

California Public Utilities Commission Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program

**Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects** 

**Compliance Status Report: 029** 

October 29, 2017

## 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 October 16 through October 29, 2017.

## MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

## Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations in areas under active construction, which included Transmission Line (TL) 682 and Circuit (C) 78, and the associated staging/fly 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. Applicable applicant proposed measures (APMs) and mitigation measures (MMs) were reviewed for implementation in the field.

#### Implementation Actions

During this reporting period along TL 682, CPUC ECMs observed vegetation clearing, trenching for ground wire installation, drilling and grouting for micropile foundations, drilling pole holes, and helicopter external load operations at Lake Henshaw and Love Valley Staging Yards. Along C 78, crews

were observed clearing vegetation, excavating workspaces, digging/drilling pole holes and anchor sites, and setting new poles.

During this reporting period, CPUC ECMs observed implementation of dust control measures including application of water to control dust on access roads and the use of load covers during spoil export (APM AIR-02). Project personnel were observed maintaining posted speeds of 15 miles per hour on unpaved roads in accordance with APM AIR-03 and MM BIO-24.

During construction activities, crews were observed adhering to delineated work limits and working within existing access roads in accordance with MM BIO-1 (See Photo 1 – Attachment A). In accordance with MM BIO-3 and MM BIO-22, biological monitors were observed conducting full time monitoring of initial ground-disturbing activities as well as vegetation clearing and trimming, which were occurring along TL 682 and C 78. To prevent wildlife entrapment along C 78, completed pole holes were observed securely covered in accordance with MM BIO-23. On October 26, the onsite lead biological monitor informed the CPUC ECM that the covering for a pole hole had been removed, possibly by a member of the public at a previously drilled hole. The CPUC ECM confirmed that the hole would be inspected for wildlife and re-covered in accordance with MM BIO-23. CPUC ECMs observed construction crews using trash bags to contain and collect trash at worksites in accordance with MM BIO-26 and BIO-33.

During construction activities along all rights-of-way, construction fire patrols were observed inspecting sites for compliance with the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan (CFPPP) (MM FF-1). Crews were observed staging the required fire tools and equipment based on the Project Activity Level (on Cleveland National Forest (CNF) land)/Fire Potential Index (off CNF land) and the construction activity being performed as allowed in the Fire Prevention Matrices CFPPP (MM FF-1 and APM HAZ-01). During vegetation clearing along C78, a water truck was used to water before clearing activities for fire safety in accordance with the CFPPP (See Photo 2 – Attachment A).Work activities were limited or cancelled during Red Flag Warnings and on several other days with extreme fire danger during this reporting period.

Site-specific erosion and sediment control BMPs continued to be observed along the project rights-ofway in accordance with the project SWPPP (MM HYD-1, APM HYD-09, and MM BIO-7). BMPs designed to prevent off-site erosion and sedimentation included the use of fiber rolls, silt fencing, and prowattle. Silt fence was observed to be installed at micropile drilling workspaces in accordance with the SWPPP (See Photo 3 – Attachment A). CPUC ECMs observed the capture and containment of concrete wash water during grouting activities along TL 682 in accordance with APM HYD-01 (See Photo 4 – Attachment A). ECMs observed crews cleaning spills and maintaining equipment leaks in accordance with the Spill Response and Notification Plan (MM PHS-2) (See Photo 5 – Attachment A).

Implementation of traffic control measures continued to be observed in this reporting period. Traffic control measures, such as the placement of signage and cones as well as the use of flag persons were observed during pole setting and anchor drilling activities along C 78 and helicopter external load

operations along TL 682 in accordance with APM TRANS-02. During pole setting activities along C 78 and helicopter external load operations along TL 682, traffic control notification signs, cones, and flag persons were observed being utilized to temporarily stop traffic. Signage, cones, and flag person were also utilized along C 78 to direct traffic around construction vehicles and equipment staged on Viejas Grade Road during anchor drilling (See Photo 6 – Attachment A).

#### 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. No non-compliances were reported or observed this 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.

#### <u>TL 625B</u>

During this reporting period, construction crews conducted punch-list work and site cleanup. The estimated completion date is October 2017. Approximately 98% complete.

#### <u>TL 629E</u>

During this reporting period, construction crews maintained erosion control BMPs. The estimated completion date is January 2018. Approximately 90% complete.

#### <u>TL 6931</u>

During this reporting period, construction crews maintained erosion control BMPs, conducted punch-list work, and removed old poles. The estimated completion date is November 2017. Approximately 90% complete.

### <u>TL 682</u>

During this reporting period, construction crews drilled and grouted foundations, installed poles, cleared workspaces and installed BMPs, trimmed trees for overhead work clearance, completed the development of the Love Valley Fly Yard and associated access road, and maintained Stephens' kangaroo rat exclusion barriers. Approximately 7% complete with construction, with a completion date of November 2018. Geotechnical activities are 100% complete as of October 2017.

#### <u>C 78</u>

During this reporting period, construction crews cleared workspaces, installed erosion control BMPs, drilled pole holes, installed poles, and installed anchors. The estimated completion date is December 2017. Approximately 5% complete.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos



**Photo 1**: Anchor hole digging was observed at P172687. Work and access occurred within the delineated limits of disturbance in accordance with MM BIO-1 (C 78).



P257743 in accordance with the CFPPP (C78).



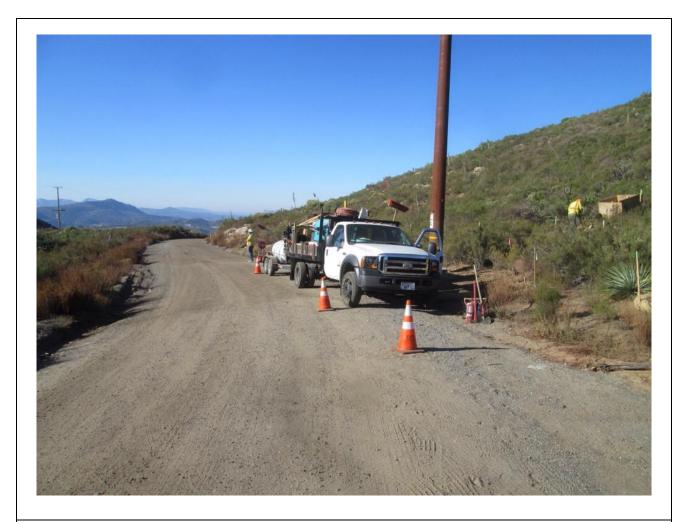
**Photo 3:** A silt fence was observed around the downslope side of the micropile drilling workspace at Z118123 in accordance with the SWPPP (TL 682).



**Photo 4:** During grouting activities at Z118122, a water buffalo was used to capture and contain concrete wash water in accordance with APM-HYD-01 (TL 682).



**Photo 5:** During direct bury pole hole drilling at Z118049, the crew stopped drilling to respond to an equipment leak in accordance with the Spill Response and Notification Plan (MM-PHS-2) (TL 682).



**Photo 6:** During anchor hole drilling at P172692, a traffic control flagperson and cones were stationed to direct traffic around equipment staged on Viejas Grande Road in accordance with APM-TRANS-02 (C 78).

## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

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	
CPUC-004	June 27, 2017	Construction activities associated with TL 682 Phase I : Pole Z118102 to Warners Substation	Y	
CPUC-005	July 10, 2017	Geotechnical activities associated with C440 and C449	Y	
CPUC-007	August 15, 2017	Construction activities associated with C78	Y	

# ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

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
003	1/18/17	Use of Additional Water Source	Approved, with Conditions	4/4/17
004	3/20/17	Use of Orchard Staging Yard and Nursery Staging and Fly Yard	Approved, with Conditions	5/16/17
005	5/9/17	Modifications to C78	Approved	8/15/17
006	6/20/17	Drainage Structure Installation at Pole Z272867 (TL 625B)	Approved	7/6/17
007	8/1/17	Love Valley Staging and Fly Yard	Approved	9/25/17
008	8/14/17	Mendenhall Fly Yard (TL 682)	Approved	9/1/17
009	10/10/17	Request for refinements for Phase I and Phase II of TL682	Pending	N/A