

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

Cleveland National Forest Power Line Replacement Projects

Compliance Status Report: 069

May 19, 2019

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 May 6, 2019 through May 19, 2019.

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) 629A, TL 6958 (formerly TL 629D), TL 682, TL 629C, Circuit (C) 449, 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.

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Implementation Actions

During this reporting period along TL 629A, CPUC ECMs observed construction crews readying work spaces, including trimming trees, clearing ground vegetation, conducting potholing, setting up drill platforms, and installing Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Best Management Practices (BMPs) at pole sites. Additionally, crews were observed conducting micropile foundation drilling at various pole sites and excavating direct bury pole holes and anchors (See Photos 1 through 4 – Attachment A). Along TL 6958, construction crews were observed performing overhead work at various pole sites, which included conducting sagging of and/or dead-ending 12kV underbuild conductor. Along TL 682, ECMs observed crews changing out pole crossarms and conducting transformer work, as well as clipping and dead-ending on the optical groundwire line (see Photo 5 – Attachment A). Along TL 629C, ECMs observed application of hydromulch at various pole sites along the segment (see Photo 6 – Attachment A). Along C 449, ECMs observed construction crews excavating trenches for the underground distribution line, installing conduit and pouring concrete, backfilling and grading the road shoulders, conducting hot work, and paving over trenches.

To prevent fugitive dust emissions during project activities, construction crews were observed watering down active construction areas in accordance with APM AIR-02 and street sweeping to remove debris from Buckman Springs Road. 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. Along TL 629A, a crew was observed using a cutting containment box for wood chipping of branches in order to minimize dust in accordance with APM AIR-05.

Approved workspaces were observed delineated with staking and flagging, and work crews were observed adhering to work space limits and staying on approved access roads in accordance with MM BIO-1 (see Photo 5 - Attachment A). Workers were observed having completed the Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP), as shown by project hard hat stickers in accordance with MM BIO-2, and biological monitors were observed conducting full-time monitoring of initial ground-disturbing activities on TL 629A while vegetation clearing and SWPPP BMP installation took place to ready workspaces in accordance with MM BIO-3. The application of hydromulch to completed construction areas was observed in several locations along TL 629C in accordance with MM BIO-4 and the Habitat Restoration Plan (see Photo 6 – Attachment A). To prevent wildlife entrapment, following excavation or trenching activities, trenches and excavations were securely covered or backfilled in accordance with MM BIO-23 along C449 and TL 629A. A crew was observed containing food-related trash in secured trash bags and cans in work spaces along TL 629A while performing micropile drilling in accordance with MM BIO-26. ECMs observed construction crews avoiding Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) signage and flagging such as those for active nests along TL 629A. Approved avian biologists were observed monitoring active these nests and surveying, ahead of construction crews in accordance with the Avian Protection Plan/Nesting Bird Management Plan (APP/NBMP) and MM BIO-28.

ECMs observed cultural resource monitors, including Archaeological and Native American Monitors, monitoring construction activities in accordance with the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP),

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MM CUL-1, MM CUL-3, and APM CUL-04, including trenching activities along C449, installation of SWPPP BMPs (see Photo 1 – Attachment A), hydro-mulching within TL 629C (see Photo 6 – Attachment A), and vegetation removal along TL 629A. Cultural resource ESAs were also observed to be in place in accordance with the HPMP and MM CUL-1.

In accordance with the Construction Fire Protection/Prevention Plan (CFPPP) (MM FF-1), all project-related vehicles and equipment were observed carrying the required set of fire tools (including a 5 gallon backpack pump, round point shovel, Pulaski, and 2A10BC fire extinguisher) and these tools were observed within 50 feet of work activities (see Photo 3 – Attachment A). Designated fire patrols were observed monitoring and wetting areas around hot work activities along C 449 on Buckman Springs Road in accordance with the CFPPP.

To prevent leaks and spills from being discharged into the soil, construction crews were observed implementing spill prevention BMPs in accordance with the Spill Response and Notification Plan (SRNP) and MM PHS-2, including using drip pans/secondary containment for fuel related vegetation clearing activities in TL 629A (see Photo 3 – Attachment A). Additionally, during micropile grouting in TL 629A, visqueen was observed beneath grout holding tanks to collect potential leaks and spills in accordance with the SRNP and APM HYD-01.

To prevent impacts to hydrology and water quality, site-specific sediment and erosion control BMPs were observed being implemented and maintained along project alignments in accordance with the project Erosion Control Plan (ECP) and SWPPP (MM HYD-1, MM BIO-7) and APM HYD-09. Fiber rolls and silt fencing were observed being used as perimeter controls at pole replacement sites, along underground alignments, and in staging yards, and rattle plates and rock aprons were observed at the entrances/exits of staging yards and project access roads (see Photo 1 and 4 – Attachment A). Groundwater encountered during micropile drilling along TL 629A was observed contained in a trough and circulated into the drill hole and a sump pump was observed being utilized to prevent runoff in accordance with the ECP, SWPPP, and APM HYD-08. Additionally, ECMs observed site-specific erosion and sediment control devices in use during micropile drilling in accordance with APM HYD-09, such as using a visqueen sheet on an embankment beneath a drilling site to prevent erosion during rainy weather.

During this reporting period, micropile drilling took place in proximity to private residences in TL 629A. Although the noise levels were reported below the 8-hour Leq of 75 dBA threshold, portable noise barriers were utilized to minimize noise (MM NOI-1) (see Photo 2 – Attachment A).

Traffic control measures were observed being implemented in accordance with APM TRANS-02 during this reporting period. Traffic flaggers were observed directing one-way traffic along Viejas Boulevard on TL 629A while construction crews trimmed oak trees to provide clearance for work along the line (see Photo 4 – Attachment A). ECMs observed the completion of these construction activities within a half-mile radius of Descanso Elementary School at approximately 0935h. The cones and flaggers were not demobilized until 30 minutes after school was in session in accordance with the Traffic Control Plan (TCP) (APM TRANS-05).

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In accordance with APM VIS-02, construction sites were kept as clean and inconspicuous as possible, and opaque screening was utilized in the portable noise barriers temporarily installed during microphile drilling activities (see Photo 2 – 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 MMCRP.

Compliance Status

No compliance issues were noted during 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.

TL 625B

Completion pending final inspection and punch-list items. The estimated completion date is June 2019. Approximately 99% complete.

TL 629A

During this reporting period, construction crews installed sediment and erosion control BMPs, as well as Project access and ESA signs. Additionally, crews removed vegetation and trimmed trees within delineated work areas and drilled for pole installations. The estimated completion date is July 2020. Approximately 3% complete.

TL 629C

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs, and conducted SWPPP punch-list items and clean-up. The estimated completion date is May 2019. Approximately 99% complete.

TL 629E

Completion pending final inspection and punch-list items. The estimated completion date is May 2019. Approximately 99% complete.

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TL 6931

Completion pending final inspection. The estimated completion date is May 2019. Approximately 99% complete.

TL 682

During this reporting period, construction crews installed, inspected, and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs, conducted overhead work, pole removal and installation, and punch-list work. The estimated completion date is July 2019. Approximately 95% complete.

TL 6957

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs and conducted punch-list items. The estimated completion date is May 2019. Approximately 99% complete.

TL 6958

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs, and conducted overhead work. The estimated completion date is June 2019. Approximately 80% complete.

C 157

Completion pending final inspection. The estimated completion date is June 2019. Approximately 99% complete.

C 449

During this reporting period, construction crews inspected and maintained sediment and erosion control BMPs, trenched for undergrounding, installed underground duct banks, conduit, and communication boxes, installed anchors, conducted overhead work, and paved over completed excavations areas. The estimated completion date is August 2019. Approximately 64% complete.

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ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: A construction crew observed installing a silt fence at a pole site at TL 629A in accordance with the Erosion Control Plan and SWPPP. Securing the silt fence was performed by placing gravel bags on the ground flap to avoid ground disturbance at the site. Archeological and Native American monitors were present on site during the work, and ESA signage was present in accordance with Attachment A of the HPMP.



Photo 2: During micropile drilling at Pole Z273069 (TL 629A), a noise barrier was erected to minimize disturbance to adjacent residents in accordance with MM NOI-1.



Photo 3: A crew was observed clearing vegetation along access to P258376 (TL 629A). A set of fire tools was staged within 50 feet of clearing work in accordance with the CFPPP, and fuel was staged in a drip pan in accordance with the SRNP.



Photo 4: Oak trimming activities by a construction crew were observed near Pole Z173041 (TL 629A). Traffic personnel were observed conducting traffic control along Viejas Blvd (within 0.5 miles of the Descanso Elementary School) until approximately 0935h, at which point traffic control and construction activities dependent on the lane closure ceased. The cones and flaggers were not demobilized until 30 minutes after school was in session in accordance with the Traffic Control Plan.



Photo 5: A construction crew was observed conducting dead-end activities (overhead work) on a line at Pole Z118027 (TL 682). The crew was observed performing work within the access road and only in approved work limits in accordance with MM BIO-1.



Photo 6: Application of hydro-mulch for restoring the native habitat was observed at Pole Z40512 (TL 629C) in accordance with MM BIO-4. An archaeological monitor was also observed monitoring the activities in accordance with the HPMP, APM CUL-04, and MM CUL-1.

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
CPUC-008	November 8, 2017	Construction activities associated with C442	Y
CPUC-009	December 12, 2017	Geotechnical borings and seismic surveys along TL 629A and TL 625D	Y
CPUC-010	December 18, 2017	Construction activities associated with Phase 1 of C 440	Y
CPUC-011	January 24, 2018	Request to implement geotechnical investigation program, which includes geotechnical borings along TL629C	Y
CPUC-012	January 9, 2018	Reconstruct TL 6957 (formerly referred to as 625D)	Υ
CPUC-013	April 5, 2018	Reconstruct TL 682 Phase III	Y
CPUC-014	June 26, 2018	Reconstruct/Relocate C157	Υ
CPUC-015	August 30, 2018	Request to begin construction on C 449	Y
CPUC-016	July 10, 2018	Geotechnical Activities associated with TL 6923 and TL 625C	Y
CPUC-017	August 30, 2018	Request to being construction on TL 629C	Υ
CPUC-018	August 15, 2018	Request to implement a geotechnical investigation program, including geotechnical borings, along C 79A.	Y
CPUC-019	November 30, 2018	Reconstruction of TL 6958 (formerly referred to as TL629D)	Y
CPUC-020	April 19, 2019	Reconstruction of TL 629A	Y

ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
		Description Description		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
800	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	Approved	11/22/17
010	10/16/17	Addition of staging area and shift of pole P257776 (C78)	Approved	10/27/17
011	1/9/18	Modifications to TL 6957 (formerly TL 625D)	Approved	3/12/18
012	1/22/18	Request for an additional staging/fly yard (Creekside Ranch Staging and Fly Yard)	Approved	2/6/18
013	2/7/18	Request to move Pole P178040, per permittee request	Approved	2/9/18
014	2/15/18	Request to begin construction on Phase III of TL682. This request is combined with NTP #13.	Approved	4/5/18
015	2/22/18	Request to move a pole, per permittee request and additional pole work outside of the Rincon Substation.	Approved	3/14/18
016	3/29/18	Refinements to TL 629E	Approved	4/3/18
017	4/12/18	Refinements to C157	Approved	6/26/18
018	5/29/18	Refinements to C 449	Approved	8/30/18
019	7/2/18	Refinements to TL 629C	Approved	8/30/18
020	8/23/18	Request for road maintenance and temporary access and pole workspaces along C 157	Approved	8/29/18
021	8/23/18	Interset Pole on TL 682	Approved	9/24/18
022	10/16/18	Refinements to TL 6958 (formerly TL 629D)	Approved	11/30/18
023	11/15/18	Expansion of the Buckman Springs Fly Yard and addition of the Old Buckman Springs Staging Yard and Rodriguez Staging Yard	Approved, with Conditions	12/4/18
024	11/26/18	Request to use the Pacific Crest Trail for access along C 449 and TL 629C	Approved	1/3/19
025	12/11/18	Bartlett Staging Yard	Approved	1/22/19
026	2/22/19	Refinements to TL 629A	Approved	4/19/19
027	3/1/19, Revised 3/8/19	Expansion of the Cameron Staging Yard	Approved	3/12/19
028	3/7/19	Underground workspaces at three existing pole locations on C 449	Approved	3/12/19

ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

030 3/29/19 Modify Route to Pole P45476 (C449)	Approved	4/05/19
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