

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

**East County (ECO) Substation Project** 

**Compliance Status Report: 003** 

**April 16, 2013** 

#### **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 March 25, to March 29, 2013.

#### MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

#### Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations at the ECO Substation site. Site observations were completed from March 25 through March 29. 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

#### Site Clearing and Grubbing

Clearing and grubbing activities associated with the ECO Substation site continued throughout this reporting period and were completed on March 29. Activities consisted of mulching vegetation, removing vegetation from the ECO Substation site via use of haul trucks, and placing soil stabilizers on the substation pad site to minimize the potential for fugitive dust (see Photo 1 – Attachment A).

DUDEK

In accordance with Mitigation Measures AQ-1, BIO-4a, and the Dust Control Plan all mulched vegetation was observed being moistened and covered when loaded into haul trucks (see Photo 2 – Attachment A). In addition, water trucks were observed watering down access roads and areas of active construction to prevent fugitive dust in accordance with the Dust Control Plan (see Photo 3 – Attachment A).

Archaeological, Native American, and biological monitors were present during all ground-disturbing activities in accordance with Mitigation Measures BIO-1c and CUL-1d. In addition, archaeological and Native American monitors were observed monitoring the excavation of archaeological features in accordance with Mitigation Measure CUL-1a (see Photo 4 – Attachment A). Exclusionary fencing and signage have also been placed to delineate the approved work limits and to identify environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) to minimize the potential for impacts to sensitive resources. ESA fencing and project limit stakes were observed to be properly identified and maintained in good condition throughout this reporting period (see Photo 5 – Attachment A).

During the previous reporting period, SDG&E installed best management practices (BMPs) including silt fencing around the perimeter of the ECO Substation site and the placement of rattle plates and a rock apron at the project site entrance in accordance with Mitigation Measure HYD-1. The silt fencing was installed to minimize the potential for erosion to occur off-site and the rattle plates and rock apron were installed to minimize the potential for vehicle track-out. The silt fencing, rattle plates, and rock apron were observed to be maintained in good condition (see Photo 6 – Attachment A).

Secondary containment was observed to be properly installed under portable sanitary facilities and hazardous materials in accordance with Mitigation Measure HYD-1 and the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (see Photo 7 – Attachment A). In addition, spill kits were observed being stored within the ECO Substation project site boundary, and all HAZMAT containers were properly labeled and sealed in accordance with mitigation Measure HYD-1.

In accordance with Mitigation Measure FF-1, all construction crew vehicles were observed to be equipped with the appropriate fire suppression equipment (see Photo 8 – Attachment A). In addition, SDG&E was observed providing ongoing fire patrols during construction hours and for 1 hour after the end of daily construction activities.

#### 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).

DUDEK

#### **Compliance**

Pre-construction mitigation measures have been completed as indicated in CPUC NTP No. 001, No. 002, No. 003, No. 004 and BLM NTP No. 001 (see Attachment B). Applicable mitigation measures were verified during site inspections and were determined to be implemented in accordance with the MMCRP.

#### **CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS**

#### Abatement Activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site

All abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site as authorized by CPUC NTP No. 001 have been completed.

#### ECO Substation Site Construction

SDG&E began site-clearing activities associated with the ECO Substation site on March 11, 2013 and completed site clearing activities on March 29.

#### Geotechnical Investigations

All geotechnical investigations authorized by CPUC NTP No. 003, No. 004, and BLM NTP No. 001 to conduct 24 geotechnical borings were completed as of March 14, 2013

#### CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Abatement Activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site (CPUC NTP No. 001) – SDG&E began abatement activities on December 3, 2012, and abatement activities were completed on December 7, 2012.

*ECO Substation Construction (CPUC NTP No. 002)* – SDG&E began clearing activities associated with the ECO Substation on March 11, 2013 and completed clearing activities on March 29, 2013.

Geotechnical Investigations (CPUC NTP No. 003 and No. 004 and BLM NTP No. 001) – SDG&E began geotechnical investigations on February 11, 2013, and completed by March 14, 2013.



## ATTACHMENT A Photos



**Photo 1:** Soil stabilizer is placed on the ECO Substation pad site to minimize the potential for fugitive dust from being generated during periods of inactivity in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-4a and the Dust Control Plan.



**Photo 2:** Mulched vegetation is hauled off-site after being moistened and covered in accordance with Mitigation Measures AQ-1, BIO-4a, and the Dust Control Plan.

## **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 3:** A water truck is observed watering down an access road to prevent fugitive dust in accordance with Mitigation Measure BIO-4a and the Dust Control Plan.



**Photo 4:** Archaeological and Native American monitors are observed monitoring the excavation of archaeological features in accordance with Mitigation Measure CUL-1a.

### **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 5:** Silt fencing, exclusionary fencing, project limit stakes, and signage are observed to be properly installed and maintained in good condition throughout the reporting period.



**Photo 6:** Rattle plates and a rock apron are maintained in good working condition throughout the reporting period in accordance with Mitigation Measure AQ-1 and HYD-1.

## **ATTACHMENT A (Continued)**



**Photo 7:** Secondary containment is properly labeled in accordance with Mitigation Measure HYD-1 and the SWPPP.



**Photo 8:** In accordance with Mitigation Measure FF-1, fire patrols are onsite during construction hours and for 1 hour after the end of daily construction.

# **ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed**

	Date		Conditions Included	
NTP No.	Issued	Description	(Y/N)	
CPUC - 001	November 30, 2012	Abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation rebuild site.	Υ	
CPUC - 002	February 1, 2013	Construction of a new substation (a 500-kilovolt (kV) yard and a 230/138 kV yard) and rebuilding and paving of an existing access road to provide main access to the substation.	Y	
CPUC - 003	February 1, 2013	Twenty-two geotechnical borings to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on private lands.	Y	
CPUC -004	March 4, 2013	A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on private lands.	Y	
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	

## ATTACHMENT C Minor Project Refinement Request

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	January 25, 2013	The addition of a temporary, polyvinyl chloride (PVC)-lined retention basin with the 500 kV yard to be used for water storage during initial mass grading activities.	Approved	February 7, 2013
002	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Domingo Lake and Jewel Valley Construction Yards including:	Pending	Pending
		Domingo Lake Construction Yard		
		Shift of approximately 550 feet to the northwest		
		Jewel Valley Construction Yard		
		<ul> <li>Addition of a new temporary access road</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>Addition of a temporary 12 kV distribution service line extension (distribution tap)</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>Additional grading activities at the intersection of Jewel Valley Road and the existing access road located north of the Jewel Valley Construction Yard</li> </ul>		
003	March 22, 2013	To use Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard 2 for general construction activities, such as staging and storage of materials in addition to helicopter takeoffs, landings, and refueling as approved in the Project's Final EIR/EIS.	Pending	Pending