Hills and the City of Yucaipa, on the south by the Riverside County boundary and The Badlands, and on the west by the City of Loma Linda and the City of San Bernardino. The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line in the City of Redlands General Plan boundary as well as relocation of 66 kV and 12 kV power lines and installation of fiber optic communications lines.

**City of Redlands General Plan, 1995 as amended through August 2010**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Section 4.0 Land Use Element, Southern Area Hills and Canyons (Live Oak and San Timoteo Canyons), Page 9 - 10</b>		
4.41g: Preserve natural vegetation and wildlife areas to create wildlife corridors extending throughout the Live Oak Canyon and San Timoteo Canyon areas.	This policy relates to wildlife corridors and their preservation; however, utility corridors are often used for wildlife movement as well.	YES
4.41i: The portion of San Timoteo Creek, as defined by its flood-way easements or flood control fee title, lying within the corporate boundary of the City is hereby declared to be Resource Preservation land and shall be preserved for the purposes of promoting wildlife preservation, open space recreation and water conservation. No fencing or other barriers shall be permitted in this Resource Preservation area that impede or limit access to the free crossing or use of the area by wildlife or its use for open space recreational purposes.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor that could continue to be used for wildlife preservation, open space recreation, and water conservation. It would not constitute a barrier or impede wildlife access. The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**City of Redlands General Plan, 1995 as amended through August 2010**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**City Design and Preservation Element: Section 3.10 City Design – Guiding Policies**

Policy 3.10e: Preserve the natural appearance of steep hillsides and ridges.	The Proposed Project would cross several hillsides and ridges within San Timoteo Canyon in the City of Redlands. Along this portion of the ROW, the Proposed Project would improve the visual characteristics of the ROW and hillside environment by replacing three transmission lines of different design with two lines of the same design, thereby reducing the ROW's structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. From most viewing locations the visual change would appear less industrially complex, resulting in an improvement of views. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
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**Land Use Element: Section 4.41 Southern Area Hills and Canyons – Implementing Policies**

Policy 4.41d: Major topographic features within the San Timoteo and Live Oak Canyon areas shall be preserved, maintained and where possible, enhanced. Major ridgelines should not be modified although development on a ridgeline may be allowed where there is offsetting need demonstrated.	The Proposed Project would cross several hillsides and ridges within San Timoteo Canyon in the City of Redlands. The project would be in an existing transmission corridor. Ridgeline modifications would be minimal, to the extent needed for foundations, but would be visible. By their nature, transmission lines in hilly terrain are typically located along ridge lines or from hill top to hill top. The installation on hilltops is an offsetting need; it is not feasible to avoid ridgelines for a linear project through the area.	YES
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Policy 4.41e: Within the Live Oak Canyon and San Timoteo Canyon areas, the canyon walls immediately below major ridges and vegetation thereon shall be preserved and enhanced where appropriate. Slopes that are in excess of 50% shall be preserved intact except for public safety needs.	Vegetation disturbance would be restored except at individual structure locations, where clearing is required for safety, and on access roads. Most of the access roads required in this area already exist. The project would not require disruption of slopes in excess of 50 percent.	YES
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**LAND USE**

**Guiding Policies: Southeast Area – Section 4.42 (Southeast Area), Chapter 4: Land Use Element. Page 33**

Policy 4.42t: All utilities and public facilities in the Southeast Area shall be designed and constructed to preserve and enhance the perceived natural and historic character of this area.	The Proposed Project would involve improvements to existing transmission lines within the City of Redlands, including installation of an upgraded transmission line in the existing utility corridor. Some subtransmission lines would be relocated underground. As such, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
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**City of Redlands General Plan, 1995 as amended through August 2010**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**WILDERNESS AND RECREATION**

**Guiding Policies: Trails – Section 7.11 (Trails), Chapter 7.0: Open Space and Recreation Element**

<p>Policy 7.11f: Establish agreement with public agencies and private entities for development and maintenance of trails in rights-of-way and utility corridors.</p> <p>EVC 4.62d The [East Valley Corridor] Specific Plan should provide for extension of public services in a logical and functional manner to minimize impacts on service purveyors while maximizing areas that can accommodate development in a timely manner.</p> <p>EVC 4.62s: Complement the land use planning for the East Valley Corridor with comprehensive plans and programs for utilities and public facilities.</p> <p>EVC 4.62ff: Ensure compatibility between adjacent land use types within the Corridor area.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that would continue to be available for open space and/or recreational development.</p> <p>The Proposed Project would be consistent with the City's goal of ensuring compatibility between adjacent types of land use, or the extension of utilities in a logical and functional manner.</p> <p>The existing WOD corridor is incorporated into the community's existing land use pattern of development.</p> <p>There are no trails in the existing WOD corridor in Redlands. The Proposed Project predominantly transects areas with established commercial uses; however, the Proposed Project would not preclude the development of trails within the ROW.</p> <p>The 220 kV transmission lines and 66 kV subtransmission lines would transect areas within the East Valley Corridor Specific Plan. In the Project Study Area, the East Valley Corridor Specific Plan uses consist of commercial uses. The existing WOD corridor is in an established ROW and the 66 kV subtransmission lines would primarily be constructed within or along existing public roads. The existing corridor is incorporated into the community's existing land use pattern, and would be consistent with the East Valley Corridor Specific Plan goals of the extension of public facilities in a logical manner.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**AGRICULTURE**

**2.0 Growth Management Element – Implementing Policies: Growth Management**

<p>2.0e: Encourage and promote orderly development and growth of urban areas while maintaining and encouraging the best possible use of agricultural land, protecting it against premature encroachment of non-agricultural development. Consider the costs of extending urban facilities and services in the review of urban development.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility ROW and would not introduce an incompatible land use. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**3.10 City Design, North Redlands – Section 3.10 City Design, North Redlands**

<p>Maximize agricultural preservation. Citrus and other agricultural preservation should be retained where feasible for its aesthetic and biotic value as well as its contribution as the City's original economic base. North Redlands has extensive unsubdivided frontages along which citrus can continue to be efficiently farmed, buffering arterial streets without requiring a reduction in density.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project and alternatives would not preclude the continued preservation of citrus and other agricultural lands. Some limited area of existing orchards may be required for installation of one or two structures. Where suitable, the ROW is available for agricultural use. Overall, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**City of Redlands General Plan, 1995 as amended through August 2010**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>3.29 Agricultural and Scenic Areas – Implementing Policies: Agricultural and Scenic Areas</b>		
3.29a Encourage preservation of citrus groves and other agricultural areas that are designated as having cultural or scenic significance. Encourage retention of existing privately owned citrus groves of all sizes, especially in historic neighborhoods.	Some limited area of existing orchards may be required for installation of one or two structures. Where suitable, the ROW is available for agricultural use. Overall, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
3.29b Identify existing agricultural areas, scenic views, vistas, and streetscapes, including mountain, canyon, and valley vistas, urban view corridors, focal points and focal buildings.	The Proposed Project would comply with this policy through the preparation of this environmental document.	YES
<b>7.41 Agriculture, Guiding Policies: Agriculture</b>		
7.41a: Retain the maximum feasible amount of agricultural open space for its contributions to the local economy, lifestyle, air quality, habitat value and sense of Redlands' heritage.	Some limited area of existing orchards may be required for installation of one or two structures. Where suitable, the ROW is available for agricultural use. Overall, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
7.41b Provide for continued operation of existing livestock/dairy farms in areas of the San Timoteo/Live Oak Canyon planning sector designated Rural Living and Very Low Density on the General Plan Diagram.	<del>The San Timoteo/Live Oak Canyon planning sector is outside the Redlands sphere of influence; however the Redlands.</del> The Proposed Project and alternatives would not preclude the continued operation of existing livestock/ dairy farms.	YES
<b>7.41 Agriculture, Implementing Policies: Agriculture</b>		
7.41e: Encourage formation of a land trust to make the most efficient use of funds available for agricultural preservation.	The Proposed Project and alternatives would not include funding available for agricultural preservation. This policy is not relevant to the Proposed Project.	N/A
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Cultural Resources, Archaeologic and Paleontologic Resources</b>		
<b>Guiding Policy:</b> 7.30a: Protect archaeological and paleontologic resources for their aesthetic, scientific, educational, and cultural values.	Portions of this policy are programmatic and are the responsibility of the agency. The remainder of the requirements of this policy will be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes. These may include inventory, evaluation, avoidance, mitigation, and/or monitoring.	YES
<b>Implementing Policies: [summarized]</b> 7.30b: Use Archaeological Resource Sensitivity Map to determine if the site contains known prehistoric or historic cultural resources.		
7.30c: Require applicants to hire a consulting archaeologist to develop an archaeological resource mitigation plan; monitor the project to ensure that mitigation measures are implemented.		
7.30d: Require that areas found during construction to contain significant historic or prehistoric archaeological artifacts be examined by a qualified consulting archaeologist or historian for appropriate protection and preservation.		
7.30e: For projects involving federal land, or requiring federal permission or funding, ensure that applicants meet stricter criteria for archaeological resource review, prior to commencement of work.		
7.30f: Work with the San Bernardino County Museum to identify and protect Redlands' significant nonrenewable paleontologic resources.		



**City of Redlands General Plan, 1995 as amended through August 2010**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>NOISE</b>		
<b>Noise Element</b>		
Policy 9.0c: Support measures to reduce noise emissions by motor vehicles, aircraft, and trains.	The Proposed Project would involve use of motor vehicles that would cause noise. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.	YES
Policy 9.0w: Limit hours for all construction or demolition work where site-related noise is audible beyond the site boundary.	The Proposed Project would involve construction work. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.	YES
Policy 9.0y: Minimize impacts of loud trucks by requiring that maximum noise levels due to single events be controlled to 50 dB in bedrooms and 55 dB in other habitable spaces.	The Proposed Project would involve use of trucks for construction. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.	YES
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b>		
<b>Water Quality – Soil Contamination</b>		
Policy 8.20m: Require that applicants take soil samples prior to grading or construction in existing or past orchard or other agricultural areas which were treated historically with toxic chemicals such as DBCP. If contamination is discovered, prior to development consult with the appropriate agencies for proper clean-up measures.	A mitigation measure for the project requires identification of potentially contaminated soil in current or historic agricultural areas..	YES
<b>Section 8.0 Health and Safety Element, Guiding Policy, Page 26</b>		
8.70b: Insist on adequate setbacks from schools, housing, and care facilities for any additional high voltage power lines or substations to be constructed in the Planning Area.	The Proposed Project would involve improvements to existing transmission lines that are within an existing utility corridor within the City of Redlands, and would not involve the construction of new transmission lines or the expansion of the utility corridor. As such, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>		
<b>Health and Safety Element , 8.10 Air Quality</b>		
8.15a: Aim for the minimum practicable particulate emissions from the construction and operation of roads and buildings. 8.15b: Reduce particulate emissions from roads, parking lots, construction sites, mining operations and agricultural lands. 8.15c: Reduce emissions from building materials and methods which generate excessive pollutants.	The Proposed Project would comply with SCAQMD requirements. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
<b>HYDROLOGY &amp; WATER RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Water Resources/Flooding – Section 8.0, 8.20 Water Quality</b>		
8.20o: Design projects to minimize the possibility of wind or water erosion and, where necessary, require preparation and implementation of a soil erosion plan, including soil erosion mitigation during construction.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide erosion control procedures.	YES

## 4.4 City of Loma Linda, California

**City of Loma Linda General Plan, 2009.** The City of Loma Linda is located in San Bernardino County, approximately 60 miles east of Los Angeles. The Proposed Project would include upgrading an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line as well as relocating 66 kV and 12 kV lines and installing a fiber optic communications line within the City of Loma Linda.

### City of Loma Linda General Plan, 2009

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Conservation and Open Space Element, Natural and Visual Open Space Resources, Guiding Policy and Implementing Policies for Open Space, Page 9-7</b>		
9.2.10.2a: Base open space preservation and acquisition based on the evaluation of significant viewsheds and ridgelines, wildlife habitats and fragile ecosystems, significant scientifically, historically, or ecologically unique natural areas, passive recreational areas, and stream or creek environs.	The Proposed Project would be located in an existing corridor where viewsheds, ridgelines, wildlife habitats and fragile ecosystems may be affected. In particular these impacts are considered in the biological, visual, and recreation resources sections of the EIR/EIS. This policy is directive to local authorities regarding priorities.	YES
9.2.10.2f: The San Jacinto Fault Zone area should be preserved as open space through easement dedication during the review process of applicable new developments.	The San Jacinto Fault Zone is in the vicinity of the Proposed Project. The ROW remains open land except for utility infrastructure. Mitigation measures in the EIR/EIS required consideration of faults during project design.	YES
<b>Conservation and Open Space Element, Biological Resources, Biological Resources Policies and Implementing Policies, Page 9-20</b>		
Guiding Policy 9.4.4: Preserve habitats supporting rare and endangered species of plants and animals including wildlife corridors.	The Proposed Project will be located in an existing corridor where habitats supporting rare and endangered species may be affected. Mitigation measures are in place to minimize impacts and provide for offsetting compensation if needed. Wildlife corridors would not be effected.	YES
9.4.4a: Comply with federal policy of no net loss of wetlands through avoidance and clustered development. Where preservation is found to be infeasible (such as an unavoidable a road crossing through habitats), require (1) on-site replacement of wetland areas, (2) changing replacement, or (3) restoration of degraded wetland areas at a minimum ratio of one acre of replacement/restoration for each acre of impacted on-site habitat, such that the value of impacted habitat is replaced.	Because no wetlands occur in the Loma Linda portion of the Proposed Project.	YES
9.4.4b: Require appropriate setbacks adjacent to natural streams to provide adequate buffer areas ensuring the protection of biological resources.	A portion of the Proposed Project would be located in an existing corridor such that protection of natural streams is not required. Mitigation measures would address erosion and runoff risks.	YES
9.4.4c: Preserve, as feasible, the oak woodland areas within the City by requiring development to incorporate the trees into the development design.	Oak woodland areas do not occur in the project route in Loma Linda.	YES

**City of Loma Linda General Plan, 2009**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<p>9.4.4d: Through the project approval and design review process, require new development projects to protect sensitive habitat areas including, but not limited to, coastal sage scrub, and native grasslands. Ensure the preservation in place of habitat areas found to be occupied by State and federally protected species. Where preserved habitat areas occupy areas that would otherwise be granted as part of a development project, facilitate the transfer of allowable density to other, non-sensitive portions of the site.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be located in areas where State and federally protected species and sensitive habitat may exist. Impacts are addressed by numerous biological resources mitigation measures. Because development does not occur in electric transmission ROWs, these areas are protective of habitats.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>9.4.4e: Through development review, retain, as feasible, wildlife corridors in the Planning Area in particular, the San Timoteo Wash area.</p>	<p>Utility corridors often serve as wildlife corridors and towers and conductors do not block any existing corridors.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p><b>VISUAL RESOURCES</b></p>		
<p><b>Conservation and Open Space Element, Guiding Policy for Visual Resources, Page 9-11</b></p>		
<p>Protect views and unique landforms. a. Preserve outstanding natural features, such as the skyline of a prominent hill, rock outcroppings, the San Timoteo Creek Aviary Sanctuary, and native and/or historically significant trees. d. Limit development on ridgelines.</p>	<p>The project would erect transmission structures on hills and ridges where existing structures would be removed. However, the new structures may be larger and in different locations than the removed structures. There is no feasible way to have a linear project traverse the area without being on ridges. Along this portion of the ROW, the Proposed Project would replace one of three existing transmission lines with taller, double-circuit, lattice structures. The incrementally taller structures could cause slightly increased skylining depending on viewing location. However, in some cases, due to a lower positioning on the slopes, the increased height and skylining would be less noticeable and would exhibit structural prominence similar to the existing facilities. From most viewing locations the visual change would not appear substantial; however the Proposed Project, as proposed, would not be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>NO</p>
<p><b>Follow-up Studies and Actions, Parks and Recreation Facilities, Page 11-5</b></p>		
<p>Work with Southern California Edison to improve transmission line corridors with attractive, community-serving uses and to upgrade the appearance of the transmission line corridors in conjunction with an expansion or co-use of the corridor.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would include the upgrade of facilities within the existing transmission line corridor. Co-use and landscaping of the ROW is not considered as part of the project, but is a matter for the jurisdiction and SCE to negotiate. Current co-uses would be restored after construction.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**City of Loma Linda General Plan, 2009**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>LAND USE</b>		
<p><b>Special Planning Area E Implementing Policy j:</b> Implement development of the Mission Road Special Planning Area E through the adoption of a specific plan(s) or planned development(s), so that specific siting of land uses/buildings, architectural design, landscaping, road infrastructure, utilities, and other elements can be planned in a comprehensive, rather than piecemeal, manner throughout the Special Planning Area.</p> <p><b>Implementing Policy 8.10.7.1:</b> a) Work with Southern California Edison to improve transmission line corridors with attractive, community-serving uses such as ornamental planting and recreational uses, including trails and playing fields. ... d. Underground existing overhead utility lines throughout the City with available funding. ... g. Develop appropriate siting regulations for the installation of utilities and telecommunication facilities to minimize potential impacts to the community.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project improvements in the City of Loma Linda include <del>improvements to Timoteo Substation, and</del> the proposed 220 kV transmission lines, 66 kV subtransmission lines, and telecommunications facilities. <del>The Proposed Project work in Timoteo Substation would involve only modifications to the 66 kV equipment, and work would occur on the 66 kV switchrack and within the MEER.</del> The 220 kV transmission lines work includes replacement of existing transmission infrastructure within an existing transmission line ROW that has been established for several decades. New 66 kV subtransmission line improvements would be constructed primarily in existing public streets.</p> <p>Implementing policies for Special Planning Area E (Mission Road) primarily list the types of development allowed within the area.</p> <p>The Proposed Project would not conflict with the allowable land use development in this area. The Proposed Project would be consistent with Special Planning Area E implementing policies.</p> <p>There are multiple parks in the ROW in the City of Loma Linda, including a trail within the ROW south of Redlands Boulevard. The Proposed Project would not preclude the continued use of these park facilities or the development of additional park facilities within the ROW. The Proposed Project is consistent with the policy regarding the development of utility easements with community-serving uses.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>WILDERNESS AND RECREATION</b>		
<b>Public Services and Facilities Element, Identified Utility Issues and Opportunities, Page 8-23</b>		
<p>8.10.7.1 a: Work with Southern California Edison to improve transmission line corridors with attractive, community-serving uses such as ornamental planting and recreational uses, including trails and playing fields.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that would continue to be available for open space and/or recreational development. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>		
<b>Adaptive Reuse and Preservation with New Development, Page 3-15</b>		
<p>c. Preserve the character of the existing citrus groves by preserving and incorporating strategically located existing trees or rows of existing trees into new development (i.e., in the form of landscaped setbacks and/or landscape treatments). Having accomplished this, the remaining grove may be removed.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project and alternatives would not preclude the preservation of the character of the existing citrus groves.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>Agricultural Resources, Page 9-21</b>		
<p>9.5.2: Guiding Policy: Preservation of agricultural land areas is a priority.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor and would not displace agricultural uses.</p>	<p>YES</p>

**City of Loma Linda General Plan, 2009**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**CULTURAL & PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**Cultural Resources, Guiding Policy, Page 9-27**

<p>Preserve and protect the City's historic structures and neighborhoods. Identify and preserve the archaeological and paleontological resources in Loma Linda.</p> <p>e. Where new development occurs around an historic structure, ensure that the surrounding setting is compatible with the historic structure.</p> <p>f. As a standard condition of approval for new development projects, require that, if cultural or paleontological resources are encountered during grading, alteration of earth materials in the vicinity of the find be halted until a qualified expert has evaluated the find and recorded identified cultural resources.</p>	<p>The requirements of this policy will be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes and the State Health and Safety Code.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**NOISE**

**Noise Element, Policies, Page 7-9**

<p>a: Achieve and maintain exterior noise levels appropriate to planned land uses throughout Loma Linda as indicated below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential Single-Family: 65 dBA within rear yards. Multifamily: 65 dBA within private yard or enclosed balcony spaces. Single/Multifamily, indoor noise level: 45 dBA with windows closed.</li> <li>• Schools Classrooms: 65 dBA exterior noise environment at the classroom location. Play and sports areas: 70 dBA.</li> <li>• Libraries, Churches, Hospitals, Nursing Homes: 60 dBA exterior noise environment at the building location.</li> <li>• Commercial/Industrial: 70 dBA exterior noise environment at the building location, unless additional interior mitigation is provided.</li> </ul> <p>h. Discourage new projects that have potential to create ambient noise levels more than 5 dBA above existing background noise within 250 feet of sensitive receptors, (e.g., schools, hospitals, churches, residential uses, etc.).</p> <p>i. Require new noise sources to use best available control technology (BACT) to minimize noise from all sources.</p> <p>j. Ensure that construction activities are regulated as to the hours of operation in order to avoid or mitigate noise impacts on adjacent noise-sensitive land uses.</p> <p>k. Require proposed development adjacent to occupied noise-sensitive uses to implement a construction-related noise mitigation plan that identifies the location of construction equipment storage and maintenance areas, and documents the methods that will be used to minimize impacts on adjacent noise-sensitive land uses, including, where needed, installation of temporary noise barriers.</p> <p>l. Require that all construction equipment utilize noise-reduction features (e.g., mufflers and engine shrouds) that are no less effective than those originally installed by the manufacturer.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would involve noise sources during construction and operation. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**City of Loma Linda General Plan, 2009**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b>		
<b>Hazardous Waste and Materials</b>		
<p>10.5.2 Guiding Policy: Minimize the negative impacts associated with the storage, use, generation, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials.</p> <p>Policy c: Continue a program of regular inspections and monitoring to ensure compliance with local, State, and federal regulations, in order to reduce the risks associated with the use and handling of hazardous materials and wastes.</p>	Limited use of hazardous chemicals is planned for construction. Mitigation measures will require chemical control and spill prevention/clean-up plans.	YES
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>		
<b>Conservation and Open Space Element, 9.3.6 Guiding Policy (Air Quality), Page 9-16</b>		
<p>Policy d: As part of the development review process for non-residential development, require the incorporation of best available technologies to mitigate air quality impacts.</p>	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of air district requirements and air quality mitigation measures during construction	YES
<b>HYDROLOGY &amp; WATER RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Chapter 10.0 Public Health and Safety Element, 10.3 Slope Failure Hazards – Page 10-9</b>		
<p>10.3.2. Guiding Policy: Reduce the potential for property damage and personal injury from slope failure hazards and erosion. Implementing Policies.</p> <p>d. Require erosion-control measures in areas of steep slopes or areas with high erosion problems on all grading plans to reduce soil erosion from wind, grading and construction operations, and stormwater runoff.</p>	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation and Mitigation Measures associated with Geology and Soils and Hydrology and Water Resources.	YES
<b>GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS</b>		
<b>Conservation and Open Space Element, 9.2.9 Identified Visual and Natural Open Space Issues, Page 9-11</b>		
<p>9.2.10.1c: Require new development to be designated to conserve soil and avoid erosion by limiting cut and fill areas and the exporting of soil from the development site.</p>	Erosion control measures would be implemented. The Proposed Project would occur in an existing utility corridor where cut and fill and exporting of soil from the development site would be minimal.	YES
<b>Geologic and Seismic Hazards - Public Health and Safety Element, Page 10-3 – 10-5</b>		
<p>Minimize the risks of property damage and personal injury resulting from seismic and geologic hazards.</p> <p>j. Work with Southern California Edison, the Southern California Gas Company, pipeline companies, and industrial companies to implement measures to safeguard the public from seismic hazards associated with high voltage transmission lines, caustic and toxic gas and fuel lines, and flammable storage facilities.</p>	<p>Seismic and geologic hazards are addressed by mitigation measures in the EIR/EIS</p> <p>The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for evaluating, avoiding and minimizing seismic hazards and materials storage.</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>YES</p>
<b>Slope Failure Hazards - Public Health and Safety Element, Page 10-9 – 10-10</b>		
<p>a. Limit cut and fill slopes to 3:1 (33% slope) throughout the City to maintain slope stability unless an engineering geologist can establish to the City's satisfaction that a steeper slope would not pose undue risk to people and property.</p> <p>c. Require geologic and soils reports as part of the development review process and/or building permit process for development in the affected areas to minimize slope failure.</p> <p>d. Require erosion-control measures in areas of steep slopes or areas with high erosion problems on all grading plans to reduce soil erosion from wind, grading and construction operations, and stormwater runoff.</p>	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for evaluating, avoiding and minimizing potential soil instability impacts.	YES

**City of Loma Linda General Plan, 2009**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>SOCIOECONOMICS</b>		
<b>Economic Development Element, Fiscal Health, Page 4-11</b>		
a. Require new development to pay for its fair share of new infrastructure, public and community facilities, and the incremental operating costs it imposes on the City. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New development shall incorporate such features as to ensure that it will not increase the cost of public services provided to existing development.</li> </ul>	The new and upgraded electric transmission lines are intended to support adequate electrical distribution to meet existing and future demand. Therefore, the Proposed Project itself would be an infrastructure project that would accommodate existing and planned development within the City of Loma Linda. The project would not require new infrastructure or public and community facilities be developed. The Proposed Project would be in compliance with this policy.	YES

**4.5 City of Grand Terrace, California**

**City of Grand Terrace General Plan, 2010.** The City of Grand Terrace is approximately 3.5 square miles in size and is located in San Bernardino County. The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line within a small part of the City of Grand Terrace. In addition, the Vista Substation is located within the City of Grand Terrace. While the General Plan does not include specific goals for the development of utility corridors, the following General Plan policies are applicable to the Proposed Project and alternatives.

**City of Grand Terrace General Plan, December 2010**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Open Space and Conservation Element</b>		
Policy 4.2.5 The City shall act to reasonably conserve and protect significant biological resources.	This policy is directive of City actions. Impacts to biological resources will be evaluated in the EIR/EIS to ensure they are conserved and protected.	YES

**City of Grand Terrace General Plan, December 2010**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>LAND USE</b>		
<p>Goal 2.5: Provide for the preservation of natural resources and open space.</p> <p>Policy 2.5.2: Areas designated as Open Space shall be preserved to provide long term recreation opportunities as well as the preservation of scenic and environmental resources and the protection of public health and safety.</p> <p>Policy 4.1.3: The City shall evaluate the possibility of developing existing utility easements as linear parks.</p> <p>Policy 7.8.3: Coordinate with all utility companies to provide maintenance programs that minimize the impact to public streets and rights-of-way.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would involve only modifications to the 220 kV equipment at the substation, and work would occur on the 220 kV switchrack and within the MEER. The transmission infrastructure improvements would occur within an existing transmission line ROW that has been established for several decades. The proposed telecommunication improvements located outside the existing 220 kV transmission lines ROW are associated with existing Vista Substation, and would be constructed primarily in existing public ROW.</p> <p>The existing corridor is incorporated into the community's existing land use pattern of development and open space. The Proposed Project would be consistent with the City's goal of preserving natural resources. The Proposed Project predominantly transects areas with established commercial or residential uses. There are existing bike lanes and the Grand Terrace Senior Center park within the ROW, and the Proposed Project would not preclude the continued use of these park facilities once construction is complete, or with the future development of additional park facilities within the ROW.</p> <p>The Proposed Project does not conflict with the policy regarding the development of utility easements as linear parks. During operation, maintenance activity impacts to public streets or ROW would be temporary.</p>	YES
<b>Housing Element</b>		
<p>Policy 8.3.9: Prevent the encroachment of incompatible uses into established residential neighborhoods.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that would not be expanded within the City of Grand Terrace. As such, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	YES
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Open Space and Conservation Element</b>		
<p>Goal 4.9 Comply with state and federal regulations to ensure the protection of historical, archaeological, and paleontological resources.</p> <p>Policy 4.9.1 The City shall take reasonable steps to ensure that cultural resources are located, identified and evaluated to assure that appropriate action is taken as to the disposition of these resources.</p>	<p>The requirements of this policy will be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes. These may include inventory, evaluation, avoidance, mitigation, and/or monitoring.</p>	YES



**City of Grand Terrace General Plan, December 2010**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>NOISE</b>		
<b>Noise Element</b>		
<p>Policy 6.1.2: Construction noise on adjacent land uses shall be minimized by limiting the permitted hours of activity.</p> <p>Policy 6.2.7: The City shall evaluate potential ground-borne vibration impacts as part of the land use planning process to mitigate or avoid detrimental impacts on adjacent land uses.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would involve activities that create construction noise and vibration. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	YES
<b>VISUAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Land Use Element</b>		
<p>Policy 2.5.2 – Areas designated as Open Space shall be preserved to provide long-term recreation opportunities as well as the preservation of scenic and environmental resources and the protection of public health and safety.</p>	<p>The Project would be located within an existing transmission corridor, replacing an existing transmission line with a new transmission line. As a result, the proliferation of utility ROWs and possible encroachment on open space would be avoided, so the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	YES
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC</b>		
<b>Circulation Element</b>		
<p>Policy 3.3.4: The City shall route truck traffic away from residential areas and work with regional agencies in order to mitigate potential impacts from regional traffic.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would result in temporary heavy-duty truck trips during its construction phase. The Proposed Project would use designated truck routes and limit use of residential roadways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	YES
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b>		
<b>Public Health and Safety Element, Geologic Hazards &amp; Hazardous Materials</b>		
<p>Policy 5.1.1 All new development shall comply with current seismic design standards.</p> <p>Policy 5.1.2 All proposed developments shall be evaluated for impacts associated with geologic and seismic hazards.</p> <p>Policy 5.1.4 Grading plans for development projects shall include an approved drainage and erosion control plan to minimize the impacts from erosion and sedimentation during grading.</p> <p>Policy 5.2.2 All new developments in areas of slope instability shall be required to perform adequate geotechnical analysis and provide an engineered design to assure that slope instability will not impact the development.</p>	<p>All Proposed Project facilities are required to be designed to comply with current seismic design standards and to evaluate geologic hazards. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with these policies</p>	YES
<p>Goal 5.4 Reduce the risk to life and property resulting from the use, transportation, storage, treatment, or disposal of hazardous materials and wastes.</p>	<p>Proper storage and handling of hazardous materials will be required by Hazardous Materials mitigation measures.</p>	YES
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>		
<b>Open Space and Conservation Element</b>		
<p>Policy 4.7.5: The City shall encourage employers to develop and implement trip reduction plans including alternate work schedules, rideshare programs, telecommuting, and employee education programs.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would comply with SCAQMD requirement, and would provide for car-pooling to construction sites. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	YES

**City of Grand Terrace, Barton Road Specific Plan, 2003.** This Specific Plan area covers an approximately 1.3-mile corridor along Barton Road extending from the Riverside Freeway (I-215) on the west, to the intersection of Barton Road and Victoria Street on the east. The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line within the Barton Road Specific Plan Area.

The Barton Road Specific Plan is a regulatory plan that serves as zoning for properties within the boundaries of the Plan. This Specific Plan has been prepared in compliance with the goals and policies of the city's General Plan. The Specific Plan does not identify any goals or policies directly related to the development of utility corridors and therefore, no applicable policies were identified for the Proposed Project.

## 4.6 City of Colton, California

**City of Colton General Plan, 1987-2013 adopted Plan Elements.** The City of Colton is located in southwestern San Bernardino County and is surrounded by the Cities of Grand Terrace, Loma Linda, San Bernardino, Rialto, as well as unincorporated San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line within the City of Colton.

While the General Plan does not include specific goals for the development of utility corridors, the following policies are applicable to the Proposed Project.

<b>City of Colton General Plan, 1987-2013</b>		
<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Open Space and Conservation Element (1987), Principles, Page 6-6, Plan Proposals Page 6-7</b>		
1: Preserve and protect hillside and environmentally sensitive areas designated for growth through the use of strict hillside development standards.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor, and would not require additional development outside of the corridor. Refer also to the analysis of hillside development standards under Geology, Mineral Resources and Soils below.	YES
2: Regulation shall be used to maintain open space requiring: d) The grading of soil and construction of impervious surfaces on open space lands shall be strictly regulated.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor that allows for the maintenance and improvement of structures within the corridor. The project would implement measures to minimize the impacts of grading or reduce the amount of grading or ground disturbance.	YES

**City of Colton General Plan, 1987-2013**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Open Space and Conservation Element, Principles, Page 6-6**

7: Outstanding scenic vistas and visual features shall be preserved and protected through the use of view easements, height limitations, and a design review board.	The Project would cross several hillsides and ridgelines south of Prado Lane and South Mohave Drive in the City of Colton. Along this portion of the ROW, the Proposed Project would replace one of three existing transmission lines with taller, double-circuit, lattice structures. The incrementally taller structures could cause slightly increased skylining depending on viewing location. However, in some cases, due to a lower positioning on the slopes, the increased height and skylining would be less noticeable and would exhibit structural prominence similar to the existing facilities. From most viewing locations the visual change would not appear substantial; however the Proposed Project, as proposed, would not be consistent with this policy.	NO
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**LAND USE**

Public Use Principle 1: Public improvements need to be implemented in a timely, efficient manner consistent with growth requirements and should be provided in part by future development, whenever possible. Open Space Principle 1: A functional and adequate open space system should be provided which will protect recreational, agricultural and other permanent open space uses.	The Proposed Project improvements in the City of Colton include the proposed 220 kV transmission lines. The Proposed Project involves the replacement of existing transmission infrastructure within an existing transmission line. The existing corridor is incorporated into the community's existing land use pattern.  The Proposed Project would also facilitate the delivery of the new renewable generation resources located in the Coachella Valley area, and would reduce electric system congestion. Therefore, the Proposed Project is consistent with the City's Public Use Principle that supports the provision of public improvements, in this case electricity transmission infrastructure.  The Proposed Project would not affect designated open space in the City of Colton. The Proposed Project has been designed to avoid or minimize impacts to the built and natural environment, including open space uses, to the extent practicable. The Proposed Project is consistent with the City's Open Space Principle 1.	YES
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**CULTURAL & PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**Land Use Element (2013) Goals & Policies, Page LU-33**

LU-2.4: Protect structures of historical and architectural significance.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor and would not impact any structures of historical and architectural significance in the City of Colton. The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
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**City of Colton General Plan, 1987-2013**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>Cultural Resources Preservation Element (2000), Goals &amp; Policies, Page 18 ff</b>		
1a: Conserve in their entirety the largest and most unique archaeological sites.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor and would not impact any known archaeological sites within the City of Colton. The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
1.4: Require adequate mitigation of impacts to archaeological resources.	The EIR/EIS includes mitigation measures to reduce or minimize potential impacts to archaeological resources. The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
2f: Ensure future development is compatible with existing structures and district characteristics.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor that includes existing transmission lines. The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**NOISE**

**Noise Element (1987), Standards, Page 5-7**

4: Exterior noise levels should not exceed 60 dBA at any time for such areas important to public need, and where the preservation of serenity and quietness is essential if the area is to continue to serve its intended purpose. Such areas could include parks, open spaces, amphitheaters, and other areas dedicated for activities requiring special qualities of serenity.	The Proposed Project would result in temporary construction noise that has the potential to exceed 60 dBA. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy..	YES
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**TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC**

**Mobility Element (2013), Goals and Policies, Page M-52 ff**

M-3.5: Maintain intersection traffic flows at Level of Service of D during peak hours for all roadways in Colton, except at those locations identified in this Mobility Element where peak hour LOS E is allowed.	The Proposed Project would result in temporary construction traffic. However, construction traffic impacts would be reduced through the preparation of a transportation plan and the staging of construction workers offsite and shuttling them to construction sites. Work would occur through the project alignment at different times and there would be no large concentration of workers at any one site.	YES
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**Model Air Quality Element (1991), Topic 2: Ground Transportation, Goal 2, 2.1 Auto Use, Page 4 ff**

2.1.1: Use incentives, regulations and Transportation Demand Management in cooperation with other jurisdictions in the South Coast Air Basin to eliminate vehicle <i>trips</i> which would otherwise be made. 2.1.2: Use incentives, regulations and Transportation Demand Management in cooperation with other jurisdictions in the South Coast Air Basin to eliminate vehicle <i>miles</i> traveled for auto trips which still need to be made. 2.2.1: Promote and establish modified work schedules which reduce peak period auto travel.	The Proposed Project would result in temporary construction traffic. However, implementation of a transportation plan and the staging of construction workers offsite and shuttling them to construction sites would reduce this impacts.	YES
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**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY**

**Safety Element (1987), Fire Hazards, Page 7-6, 7-11; Emergency Preparedness, Page 7-8**

1: Define and limit the extent and intensity of development in areas of high fire hazard.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor and would not change the intensity or extent of development.	YES
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**City of Colton General Plan, 1987-2013**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
4: Multi-story structures and high-hazard structures shall comply with fire protection standards. 9: Distances between structures shall conform to standards for safe fire protection.	The Proposed Project would install new structures and conductor in an existing utility corridor. Best Management Practices would be implemented to ensure fire safety. Structures would not be close together..	YES
10: All development plans shall be reviewed by local planning, fire, water, health, road, and flood control authorities.	The City of Colton and its agencies will have the opportunity to review and comment on the EIR/EIS.	YES
4: Minimum road widths and clearances around structures shall follow the standards set in the Municipal Code.	The project would not develop new public roads. Access road widths and clearances were determined with the establishment of the corridor. Clearances around structures are set by the State to provide adequate protection. The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
18: Curtail use of heavy equipment during critical fire weather.	A Fire Plan will be established defining periods when work cannot occur because of fire ignition risk.	YES

**AIR QUALITY**

**Open Space and Conservation Element, Standards, Page 6-6**

4: Strict enforcement of water and air quality standards shall be applied to all industrial users through business license approvals, fire inspections and code enforcement of performance standards.	The Proposed Project would be required to comply with water and air quality standards. Any impacts to water and air quality identified in the EIR/EIS would be mitigated and these measures would be incorporated in the mitigation monitoring program for the Proposed Project.	YES
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**Model Air Quality Element (1991), Page 12**

5.1: Reduce particulate emissions from roads, parking lots, construction sites and agricultural lands. Program 5.1.1: Adopt incentives, regulations and procedures to manage paved roads so they produce the minimum practicable level of particulates. Program 5.1.2: Adopt incentives, regulations and procedures to minimize particulate emissions during road, parking lot and building construction. Program 5.1.3: Adopt incentives, regulations and procedures to control particulate emissions from unpaved roads, drives, vehicle maneuvering areas and parking lots.	The Proposed Project would comply with SCAQMD Rule 403 that requires reduction in air emissions.	YES
5.2: Reduce emissions from buildings materials and methods which generate excessive pollutants. Program 5.2.1: Adopt incentives, regulations and procedures to prohibit the use of building materials and methods which generate excessive pollutants.	The Proposed Project would implement Best Management Practices and comply with SCAQMD requirements to reduce air emissions.	YES

**HYDROLOGY & WATER RESOURCES**

**Open Space and Conservation Element, Principles, Page 6-6**

6: Restrict development in canyons and hillsides and control the plan of development to prevent obstruction of natural runoff or water courses and to prevent unwarranted scarring of hillsides.	The Proposed Project would occur within an existing utility corridor and would not include additional development outside of this corridor within the City of Colton. The project would implement measures that would prevent obstruction of natural runoff or watercourses and scarring of hillsides.	YES
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**City of Colton General Plan, 1987-2013**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS</b>		
<b>Open Space and Conservation Element, Standards, Page 6-7</b>		
5: Hillside development standards shall be adopted requiring: a) Focused EIRs for all hillside developments exceeding ten (10) parcels in a single development or subdivision. b) New development shall occur on those sites that require the least amount of grading and vegetation removal. c) Roads shall follow the natural topography and are not to exceed a grade of 12 percent.	The Proposed Project would occur in areas with ridges and hills within an existing utility corridor. Measures would be implemented that would require the avoidance or minimization of soil disturbance and new access roads in areas with high erosion hazards or potential slope instability. In addition, the EIR/EIS includes analysis of the Proposed Project on any hills and ridges within the City of Colton.	YES
<b>Safety Element, Geologic Hazards, Page 7-6</b>		
2: Structural design shall be compatible with the local geologic hazard.	The Proposed Project would conform to all structural design provisions, including the California Building Code, and would use standard foundation and structural design measures consistent with local geologic conditions. Mitigation measures would be implemented that would minimize damage from local geologic hazards, such as potential earthquakes, slope instability, erosion hazards, and landslides.	YES

**City of Colton, Reche Canyon Specific Plan, 1991.** The area of Colton south of Barton Road is covered by the Reche Canyon Specific Plan. The Specific Plan provides a link between the General Plan and its city-wide policies, and the detailed procedures and restrictions such as zoning and subdivision ordinances. The Specific Plan tailors the broad policy of the General Plan to focus on a precise area. As such, the Specific Plan incorporates the goals and policies of the General Plan. The Reche Canyon Specific Plan does not identify any goals or policies directly related to the development of utility corridors and therefore, no applicable policies were identified for the Proposed Project not already identified in the General Plan.

## 4.7 City of Calimesa, California

**City of Calimesa General Plan, 2014.** The City of Calimesa is located within the Yucaipa Valley of the San Gorgonio Pass area. The San Bernardino Mountains and the Crafton Hills surround Calimesa to the north and west. The San Jacinto Mountains and the San Timoteo Badlands border the city to the east and south, respectively. The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line within the City of Calimesa, along its border with Beaumont to the south.

While the General Plan does not include specific goals for the development of utility corridors, the following General Plan policies are applicable to the Proposed Project:

**City of Calimesa General Plan, 2014**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Land Use (Chapter 2) Page 2-22</b>		
LU-13: Preserve the natural character and visual quality of the hillsides through sensitive site design and grading.	To the extent feasible, existing pads and roads would be used.	YES

**City of Calimesa General Plan, 2014**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**Resource Management (Chapter 6), Biological Resources, Page 6-12**

<p>Goal RM-3: Conserve and protect native species and habitats.                      POLICY RM-11: The City will require the use of buffers, creative site planning, revegetation, and open space easements/dedications to conserve and protect important plant communities...                      POLICY RM-12: Protect vegetation communities and sensitive species that contribute to the region's environmental resources in order to prevent future endangerment of plant and animal communities.                      POLICY RM-13: Native oak trees should be preserved whenever feasible. If preservation is not possible, trees should be replaced with oak trees of the same species at a ratio of 1:1.                      POLICY RM-15: Work with state, federal, and local agencies on the preservation of sensitive vegetation and wildlife in the city.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project has the potential to remove native plant communities and wildlife habitat as a result of construction activities. Mitigation provides for the protection, restoration, or off-site compensation for loss of these resources.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Land Use (Chapter 2), Maintaining Calimesa's Character, Page 2-22**

<p>POLICY LU-13: Preserve the natural character and visual quality of Calimesa's hillsides through sensitive site design and grading.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of a transmission line along several hillsides of at the southern edge of the City of Calimesa. To the extent feasible, existing pads and roads would be used. .</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**Infrastructure and Public Services (Chapter 4), Utilities, Page 4-11**

<p>POLICY IPS-5: The City will work with service providers to ensure adequate, and aesthetically pleasing, utility structures.</p>	<p>The aesthetic qualities of towers will be considered in the EIR/EIS. The City would have an opportunity to comment on utility structures.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**Resource Management (Chapter 6), Significant Landforms and Hillside Areas, Page 6-10**

<p>POLICY RM-3: Encourage varied slope ratios on design slopes to reduce the visual impact of grading. Fill slopes should not have a grade steeper than 3:1. In no case shall cut or fill slopes be steeper than 2:1.</p>	<p>Grading may be required at new tower sites. Mitigation measures imposed will ensure that slopes are not overly steep and are properly revegetated and protected from erosion. The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>POLICY RM-8: Protect the city's scenic and visual resources by limiting ridgeline development and building heights.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be in an existing corridor. Existing transmission structures would be replaced on hill slopes and ridgelines. These structures typically would be taller than existing transmission structures.</p>	<p>NO</p>

**City of Calimesa General Plan, 2014**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**LAND USE**

**Land Use (Chapter 2), Maintaining Calimesa’s Character, Pager 2-22**

<p>POLICY LU-16: Discourage land use conflicts and incompatibilities by providing buffers to include, but not be limited to, landscaping, setbacks, walls/fencing, site design, architectural features, density/intensity/operation reduction, or shielding of lighting between incompatible land uses and new development.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project improvements in the City of Calimesa include the proposed 220 kV transmission lines. The Proposed Project involves the replacement of existing transmission infrastructure within an existing transmission line ROW. The existing corridor is incorporated into the community’s existing land use pattern.</p> <p>The Proposed Project is consistent with the City’s goal of locating land uses to achieve maximum compatibility because the transmission infrastructure would be located in existing utility ROW.</p> <p>The Proposed Project would be within an existing utility corridor that currently contains overhead transmission lines. The access road for the portion of the project in Calimesa is used as a recreation trail. The upgraded project would be similar to the existing condition. The visual impact and land use impact of the line are considered in the EIR/EIS</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**CULTURAL & PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES**

**Resource Management (Chapter 6) Cultural and Historic Resources**

<p>RM-16: Identify, protect, and preserve the historical and cultural resources of the city.</p>	<p>The requirements of this policy will be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**NOISE**

**Noise (Chapter 9), Noise Goals and Policies, Page 9-6 ff**

<p>Goal N-1: Ensure that all land uses are protected from excessive and unwanted noise.</p> <p>POLICY N-7: Consider the following uses to be sensitive to noise and vibration, and discourage these uses in areas where existing or projected future noise levels would be in excess of 65 dBA CNEL and/or vibration would be more than 0.0787 peak particle velocity (inches per second):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Schools</li> <li>▪ Hospitals</li> <li>▪ Rest homes</li> <li>▪ Long-term care facilities</li> <li>▪ Mental care facilities</li> <li>▪ Residential uses</li> <li>▪ Libraries</li> <li>▪ Passive recreation uses.</li> </ul> <p>POLICY N-25: Noise sources should be located away from existing noise-sensitive land uses unless appropriate noise control measures are provided.</p> <p>POLICY N-32: Require that all construction equipment be kept properly tuned and use noise reduction features (e.g., mufflers and engine shrouds) that are no less effective than those originally installed by the manufacturer.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would involve development of a new noise source and construction noise. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy..</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**City of Calimesa General Plan, 2014**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC</b>		
<b>Transportation and Mobility (Chapter 3), Page 3-11</b>		
<p>POLICY TM-4: Maintain and rehabilitate roadways to preserve and improve the quality of city streets and thoroughfares that promote access and mobility between residential neighborhoods, employment centers, shopping, and health services.</p> <p>Action Item TM-4.5: Establish a truck route system which designates truck and commercial vehicle routes and provides adequately sized and designed roadways to meet the needs of trucks and commercial vehicles.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would result in temporary heavy-duty truck trips during its construction phase. The Proposed Project would use designated truck routes and limit use of residential roadways. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy and no further analysis is necessary.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b>		
<b>Safety (Chapter 8), Safety Goals, Page 8-14</b>		
<p>GOAL SAF-2: Reduce the potential for health and safety exposure caused by hazardous waste contamination in the city.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not store or use significant quantities of hazardous materials during construction or during operation in the City of Calimesa.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>		
<b>Air Quality (Chapter 10), Air Quality Goals, Page 10-7</b>		
<p>GOAL AQ-1: Improve air quality in Calimesa.</p> <p>GOAL AQ-2: Reduce vehicle trips and resulting emissions.</p> <p>GOAL AQ-4: Minimize exposure of sensitive uses to air pollution.</p> <p>GOAL AQ-5: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the anticipated effects of climate change.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would conform to these goals through the implementation of the Air District requirements and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<p>POLICY AQ-16: Reduce fugitive dust emissions from construction activities.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would implement Best Management Practices and comply with AQMD requirements. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
<b>HYDROLOGY &amp; WATER RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Safety (Chapter 8), Flood Hazards, Page 8-15</b>		
<p>POLICY SAF-4: Ensure that development does not divert stormwater runoff onto adjacent properties or cause alteration of natural drainage courses that cannot be adequately handled by existing drainage facilities or the flood control improvements proposed with the development.</p> <p>POLICY SAF-5: New development shall not be permitted to cause alteration of natural drainage.</p> <p>POLICY SAF-4: Ensure that development does not divert stormwater runoff onto adjacent properties or cause alteration of natural drainage courses that cannot be adequately handled by existing drainage facilities or the flood control improvements proposed with the development.</p> <p>POLICY SAF-5: New development shall not be permitted to cause alteration of natural drainage</p> <p>POLICY SAF-6: All development shall comply with the flood control requirements of the City, as well as of the county, state, and federal governments.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not divert stormwater runoff or alter natural drainages. The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures and Water Board requirements, which provide for Best Management Practices to control runoff and erosion</p>	<p>YES</p>

**City of Calimesa General Plan, 2014**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS</b>		
<b>Resource Management (Chapter 6), Page 6-10</b>		
POLICY RM-5: Require erosion control measures such as binders, revegetation, slope covers, and other practices which reduce erosion due to wind and water.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of several APMs and Mitigation Measures, which provide procedures for evaluating, avoiding and minimizing potential erosion and soil instability impacts.	YES
<b>Safety (Chapter 8), Seismic Hazards, Page 8-15</b>		
POLICY SAF-1: Discourage development near areas susceptible to potential seismic or geological hazards. ACTION ITEM SAF-1.1: Require geological and geotechnical investigations in areas of potential seismic or geologic hazards as part of the environmental and development review process. Require mitigation of seismic or geologic hazards to the satisfaction of responsible agencies. ACTION ITEM SAF-1.2: Require liquefaction assessment studies in areas identified as having moderate to high liquefaction susceptibility.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures for identifying, evaluating, avoiding and minimizing earthquake-induced soil instability impacts and providing appropriate foundations.	YES

**4.8 City of Beaumont, California**

**City of Beaumont General Plan, 2007.** The City of Beaumont is located in the north-central part of Riverside County at San Gorgonio Pass between the areas influenced by the coast to the west and the Coachella Valley to the east. The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kv transmission line within the City of Beaumont General Plan Area.

**City of Beaumont General Plan, 2007**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Resource Management Element, Resource Management Goals &amp; Policies, Page 48 ff</b>		
Resource Management Goal 4: The City of Beaumont will promote the protection of biological resources. Policy 13: The City of Beaumont will encourage the protection of existing wildlife in the conservation areas located in the southerly portion of the Planning Area.	This policy encourages the protection of existing wildlife in conservation areas located in the southerly portion of the Planning Area. The Proposed Project would cross the northern portion of the Planning Area. Beaumont is subject to the Western Riverside County MSHCP, which is considered during the environmental review.	YES

**City of Beaumont General Plan, 2007**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**LAND USE**

**Community Development Element, Goals & Policies, Page 14 ff**

<p>Policy 1: The City of Beaumont, through the implementation of this General Plan, will promote a balance of land use and development types throughout the City.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project involves the replacement of existing transmission infrastructure within an existing transmission line ROW. The existing corridor is incorporated into the community's existing land use pattern.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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<p>Policy 2: The City of Beaumont will implement an integrated land use and transportation system that accommodates existing and future service and utility demands.</p>	<p>The City of Beaumont uses a portion of the corridor for recreation purposes. The proposed telecommunication improvements located outside the existing 220 kV transmission lines ROW are associated with existing substations, and would be constructed primarily in existing public ROW. The Proposed Project would facilitate the delivery of the new renewable generation resources located in the Coachella Valley area, and would reduce electric system congestion.</p>	
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<p>Policy 20: The City of Beaumont will continue to oversee the development of adequate and dependable public services and facilities to support both existing and future development.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be consistent with the City's goal of promoting a balance of land uses, accommodating existing and future utility needs, and supporting the provision of dependable public services and facilities.</p>	
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**RECREATION**

**Resource Management Element, Park and Recreation Policies, Page 48**

<p>Policy 18: The City of Beaumont will evaluate the feasibility of expanded joint-use of the open space lands used for flood control and utility easements.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that would continue to be available for open space and/or recreational development. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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<p>Policy 20: The City of Beaumont shall negotiate agreements with the utility companies, the Flood Control District for the establishment of recreation trails, linkages, uses, and appropriate landscaping within their respective rights-of-way.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that would continue to be available for open space and/or recreational development based on any specific agreements between the utility and the City. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**AGRICULTURE**

**Community Development Element , Community Development Goals & Policies, Page 16**

<p>Policy 10: The City of Beaumont encourages and supports the keeping of farms and equine animals in suitable locations and upon parcels which are a minimum of one acre in size, with a maximum of two large animals per acre, and shall establish appropriate zoning provisions to accommodate animal keeping.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not include the development or operation of agricultural lands. Therefore this policy is not relevant to the Proposed Project.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**Resource Management Element, Resource Management Goals & Policies, Page 49**

<p>Policy 2: The City of Beaumont will support the maintenance of existing agricultural resources in the City to the extent feasible.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would not preclude the maintenance of existing agricultural resources. Therefore Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**City of Beaumont General Plan, 2007**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Implementation Element, Page 75</b>		
Cultural Resource Management. Should archaeological or paleontological resources be encountered during excavation and grading activities, all work would cease until appropriate salvage measures are established. Appendix K <i>[sic]</i> of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines shall be followed for excavation monitoring and salvage work that may be necessary. Salvage and preservation efforts will be undertaken pursuant to Appendix K requirements outlined in CEQA.	The requirements of this policy would be satisfied by compliance with the NHPA Section 106 and CEQA processes. These may include inventory, evaluation, avoidance, mitigation, and/or monitoring.	YES
<b>NOISE</b>		
<b>Safety Element, Page 64</b>		
Goal 6 (Safety Element). The City of Beaumont will strive to control the adverse effects of noise in the environment. Safety Element Policy 24: The City of Beaumont will protect public health and welfare by eliminating existing noise problems and by preventing significant degradation of the future acoustic environment.	The Proposed Project would involve operation of equipment that would act as noise sources that could degrade the acoustic environment. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.	YES
Safety Element Policy 27: The City of Beaumont shall promote the effective enforcement of City, State and federal noise standards by all appropriate City divisions.	The Proposed Project would not affect the ability of the City of Beaumont to effectively enforce noise standards. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.	YES
<b>AIR QUALITY</b>		
<b>Resource Management Element, Page 50</b>		
Resource Management Element Policy 9. The City of Beaumont will require feasible fugitive dust reduction techniques to be utilized during construction activities such as regularly watering down the construction area.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of air quality mitigation measures.	YES
<b>HYDROLOGY &amp; WATER RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Resource Management Element, Page 50</b>		
Resource Management Element Policy 6: The City of Beaumont will strive to promote development practices that will mitigate potential flooding.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures.	YES
<b>Safety Element, Safety Goals &amp; Policies, Page 62</b>		
Safety Element Policy 10: The City of Beaumont will require all new developments to mitigate potential flooding that may result from the development.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide flood control and prevention procedures. Little impervious surface would be developed as part of the project.	YES
<b>GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS</b>		
<b>Safety Element, Safety Goals &amp; Policies, Page 61</b>		
Safety Element Policy 4: The City of Beaumont will require special soils and structural investigations for all proposed structures of large scale or involving large groups of people.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures for conducting soil and structural investigations.	YES

## 4.9 City of Banning, California

**City of Banning General Plan, 2006.** The City of Banning is a growing community in west-central Riverside County and is located in the San Gorgonio Pass area. The city's corporate limits cover about 23.2 square miles. The Proposed Project would include the upgrading of an existing SCE 220 kV transmission line within the City of Banning.

<b>City of Banning General Plan, 2006</b>		
<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Environmental Resources, Open Space and Conservation Element, Page IV-26</b>		
Policy 3: Ridgelines shall be preserved as open space	A majority of the Proposed Project would occur in an existing utility corridor such that ridgelines may not be affected. The ROW would remain as open space.	YES
Policy 4: The City shall preserve all watercourses and washes necessary for regional flood control, ground water recharge areas and drainage for open space and recreational purposes.	This policy establishes that the City preserves all watercourses and washes for regional flood control, open space, and recreational purposes. This policy does not relate to the Proposed Project directly. Project facilities would be located outside of hazard zones or be designed to withstand foreseeable hazards.	N/A
Policy 5: The City shall preserve permanent open space edges or greenbelts that define the physical limits of the City and provide physical separation between adjoining neighborhoods.	The Proposed Project would be located on existing utility corridors where open space ridges or greenbelts may not be affected.	YES
<b>Biological Resources Element, Page IV-53</b>		
Program 1.C: The City staff shall continue to request biological resource surveys for new development in compliance with applicable State and federal requirements.	The Proposed Project includes surveys of biological resources, and therefore would be consistent with this policy.	YES
Policy 2: As part of the development review process, the City shall evaluate projects based on their impact on existing habitat and wildlife, and for the land's value as viable open space.	The Proposed Project will be evaluated with regard to its impacts on biological resources, including habitat and wildlife. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
Policy 4. Drainage channels, utility corridors and pipeline easements shall be preserved in natural open space to the extent possible.	A majority of the Proposed Project would occur in existing utility corridor ROWs, which would preserve open space. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES

**City of Banning General Plan, 2006**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
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**LAND USE**

**Community Development**

<p><b>Goal:</b> A balanced, well planned community including businesses which provides a functional pattern of land uses and enhances the quality of life for all Banning residents.</p> <p><b>Goal:</b> Sufficient and appropriately located public facilities to serve the needs of the City's residents, businesses and visitors.</p> <p><b>Program 21.A</b> Land use designation decisions within the area of influence of the airport shall be specifically reviewed to assure compatibility.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project components in the City of Banning include the 220 kV transmission lines and telecommunications facilities and the Hathaway 1 and Hathaway 2 staging yards. The existing WOD corridor is incorporated into the community's existing land use pattern. The proposed telecommunications improvements located outside the existing 220 kV transmission line ROW are associated with existing substations, and would be constructed primarily in existing public ROW. The Proposed Project would be consistent with the City's goal of maintaining a balanced community and a functional pattern of land use.</p> <p>The Proposed Project would facilitate the delivery of new renewable generation resources and reduce electric system congestion. The Proposed Project is consistent with the City's goal to locate public facilities that serve the needs of the local community.</p> <p>An approximately 3-mile segment of the 220 kV transmission lines located in Segment 5, including a portion on the Morongo Reservation, would be operating within new ROW. This new ROW would transect the FAR Part 77 Conical Surface Area for the Banning Airport. SCE would file the necessary FAA Form 7460-1 for structures or lines as outlined in FAR Part 77 prior to Proposed Project construction, and FAA recommendations would be implemented into the design of the Proposed Project. Thus, the operation of the 220 kV transmission lines would not conflict with FAA regulations.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**VISUAL RESOURCES**

**Community Development, Open Space and Conservation Goals, Policies and Programs, Page III-23**

<p>Policy 3: The City of Banning shall protect the peaks and ridgelines within the City, and encourage coordination with adjacent jurisdictions to protect the peaks and ridgelines within the City's area of influence, to protect the historic visual quality of the hillside areas and natural features of the Pass area.</p>	<p>This policy describes the City's desire to protect scenic attributes as part of the City's project review process but does not specify criteria that projects must meet or actions that projects must consider or undertake to protect visual resources and/or minimize visual impacts.</p>	<p>YES</p>
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**City of Banning General Plan, 2006**

<b>Applicable Policies</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Consistent?</b>
<b>Land Use Element, Page III-23s and III-24-8</b>		
<p>Policy 3 – The City of Banning shall protect the peaks and ridgelines within the City, and encourage coordination with adjacent jurisdictions to protect the peaks and ridgelines within the City’s area of influence, to protect the historic visual quality of hillside areas and natural features of the Pass area.</p> <p>Program 3.A – The City shall investigate and implement actions and regulations that facilitate hillside development that is compatible with the natural characteristics of the terrain while protecting the significant view sheds, and natural hillside features such as topography, natural drainage, vegetation, wildlife habitats, movement corridors etc.</p>	<p>Although the Proposed Project would not be consistent with the natural characteristics of the terrain, the Proposed Project would be located within an established utility corridor, which would avoid the proliferation of additional ROWs across natural landscapes. Also, the Proposed Project would improve the visual characteristics of the ROW and hillside environment by replacing three transmission lines of different design with two lines of the same design, thereby reducing the ROW’s structural complexity, industrial character, and associated visual contrast. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.</p>	YES
<b>Public Services and Facilities, Water, Wastewater and Utilities Element, Page VI-8</b>		
<p>Policy 10: Major utility facilities, including power and other transmission towers, cellular communication towers and other viewshed intrusions shall be designed and sited to ensure minimal environmental and viewshed impacts and environmental hazards.</p>	<p>The proposed infrastructure upgrades would occur in existing utility corridor ROWs. Visual impacts of new or replacement towers will be considered in the environmental review; therefore the intent of this policy would be met.</p>	YES
<b>WILDERNESS AND RECREATION</b>		
<b>Open Space and Conservation Element, Chapter IV: Environmental Resources, Page IV-27</b>		
<p>Policy 6: Where practical, new development shall integrate pipeline, above- and under-ground utility corridors and other easements (including electric, cable and telephone distribution lines) into a functional open space network.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be constructed within an existing utility corridor that would continue to be available for open space and/or recreational development. The Proposed Project would not conflict with this policy.</p>	YES
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Archaeological and Cultural Resources Element, Page IV-68</b>		
<p>Policy 1: The City shall exercise its responsibility to identify, document and evaluate archaeological, historical and cultural resources that may be affected by proposed development projects and other activities.</p> <p>Program 1.A: All new development proposals, except single family dwelling on existing lots of record, shall submit a records search for historic and cultural resources as part of the planning process.</p> <p>Program 1.B: Development or land use proposals which have the potential to disturb or destroy sensitive cultural resources shall be evaluated by a qualified professional and, if necessary, comprehensive Phase I studies and appropriate mitigation measures shall be incorporated into project approvals.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy because an evaluation of cultural resources has been conducted as part of the EIR/EIS Proposed Project evaluation. The cultural resources evaluation is documented in this report.</p>	YES
<b>NOISE</b>		
<b>Noise Element, Goals, Policies, and Programs, Page V-54 ff</b>		
<p>Policy 1: The City shall protect noise-sensitive land uses, including residential neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, libraries, churches, resorts and community open space, from potentially significant sources of community noise.</p>	<p>The Proposed Project would involve development of a new noise source. Implementation of best management practices for construction noise and implementation of a helicopter noise control strategy would make the project consistent with this policy.</p>	YES

**City of Banning General Plan, 2006**

Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC</b>		
<b>Community Development, Circulation Element,, Goals, Policies, and Programs, Page III-75</b>		
Policy 6: The City shall maintain peak hour Level of Service C or better on all local intersections, except those on Ramsey Street and at I-10 interchanges, where Level of Service D or better shall be maintained.	The Proposed Project would result in temporary construction traffic. However, mitigation measures would reduce expected construction traffic impacts. The Proposed Project would not include significant operational traffic. Therefore, the Proposed Project would be consistent with this policy.	YES
<b>Public Services and Facilities, Water, Wastewater and Utilities Element, Page VI-8</b>		
Policy 9: Utility lines on scenic roadways and major streets shall have primary consideration for undergrounding.	No designated scenic roadways exist near the proposed aboveground utility corridor upgrades.	YES
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH &amp; SAFETY</b>		
<b>Environmental Hazards, Hazardous and Toxic Materials Element, Goals, Policies and Program, Page V-85</b>		
Policy 3: The City shall thoroughly evaluate development proposals for lands directly adjacent to sites known to be contaminated with hazardous or toxic materials, traversed by natural gas transmission lines or fuel lines, or sites that use potentially hazardous or toxic materials.	Tower locations proximate to an existing gas line would be verified prior to construction. Fuel and petroleum pipelines are south of I-10. Adjacent contaminated sites are unlikely in the rural/undeveloped area.	YES
Policy 5: The City shall designate appropriate access routes to facilitate the transport of hazardous and toxic materials	Minimal hazardous or toxic material would be use for the Proposed Project. Handling of such material would be in conformance with state and federal requirements and the required hazardous materials management plan.	YES
<b>HYDROLOGY &amp; WATER RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Environmental Hazards, Flooding and Hydrology Element, , Goals, Policies, and Programs, Page V-37</b>		
Policy 6: All new development shall be required to incorporate adequate flood mitigation measures, such as grading that prevents adverse drainage impacts to adjacent properties, onsite retention of runoff, and the adequate siting of structures located within flood plains.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures that provide flood control and prevention procedures.	YES
<b>GEOLOGY, MINERAL RESOURCES, AND SOILS</b>		
<b>Environmental Hazards, Geotechnical Element, Goals, Policies, and Programs, Page V-23</b>		
Policy 3: Development in areas identified as being susceptible to slope instability shall be avoided unless adequately engineered to eliminate geotechnical hazards.	The Proposed Project would be located in low to no Slope Instability areas.	YES
Policy 5: The City shall coordinate and cooperate with public and quasi-public agencies to assure the continued functionality of major utility systems in the event of a major earthquake.	The Proposed Project would conform to this policy through the implementation of mitigation measures, which provide procedures to analyze, confirm, and avoid active fault locations.	YES



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Applicable Policies	Determination	Consistent?
<b>SOCIOECONOMICS</b>		
<b>Community Development, Economic Development Element, Goals, Policies, and Programs, Page III-42</b>		
<p>Policy 3: Encourage and promote infill development in orderly and logical development patterns that decrease the costs, and increase the efficiency of new utilities, infrastructure, and public services.</p>	<p>The new and upgraded electric transmission lines and substation facilities are intended to provide adequate electrical distribution to meet existing and future demand. Therefore, the Proposed Project itself would be an infrastructure project designed to accommodate existing and planned development within the City of Banning. The Proposed Project would be in compliance with this policy.</p>	YES
<p>Policy 8: In order to maintain existing economic activities and attract new commercial and industrial development, the City shall assure the provision of adequate utilities, infrastructure, and other capital facilities.</p>	<p>The new and upgraded electric transmission lines and substation facilities are intended to provide adequate electrical distribution to meet existing and future demand. Therefore, the Proposed Project itself would be an infrastructure project designed to accommodate existing and planned development within the City of Banning. The Proposed Project would be in compliance with this policy a.</p>	YES