

	<b>California Public Utilities Commission</b> <b><i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting</i></b> <b><i>Program</i></b>
	<b>Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement</b> <b>Projects</b>  <b>Compliance Status Report: 014</b>  <b>April 2, 2017</b>

## SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects. The CPUC has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIR/FEIS to mitigate or avoid impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the CPUC's third-party monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the MMCRP, and anticipated construction activities. Photos of site observations are included in Attachment A of this report. A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTP) and Minor Project Refinement Requests (MPRRs) are provided in Attachments B and C, respectively.

This compliance status report covers construction activities from March 20 through April 2, 2017.

## MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

### *Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring*

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor (ECM) conducted site observations in areas under active construction, which included Transmission Lines (TL) 625B, 629E, 6931, and Staging Yards. Areas of active and inactive construction were observed to verify implementation of the mitigation measures stipulated in the project's MMCRP. Observations were documented using site inspection forms, and applicable applicant proposed measures (APMs) and mitigation measures (MMs) were reviewed in the field.

### *Implementation Actions*

During this reporting period, CPUC ECMs observed continued implementation of dust control measures, including use of water trucks to control dust along access roads, workspaces, and development of new staging yards (See Photo 1—Attachment A) (APM AIR-02). Crews were observed sweeping sediment off

paved roadways at points of ingress and egress at staging yards and at the intersection of dirt and paved roads (APM AIR-05, MM HYD-1).

Crews were observed staking/delineating work areas along TL 6931 this reporting period (MM BIO-1). During staking and other work activities along the project alignments, crews were observed carrying the required activity-specific fire tools and equipment (a 5 gallon backpack pump, round point shovel, Pulaski, and 2A10BC fire extinguisher) in accordance with the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (MM FF-1) (See Photo 2—Attachment A). Biological monitors were observed participating and overseeing staking of work areas along TL 6931 and monitoring construction activities along project alignments in accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22. Restoration crews were observed along TL 6931 surveying and flagging succulents for avoidance during construction (MM BIO-15) (See Photo 3—Attachment A).

Helicopter activities continued at TL 625B and TL 629E to support overhead work (See Photo 4—Attachment A). In accordance with the Aviation Safety Plan and MM PHS-5, the designated area for helicopter landing and staging in the Japatul Spur Staging Yard remained delineated, with a ground crew member on-site to ensure safety of all construction personnel in the area. During fiber optic stringing activities along TL 629E, SDG&E's Lead Environmental Inspector (LEI) was observed monitoring an active red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) nest in an oak tree adjacent to Z40583 during fiber optic stringing activities. To prevent disturbance to the nest, the CPUC ECM observed the LEI directing the construction crew to use a bucket truck at Z40583, as opposed to a helicopter, for sock line stringing in accordance with MM BIO-28 and the Nesting Bird Management Plan (NBMP). Approved avian biologists were observed in other areas conducting surveys along alignments and monitoring construction activities within the vicinity of recorded active nests in accordance with the NBMP (See Photo 5—Attachment A) and. Signage indicating nesting buffer areas were observed in place and areas with nesting restrictions were communicated at the morning tailboards.

Biological monitors were observed clearing sites prior to construction work, inspecting sites throughout the day, and monitoring ground disturbing activities in accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22. Construction crews were observed working within delineated workspaces in accordance with MM BIO-1, and ESA signs were observed along the alignment to notify construction personnel of special status plants and butterfly host plant species outside the work limits in accordance with MM BIO-13, MM BIO-14, and MM BIO-16.

Archeological and Native American monitors were observed monitoring construction activities in work areas within the vicinity of previously recorded cultural resources and in areas identified as having a high potential to contain buried deposits in accordance with MM CUL-1, MM CUL-3, and APM CUL-04. Cultural ESA fencing was observed around the perimeter of workspaces and along the boundaries of access roads in accordance with Historic Properties Management Plan.

Construction crews were observed installing (TL 6931) and maintaining erosion control BMPs along project alignments, including waterbars and energy dissipation devices (See Photo 6—Attachment A), in

accordance with the project Erosion Control Plan (ECP) and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (MM HYD-1, MM BIO-7, and APM HYD-09). Topsoil was observed continuing to be salvaged and secured with erosion control BMPs, just as fiber rolls and jute net covering. On March 21, the CPUC observed a the lack of stockpile management BMPs at Pole Z40589 (TL 629E). The issue was communicated to the LEI and addressed by a construction crew by consolidating the sediment into a stockpile and covering it with fiber mesh matting in accordance with MM HYD-1.

In accordance with MM PHS-2 and the project SWPPP, construction crews were observed implementing spill prevention Best Management Practices (BMPs) including the use of drip pans beneath staged equipment, staging spill kits at work sites, and hazardous materials storage BMPs, including the use of secondary containment beneath hazardous materials at staging yards. Rock aprons and rattle plates were continued to be observed in good condition at staging yards to ensure minimization of sediment transport onto paved roadways. Perimeter controls at pole replacement work sites and staging yards (i.e. fiber rolls and silt fencing) were observed in good condition.

### ***Mitigation Measure Tracking***

Mitigation measures applicable to the construction activities were verified in the field and documented in the CPUC's mitigation measure tracking database. A complete list of mitigation measures and applicant proposed measures is included in the FEIR/EIS in the Decision for the Power Line Replacement Projects, as adopted by the CPUC on May 26, 2016 (Decision D.16-05-038) and the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP).

### ***Compliance Status***

CPUC third-party environmental monitors observed overall compliance with mitigation measures throughout the reporting period.

## **CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE AND PROGRESS**

SDG&E began construction activities associated with NTP-1 on September 23, 2016. All project activities are scheduled to be complete by 2020.

### **TL 625B**

During this reporting period, construction crews installed and maintained erosion control BMPs; conducted drilling, grouting, testing, and capping activities for micropile foundations; installed guy anchors; grounded and spread overhead wire; staged and assembled poles; conducted micropile pressure testing; installed steel caps; re-aligned the access road at Pole Z272867; and repaired waterbars and rock dissipaters. The estimated completion date is June 2017. Approximately 30% complete.

### **TL 629E**

During this reporting period, construction crews installed and maintained erosion control BMPs; cleared vegetation within delineated work spaces; conducted overhead line work (including stringing and sagging conductors, clipping in wire, dead-ending, and installing insulators); utilized helicopters for overhead line work; mobilized equipment to support jack-and-bore operations at Old Highway 80 across from Crestwood Substation; dug bore pits and installed handrails at shoring boxes at the Old Highway 80 site; installed safety fence around the bore pit; welded foundation caps; installed guy anchors; and repaired waterbars and rock dissipaters. The estimated completion date is May 2017. Approximately 90% complete.

#### TL 6931

During this reporting period, construction crews installed and maintained erosion control BMPs; conducted vegetation clearing within delineated work spaces; mobilized drilling equipment; performed salvaging of succulents and performed other surveys; developed the Live Oak Staging Yard; and conducted drilling activities for micropile foundations. The estimated completion date is June 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

#### TL 682

No geotechnical work was performed during this reporting period. The estimated completion date is June 2017.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos

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**Photo 1:** In accordance with APM-AIR-02, a water truck was observed being utilized to apply water in Live Oak Springs Staging Yard to prevent dust emissions.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 2:** Pickup trucks used along the ROW were equipped with a 5 gallon backpack pump, Pulaski, round point shovel, and 2A10BC fire extinguisher in accordance with the CFPPP and MM-FF-1. Biological monitors were observed present during staking in accordance with MM BIO-23.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)

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**Photo 3:** Succulents were observed flagged for avoidance at Z44271 (TL 6931) in accordance with MM BIO-15 and NCCP requirements.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)

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**Photo 4:** A construction crew was observed utilizing a helicopter to string sock line at Z40584 for fiber optic wire stringing between Z40572 to Z44182 (TL 629E).



## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 5:** A qualified Avian Biologist was observed monitoring constructing activities adjacent to Pole Z44294 (TL 6931) near active nests in accordance with MM-BIO-28 in accordance with MM BIO-28 and the NBMP.

## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 6:** Geo Pacific Services crew observed performing energy dissipater maintenance along the access road between Z44173 and Z44175 (TL 629E) in accordance with MM-HYD-1.

## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

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NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
CPUC - 001	September 21, 2016, updated October 31, 2016	Construction activities associated with TL 625B and TL 629E	Y
CPUC-002	March 15, 2017	Construction activities associated with TL 6931	Y
CPUC-003	March 24, 2017	Geotechnical activities associated with TL 682	Y

## ATTACHMENT C

### Minor Project Refinement Request

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Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	10/5/16, Revised 10/18/16	Request for Modifications to the Anderson, Merrigan and Japatul Spur Staging Yards	Approved	10/21/16
002	2/21/16	Modifications to TL 625B and TL 629E	Approved, with Conditions	2/10/17