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|  | <p><b>California Public Utilities Commission</b><br/><b><i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></b></p> |
|   | <p><b>East County (ECO) Substation Project</b></p>  |
|   | <p><b>Compliance Status Report: 033</b></p> <p><b>July 6, 2014</b></p>  |

**SUMMARY**

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/EIS) for the East County (ECO) Substation Project. 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/EIS to mitigate or avoid significant 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. This compliance status report covers construction activities from June 23, 2014 through July 6, 2014.

**MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING**

***Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring***

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations along the right-of-way associated with the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line, 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line, East County Substation, SWPL Loop-In and Boulevard Substation Rebuild. Areas of active and inactive construction within the project limits were observed to verify implementation of the mitigation measures stipulated in the project’s MMCRP. Daily observations were documented on daily site inspection forms and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

**Implementation Actions**

138 kV Underground Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of repair and maintenance of erosion control devices along the right of way (ROW); excavation, conduit and slurry placement of trench packages;

cleaning and patch work of vaults; tie-ins of the jack-and-bore trench; re-paving Old Highway 80 and Carrizo Gorge Road; and exportation of soil to Domingo Lake Construction Yard.

Dust control measures were observed being implemented in accordance with MM-AQ-1 and MM-BIO-4a, including watering of active construction areas (See Photo 1 - Attachment A). Track-out measures consisting of rumble plates and rock aprons were in place and maintained, and traffic control crews were observed manually sweeping up project related track out throughout and at the end of the day.

Biological monitors were onsite to ensure construction activities remained within the approved work limits and to monitor for sensitive wildlife species. All excavations were inspected prior to construction activities and throughout the day to ensure that no wildlife species had become entrapped in accordance with MM-BIO-7e. Any wildlife found entrapped was removed safely and relocated by the biological monitor.

Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles, silt fence and gravel bags are being maintained along the ROW in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1 (See Photo 2—Attachment A). Fill slopes were sprayed with hydro mulch in an effort to reduce soil erosion in accordance with BIO1-d and the Habitat Restoration Plan. Staged and active stationary equipment featured containment as required by MM-HAZ-1a (See Photo 3—Attachment A). Jurisdictional waterways were marked off with blue flagging to highlight their location for avoidance. ESAs were marked, including special species flagging for plants as stipulated by BIO-5b.

Trenching for the underground utilities included exporting soils offsite to the Domingo Lake Construction Yard (See Photo 4—Attachment A). Open trenches and excavation areas were constructed with wildlife escape ramps and/or appropriately covered at the end of each workday in accordance with MM-BIO-7a.

### 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of drilling and placing concrete for foundations; continued patch work on foundations; track-footing of pad site slopes; hydro mulching fill slopes; continued spoil removal at various sites; rough-grading on access road; delivery and unloading of steel poles; and erecting steel poles.

In accordance with MM-BIO-1c, biological monitors were onsite to survey areas of active construction. Topsoil was observed staged along the limits of work that will be utilized for restoration activities in accordance with MM-BIO-1d. Drip pan containment bins were observed beneath equipment staged along the right-of-way in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a and spill kits were accessible in case of hazardous materials leak.

Trenches and excavations were observed covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM-BIO-7a. Nesting bird surveys and monitoring were conducted throughout the reporting period in accordance with the Nesting Bird Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan and MM-BIO-7j. In an

attempt to reduce the risk of nesting bird settlement, staged equipment in areas of high bird activity were covered with thin netting so as to avoid bird or wildlife settlement or entrapment.

Archaeological and Native American observers were onsite monitoring ground disturbance and construction activities in proximity to ESA's in accordance with MM-CUL-1d. Additionally, the limits of work and ESAs were clearly marked in the field per MM-CUL-1a.

Water trucks were being utilized during excavation and backfilling activities and along common used access roads to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with the Dust Control Plan and MM-BIO-4a. Trucks used during spoil removal associated with excavation were observed covering loads prior to entering publicly accessed roads in accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1. Access roads were clearly delineated along the right-of-way and speed limits posted to ensure prevention of fugitive dust (See Photo 5 - Attachment A).

### East County Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of delivery of spoil for rough-grading of the southeast corner of the 500 kV pad; concrete form building and substation structures and buildings construction; installation of ground grid and electrical systems; wiring within the control shelter and other structures; placement of Class II base within the 500kV substation pad; construction of the V-ditch drainage system; installation of security fencing around the 230/138 kV and 500kV substation pad; paving roads within the 230 kV pad; electrical testing; installation of substation yard lights and auxiliary equipment; and repair and maintenance of installed sediment and erosion control devices throughout the site.

Water trucks were observed being utilized to water down areas of active construction and access roads to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with MM-BIO-4 and MM-AQ-1. Topsoil salvaged during initial grading was stockpiled along slopes of the substation, set aside to be used during restoration efforts in accordance with MM-BIO-1d and the Habitat Restoration Plan.

A fire patrol was on site and actively checking all entering personnel for SWEAP training stickers and required Pulaski's, shovel, and 5-gallon water supply in accordance with MM-FF-1. Throughout the substation, fire tools were set out at individual areas of work and attached to equipment for easy access in case of an emergency and in accordance with the Construction Fire Plan and MM-FF-1.

In accordance with MM-BIO-1a the limits of work were clearly delineated and respected by construction crews during ongoing construction activities along access road and within the substation. Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattle and silt fencing were observed installed and being maintained in accordance with MM-HYD-1. Hazardous materials staged onsite were placed within proper containment and labeled in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a. No smoking signs were clearly marked and adjacent to the hazardous waste areas.

In compliance with MM-BIO-7j and in an attempt to reduce the risk of nesting bird settlement, staged equipment was being covered with thin netting so as to avoid bird or wildlife settlement or entrapment.

### Boulevard Substation Rebuild

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of installation of circuit breakers and wiring, mechanical and electrical build out of the control shelter, foundation construction, and installation of the ground grid.

Construction equipment and staged materials throughout the substation were equipped with drip pan containment as stipulated by MM-HAZ-1a. Hazardous materials stored onsite were labeled and staged in proper containment bins per MM-HAZ-1a. As required by MM-HAZ1-c, trash storage bins were equipped with covers to avoid dispersal due to weather or wildlife.

Fire patrol was on site and actively checking all entering personnel for SWEAP training stickers in accordance with MM-FF-1 and the Project Health and Safety Plan outlined in MM-HAZ1-b.

In accordance with MM-BIO4-A and MM-AQ-1, water trucks were used to control dust along access roads, work areas, and commonly used routes within the substation boundaries. A rock apron and rattle plate was also observed being maintained at the primary point of ingress/egress along Old Highway 80 to minimize the potential for track-out and associated fugitive dust emissions.

### SWPL Loop- In

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of setting of steel structures, pulling wire, installing conductors, installing jumpers and spacers on lines (See Photo 6 - Attachment A), and clipping-in conductors to the SWPL loop-in structures.

Water trucks equipped with hoses were observed being utilized to water down areas of active construction and access roads to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with MM-BIO-4 and MM-AQ-1.

Staged and active stationary equipment featured containment as required by MM-HAZ-1a. Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles, silt fence and gravel bags are being maintained in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.

Topsoil salvaged during initial grading was stockpiled along slopes of the substation, set aside to be used during restoration efforts in accordance with MM-BIO-1d and the Habitat Restoration Plan

### ***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/FEIS for the ECO Substation Project, as adopted by the CPUC on April 19, 2012 (Decision 12-04-022).

### ***Compliance***

No non-compliances or deviations occurred during this reporting period.

## **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

### ***Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site***

Construction activities associated with foundation and concrete forms, drilling pier foundations, and installing circuit breakers and the associated wiring continued during this reporting period and are 64% complete.

### ***ECO Substation Site Construction***

Crews continue completing activities associated with the concrete form building, drilling pier foundations and installation of the ground grid and electrical system. Construction at ECO substation is 97% complete.

### ***138 kV Underground Construction***

Construction crews have completed 39 vaults on non-federal land (100%) and 4 of 5 vaults on federal land. 99% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled on non-federal land and 75% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled on federal land. 14% of the cable has been installed on non-federal land.

### ***138 kV Overhead Construction***

Fifty-three steel pole pads/spur roads are completed (100%), 44 pole foundations are complete, and 13 poles have been erected.

### ***SWPL Loop-In***

All SWPL Loop-In components have been completed as of June 2014. Seventeen structure foundations have been completed, seventeen poles are erected and 100% of the wire has been installed.

## **CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE**

***ECO Substation 500 kV and 230/138 kV Yards*** – SDG&E began construction activities in March 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

***138 kV Underground Transmission Line*** – SDG&E began construction activities in October 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

***138 kV Overhead Transmission Line*** – SDG&E began construction activities in November 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

***Boulevard Substation Rebuild*** – SDG&E began construction in December 2012 and is anticipated to complete construction in December 2014.

***SWPL Loop-In:*** – Construction of all SWPL Loop-In structures were completed in June 2014.

## ATTACHMENT A Photos

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**Photo 1:** Water trucks were observed applying water to project access roads to minimize potential for fugitive dust in accordance with MM AQ-1.



**Photo 2:** In accordance with the BIO1-d and the Habitat Restoration Plan, pad fill slopes are sprayed with hydro mulch in an effort to reduce soil erosion. Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles, silt fence and gravel bags are being maintained in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.



## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 3:** Visqueen was observed staged beneath vehicles in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1.



**Photo 4:** Trenching for the underground utilities included exporting soils offsite to the Domingo Lake Construction Yard.



## ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



**Photo 5:** Signage indicating approved access road and speed limit restrictions were observed in-tact and installed along the project.



**Photo 6:** Crews were observed installing spacer carts at the SWPL overhead transmission line.

## ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

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| NTP No.  | Date Issued        | Description   | Conditions Included (Y/N) |
|----------|--------------------|---|---------------------------|
| BLM-001  | February 11, 2013  | A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on lands administered by the BLM     | Y                         |
| CPU -001 | November 30, 2012  | Abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site   | Y                         |
| CPUC-002 | February 1, 2013   | Construction of a new substation (a 500 kV yard and a 230/138 kV yard)  | Y                         |
| CPUC-003 | February 1, 2013   | Geotechnical Activities   | Y                         |
| CPUC-004 | March 4, 2013      | Geotechnical Activities   | Y                         |
| CPUC-005 | May 21, 2013       | Construction Yards  | Y                         |
| CPUC-006 | July 2, 2013       | 138 kV Underground Transmission Line along Southern Access Road   | Y                         |
| CPUC-007 | July 30, 2013      | 138 kV Underground Transmission Line within Old Highway 80 and Carrizo Gorge Road   | Y                         |
| CPUC-008 | August 2, 2013     | Construction activities associated with the Boulevard Substation Rebuild  | Y                         |
| CPUC-009 | September 25, 2013 | 138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Boulevard Substation to 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line                                 | Y                         |
| CPUC-010 | October 17, 2013   | 138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Carrizo Gorge Road to Steel Pole 91   | Y                         |
| CPUC-011 | November 5, 2013   | 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line   | Y                         |
| CPUC-012 | November 19, 2013  | Fault Investigations at the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-In  | Y                         |
| CPUC-013 | December 4, 2013   | 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line Steel Pole- 105B and Steel Pole-108A  | Y                         |
| CPUC-014 | March 18, 2014     | Construction of Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) loop-in to connect the existing 500 kV SWPL transmission line to the ECO Substation site | Y                         |

## ATTACHMENT C

### Minor Project Refinement Requests

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| Minor Project Refinement Request No. | Submitted         | Description   | Status   | Approval           |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---|----------|--------------------|
| 001                                  | January 25, 2013  | Temporary Retention Basin   | Approved | February 7, 2013   |
| 002                                  | March 22, 2013    | Adjustments to the Domingo Lake and Jewel Valley Construction Yards                           | Approved | May 20, 2013       |
| 003                                  | March 22, 2013    | Adjustments to the Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard  | Approved | May 20, 2013       |
| 004                                  | May 17, 2013      | Adjustments to the Southern Access Road and 138 kV Overhead and Underground Transmission Line | Approved | June 26, 2013      |
| 005                                  | June 27, 2013     | Adjustments to the Boulevard Substation Rebuild   | Approved | July 26, 2013      |
| 006                                  | July 30, 2013     | Adjustments to the 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line  | Approved | September 23, 2013 |
| 007                                  | August 16, 2013   | Relocation of Temporary Retention Basin   | Approved | August 22, 2013    |
| 008                                  | August 20, 2013   | Construction Water Use  | Approved | October 1, 2013    |
| 009                                  | November 22, 2013 | Additional Temporary Work Space for Fence Replacement   | Approved | November 26, 2013  |
| 010                                  | December 19, 2013 | Access Road and Work Space Refinements at Steel Pole 63 & 64                                  | Approved | January 14, 2014   |
| 011                                  | January 16, 2014  | Temporary Meeting Location for Material & Equipment   | Approved | January 22, 2014   |
| 012                                  | February 27, 2014 | Work Space Refinements to the Southwest Powerlink   | Approved | March 11, 2014     |
| 013                                  | April 4, 2014     | Additional Temporary Work Space at 138kV Overhead Transmission Line                           | Approved | April 17, 2014     |
| 014                                  | June 11, 2014     | Amended Construction Water Supply Plan  | Approved | June 12, 2014      |