



May 15, 2015

Reg.12-10/A.12-10-009 SDG&E CNF PTC Application

Sent Via Electronic Mail

Lisa Orsaba	Rica Nitka
California Public Utilities Commission	Dudek
Energy Division	605 Third Street
505 Van Ness Avenue	Encinitas, CA 92024
San Francisco, CA 94102	,
,	

Subject: CNF ED11-SDGE Response – Questions 1-6.

Dear Ms. Orsaba and Ms. Nitka:

Attached please find SDG&E's response to Energy Division's (ED) Data Request 11 issued on May 8, 2015. This submittal includes responses to questions 1 through 6 and completes the utility's response to this request.

If you have any questions, please contact me either by phone: (858) 636-6876 or email: *RGiles@semprautilities.com*.

Sincerely,

Signed

Rebecca W. Giles Regulatory Case Manager

Enclosures

cc: Allen Trial – SDG&E John Porteous – Dudek

Elizabeth Cason – SDG&E Bob Hawkins – US Forest Service

Tim Knowd – SDG&E Jeff Heys – Cleveland National Forest, USFS Central Files - SDG&E Kelli Taylor - Cleveland National Forest, USFS

Fred Bauermeister – Insignia

A.12-10-009 Cleveland National Forest (CNF) Power Line Replacement Projects PTC ED Data Request 11 Dated May 8, 2015 ED11-SDGE: Question 1-6

1. Project Description	Q1-2	Ref: ED10 Q1 Exh A
2. Biological Resources	Q3-5	Ref ED10 Q3 Exh B
3. Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP)	Q6	

Question 1:

Please indicate how many weathered steel poles are associated with C78 (Table B-2).

Response to Q1:

As provided in SDG&E's response to ED Data Request 10, 44 weathered steel poles will be constructed along the Proposed Projects' segment of C78.

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Question 2:

Please clarify the following discrepancies in Table B-7 with the GIS data provided with DR10. If changes to Table B-7 are necessary, please provide a corrected version of Exhibit A Table B-7 (please only show changes between Draft EIR/EIS text and new text in final table submitted).

- TL682
 - o Guard structures, GIS indicates 4 within the Cleveland National Forest (CNF) (table indicates 14).
- TL626
 - o "Fly yard" text is deleted under "Work Area Type" column; however, data inserted shows one site within CNF. Based on GIS data provided, this site is located outside CNF. This fly yard is located east of Pole Z372116.
- TL629
 - o Removal, GIS data includes two removal areas that occur outside of CNF (table indicates six).
- TL6923
 - o GIS doesn't contain data for removal areas for this line (table indicates four).

Response to O2:

SDG&E has included an updated Table B-7: Temporary Work Area Summary below, with clarifications between the Draft EIR/EIS and the final GIS data shown in **bold**.

- TL682: This power line includes 4 guard structures within the CNF boundary and 56 outside the CNF, for a total of 60. This change has been included in Table B-7 below.
- TL626: The fly yard located east of pole Z372116 is located outside the CNF boundary but, due to minor inconsistencies in GIS layer mapping, a very minor portion of the fly yard polygon overlaps with the CNF boundary. SDG&E has updated Table B-7 to reflect that this fly yard is outside the CNF. The text for this entry was inadvertently deleted, but has been added to Table B-7 below.
- TL629: The GIS data includes six Removal areas for this line, consistent with what was provided in SDG&E's response to ED Data Request 10. The corresponding information for these areas can be found in the Action column of the GIS database.
- TL6923: The GIS data includes four Removal areas for this line, consistent with what was provided in SDG&E's response to ED Data Request 10. The corresponding information for these areas can be found in the Action column of the GIS database.

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Table B-7

Temporary Work Area Summary

			proxima Quantity					I Approx Area (Acres)	
		With in	Outsi de	Tot		Approximate Dimensions	With in	Outsi de	
Work	Area Type	CNF	CNF	al	Required Improvements	(Feet)	CNF	CNF	Total
					69 kV Power Line		,		
TL682	Direct-Bury Steel Pole Work Area	20	166	186	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.6	4.8	5.4
	Self-Supported Steel Pole Work Area	7	60	67	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.2	1.7	1.9
	Staging Area	0	3	3	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0.0	4.1	4.1
	Stringing Site	2	31	33	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.2	5.2	5.4
	Fly Yard	0	2	2	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0	4.9	4.9
	Guard Structure	14 4	56	70 60	Vegetation clearing may be required.	3-foot diameter	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
TL626	Direct-Bury Steel Pole Work Area	93	114	207	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	2.7	3.3	6.0
	Self-Supported Steel Pole Work Area	27	45	72	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.8	1.3	2.1
	Wood Pole Removal Area	0	1	1	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.0	<0.1	<0.1
	Staging Area	0	4	4	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0.0	5.6	5.6
	Stringing Site	7	18	25	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.6	2.2	2.8
	Fly Yard	1-0	1	1	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.5 0	0.5	0.5
TL625	Direct-Bury Steel Pole Work Area	54	124	178	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	1.6	3.6	5.2
	Self-Supported Steel Pole Work Area	27	72	99	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.8	2.1	2.9

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Table B-7

Temporary Work Area Summary

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	Approximate Quantity				Total Approximate Area (Acres)				
Work	« Area Type	With in CNF	Outsi de CNF	Tot al	Required Improvements	Approximate Dimensions (Feet)	With in CNF	Outsi de CNF	Total
	Wood Pole Removal Area	7	10	17	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.2	0.3	0.5
	Staging Area	0	11	11	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0.0	10.0	10.0
	Stringing Site	7	30	37	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.5	5.4	5.9
	Fly Yard	1	4	5	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.3	7.4	7.7
	Guard Structure	14	62	76	Vegetation clearing may be required.	3-foot diameter	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
TL629	Direct-Bury Pole Work Area	91	192	283	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	2.6	5.5	8.1
	Self-Supported Pole Work Area	53	119	172	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	1.5	3.4	4.9
	Wood Pole Removal Area	6	15	21	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.2	0.4	0.6
	Staging Area	0	5	5	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0.0	9.5	9.5
	Stringing Site	13	69	82	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	2.1	13.1	15.2
	Fly Yard	0	3	3	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.0	1.2	1.2
	Guard Structure	16	13	29	Vegetation clearing may be required.	3-foot diameter	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
TL6923	Direct-Bury Steel Pole Work Area	22	54	76	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.6	1.5	2.1
	Self-Supported Steel Pole Work Area	14	40	54	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	40-foot diameter	0.4	1.2	1.6
	Wood Pole Removal Area	0	4	4	Vegetation removal may be required.	40-foot diameter	0	0.1	0.1

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Table B-7
Temporary Work Area Summary

	Approximate Quantity					Total Approxima Area (Acres)		
	With	Outsi			Approximate	With	Outsi	
	in	de	Tot		Dimensions	in	de	
Work Area Type	CNF	CNF	al	Required Improvements	(Feet)	CNF	CNF	Total
Staging Area	0	3	3	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0	22.5	22.5
Stringing Site	5	21	26	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.5	2.1	2.6
Guard Structure	0	4	4	Vegetation clearing may be required.	3-foot diameter	0.0	<0.1	<0.1

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Table B-7

Temporary Work Area Summary

		Ap	proxima Quantity	te	Work Area Summary		Tota	I Approx Area (Acres)	
Worl	k Area Type	With in CNF	Outsi de CNF	Tot al	Required Improvements	Approximate Dimensions (Feet)	With in CNF	Outsi de CNF	Total
	JI				kV Distribution Line	(,	1		
C79	Wood Pole Removal Area	47	17	64	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	20-foot diameter	0.3	0.1	0.4
	Staging Area	1	6	7	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0.3	0.2	0.5
	Fly Yard	1	0	1	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	<0.1	0.0	<0.1
	Stringing Site	2	23	25	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	<0.1	0.2	0.3
	Underground Duct Bank	0	1	1	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	<12-foot width	0	4.1	4.1
C78	Direct-Bury Steel Pole Work Area	33	11	44	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	20-foot diameter	0.2	0.1	0.3
	Wood Pole Removal Area	21	0	21	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	20-foot diameter	0.2	0.0	0.2
	Stringing Site	1	3	4	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	0.0	0.1	0.1
C157	Direct-Bury Steel Pole Work Area	28	29	57	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	20-foot diameter	0.2	0.2	0.4
	Staging Area	1	1	2	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0.1	0.2	0.3
	Stringing Site	1	2	3	Vegetation clearing may be required.	Varies	<0.1	0.1	0.2
C442	Direct-Bury Steel Pole Work Area	82	47	129	Vegetation removal and minor grading may be required.	20-foot diameter	0.6	0.3	0.9
	Staging Area	1	1	2	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	<0.1	0.3	0.4
	Fly Yard	3	0	3	Vegetation removal, minor grading, and gravel laydown may be required.	Varies	0.1	0	0.1

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Table B-7
Temporary Work Area Summary

Total Approximate Area **Approximate** Quantity (Acres) With Outsi With Outsi **Approximate** de Tot **Dimensions** de in in CNF **CNF** (Feet) CNF CNF Work Area Type al **Required Improvements** Total 4 10 Vegetation clearing may be 0.1 0.2 Stringing Site 6 Varies 0.1 required. C440 **Direct-Bury Steel** 324 116 440 Vegetation removal and 20-foot diameter 2.3 8.0 3.1 Pole Work Area minor grading may be required. Wood Pole 17 99 Vegetation removal and 82 20-foot diameter 0.6 0.1 0.7 Removal Area minor grading may be required. 0 Vegetation removal, minor Staging Area 10 10 Varies 8.0 0.0 8.0 grading, and gravel laydown may be required. 107 13 120 Vegetation clearing may be 1.7 0.3 2.0 Stringing Site Varies required. Vegetation removal and Underground 3 1 4 <12-foot width 10.9 1.3 12.2 **Duct Bank** minor grading may be required. C449 Direct-Bury Steel 29 12 41 Vegetation removal and 20-foot diameter 0.2 0.1 0.3 Pole Work Area minor grading may be required. Wood Pole 83 14 97 Vegetation removal and 20-foot diameter 0.6 0.1 0.7 Removal Area minor grading may be required. 1 Vegetation removal, minor Staging Area 0 1 Varies 0.0 0.2 0.2 grading, and gravel laydown may be required. 7 Vegetation clearing may be Stringing Site 23 30 Varies 0.6 0 0.6 required. Underground 1 1 2 Vegetation removal and 2.6 <12-foot width 2.2 0.4 **Duct Bank** minor grading may be required.

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Question 3:

Tables D.4-5 and D.4-6 (Exhibit B in DR10) provide temporary and permanent impact acreages to vegetation communities and land cover types. Under land cover types, GIS vegetation data is separated into three categories: disturbed (ruderal/barren), pastureland/cultivated agriculture, and urban and developed/ornamental landscaping. During consultation meetings in early 2015 with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (the Wildlife Agencies), the Wildlife Agencies expressed concern that areas designated as ruderal or pastureland may include suitable habitat for special-status species. Therefore, please provide clarification and detailed information on how many acres of the "disturbed (ruderal/barren)" and "pastureland/cultivated agriculture" categories are considered habitat by the Wildlife Agencies, which would consequently count as "take" under SDG&E's Subregional NCCP. If impacted acreage differs (i.e., some is considered habitat and some is not) in these two categories from the information submitted on May 1, 2015, please clearly indicate the acreage considered habitat vs. not-habitat in Tables D.4-5 and D.4-6. If Table D.4-5 and Table D.4-6 acres are revised based on Wildlife Agencies' discussions, please provide an updated GIS vegetation layer clearly showing which areas previously considered disturbed (ruderal/barren) and pastureland/cultivated agriculture are now considered "habitat."

Response to Q3:

Based on comments that the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) provided at the inter-agency meeting on this project on March 10, 2015, and based on follow-up communications between CDFW and SDG&E, SDG&E re-categorized 9.81 acres of Pastureland/Cultivated Agriculture as Non-native Grassland. This acreage amount was reapportioned to the Non-native Grassland categories as shown in Tables D.4-5 and D.4-6 of SDG&E's response to ED Data Request 10. Footnotes indicating the reapportionment of these acres were provided with those tables as part of SDG&E's response. As a result, the three Land Cover Type categories in these tables do not include any acreage that are considered habitat by the Wildlife Agencies. The GIS database provided in response to ED Data Request 10 includes identification of the re-categorized areas. Specifically, in the Vegetation feature class, a Note field was added to identify the seven areas identified as "Agriculture functioning as Non-native Grassland."

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Question 4:

DR10 Q3 requested the following information "...please provide temporary and permanent impacts acreages for the newly proposed work areas shown in Exhibit C by habitat type (i.e., vegetation community, land cover type, wetland resources, and jurisdictional resources), as well as biological resources that are known to occur in the newly proposed work areas (i.e., USFWS designated critical habitat and known occurrences of special-status species)." SDG&E's response indicated that information was available in the updated proposed project GIS database. However, the GIS data only provides the vegetation data and no information regarding the items in italics above. Please state whether or not any items in italics above occur on the newly proposed work areas. If yes, please provide specifics and a statement on which databases were reviewed. If not, please provide a statement on which databases were reviewed to determine if the items in italics do not occur in the newly proposed work areas.

Response to Q4:

SDG&E reviewed the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory Data and Critical Habitat for Threatened and Endangered Species shapefile, as well as the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB), to evaluate the potential presence of hydrologic features or sensitive biological resources at the additional staging areas referenced in ED Data Request 10, Exhibit C. Additionally, SDG&E conducted pedestrian surveys to identify hydrological resources in these areas. One staging area, Kreutzkamp Staging Yard, was determined to have hydrological resources in the vicinity of the staging area. However, the staging area was designed to avoid potential impacts to these features. A shapefile containing the identified hydrological feature is included as part of this response.



CNF_DR11_Wetland_T

[Zip file includes the GIS shapefiles, which are not posted]

SDG&E's review of the CNDDB identified the potential for the following special-status species to occur at the staging areas included in ED Data Request 10, Exhibit C:

- Tulloch Staging Yard (ED Data Request 10 #2) American badger, coast horned lizard, Dulzura pocket mouse, Orcutt's brodiaea, prairie falcon
- Boulder Creek Staging Yard (ED Data Request 10 #3) prairie falcon, prairie wedge grass
- Kreutzkamp Staging Yard (ED Data Request 10 #5) prairie falcon
- Bartlett/Hauser (ED Data Request 10 #6) prairie falcon, southern jewelflower

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As described in SDG&E's Revised Plan of Development (April 2013), all work areas associated with temporary or permanent impacts would be surveyed for special-status plant and wildlife species by a qualified biologist prior to the commencement of construction in accordance with SDG&E's NCCP and pre-activity survey report requirements.

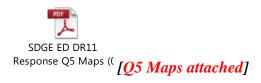
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Question 5:

Table D.4-10 (Exhibit B in DR10) shows < 0.01 acre of temporary and/or permanent impact acreages to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-jurisdictional waters for the following project lines: C78, C157, C442, C440, and C449. Please clarify where these impacts to ephemeral drainages occur along these lines. Please include the pole numbers where impacts occur.

Response to Q5:

The GIS database provided as part of SDG&E's response to ED Data Request 10 includes all necessary data where work areas may have temporary or permanent impacts to jurisdictional waters for the five 12 kV distribution lines. Many of these areas are the result of very minor GIS layer overlapping; some locations have small drainages located alongside or to one side of the pole work area polygon. As described in SDG&E's Revised POD, these work areas will be delineated prior to construction to avoid such impacts to the extent possible. The following table provides the identified permanent and temporary impacts to these features by distribution line and pole number, as well as the amount of impact to the hundred-thousandths of an acre. Also attached is a mapset showing the location of these identified features, the pole work area polygon, and associated pole and distribution circuit number.



	Permanent Impact (acres)	Temporary Impact (Acres)	Total (Acres)
C78			
P166377		0.00021	0.00021
C440			
P40126		0.00021	0.00021
P40127		0.00045	0.00045
P40128		0.00002	0.00002
P40136		0.00040	0.00040
P40199		0.00038	0.00038
P40452	0.00004	0.00052	0.00056
P45116		0.00025	0.00025
C442			
P178030		0.00003	0.00003
P178039		0.00018	0.00018

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P178044	0.00036	0.00036
C449		
NEW POLE P-37	0.00006	0.00006
P104078	0.00023	0.00023
P42798	0.00021	0.00021
P46464	0.00045	0.00045

Question 6:

Per CPUC Energy Division Director Edward Randolph's letter dated May 4, 2015, to SDG&E Vice President, Dan Skopec, the CPUC CNF PTC Final EIR/EIS will rely on SDG&E compliance with the current NCCP based on CPUC and Forest Service current understanding that sufficient take authorization (quantified as acres of impacted habitat) is available for this project. Please provide the total acreage available in the NCCP and confirm that the overall total "take" acreage that remains in the SDG&E NCCP is sufficient for the incidental take of covered species anticipated for the CNF MSUP/PTC.

Response to Q6:

SDG&E has requested concurrence from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife on the total acreage available for impacts under the NCCP. As soon as SDG&E receives the concurrence, SDG&E will provide a response to this question.

