

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298**



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

San Diego Gas & Electric Tie-Line 637 Wood-to-Steel Replacement Project

Pursuant to Public Utilities Code Chapter 5, Article I, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) filed an application (Application No. A.13-03-003) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for a Permit to Construct (PTC) on March 13, 2013, for the purpose of constructing the Tie-Line (TL) 637 Wood-to-Steel Replacement Project (project) in San Diego, California (between the communities of Ramona and Santa Ysabel).

Under the CPUC's rules, approval of this project must comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including an assessment of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. The CPUC proposes to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for this project. A Draft MND has been prepared based upon the assessment of potential environmental impacts outlined in the Initial Study (IS) prepared for the TL 637 Wood-to-Steel Replacement Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project consists of fire-hardening an approximately 14-mile span of the TL 637 corridor connecting SDG&E's existing Creelman and Santa Ysabel Substations. Primary project components include the replacement of 156 existing wood tie-line support structures with fire-safe steel poles along approximately 14 miles of the TL 637 route, minor improvements to the Creelman and Santa Ysabel Substations, and the installation of a new fiber-optic line that would be co-located on the new TL 637 steel poles. Implementation of the proposed fire-hardening improvements would help ensure SDG&E service reliability during wildfire events and improve fire safety conditions consistent with SDG&E's Community Fire Safety Program (CFSP), County of San Diego Fire Department goals, and fire safety objectives of the agencies and municipalities within the SDG&E service area.

In order to help understand the proposed project and the CEQA document, the CPUC will hold a public meeting on October 17, 2013, at the Ramona Community Center, located at 434 Aqua Lane, Ramona, California 92065. The public information meeting on the proposed project and the CEQA document will start promptly at 6:00 p.m. and will end at 8:00 p.m. At the public meeting, the environmental team and CPUC staff will be available to discuss the environmental document and to obtain public comments on the environmental document. In addition, comment cards will be available for the public to provide written comments on the Draft MND. The MND, including the IS, is available on the project website:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/dudek/WoodtoSteel/WoodtoSteel.htm>

Copies of the document are also available for review at the following San Diego Public libraries:

Ramona Branch
1275 Main Street
Ramona, California, 92065,

Julian Branch
1850 Highway 78
Julian, California, 92036

The 30-day public review period for the Draft MND begins on October 8, 2013. The CPUC will be accepting comments on the document during this timeframe. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on November 7, 2013. You may submit comments in a variety of ways: (1) by U.S. mail, (2) by electronic mail (e-mail), or (3) by attending the public meeting on October 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. (see previous page for location) and handing in written comments at the meeting.

By Mail: If you send comments by U.S. mail, please use first-class mail and be sure to include your name and a return address. Please send written comments on the Draft MND to:

Lon Payne, Project Manager
California Public Utilities Commission, c/o Dudek
605 Third Street
Encinitas, California 92024

By Electronic Mail: E-mail communications are welcome; however, please remember to include your name and return address in the e-mail message. E-mail messages should be sent to TL637woodtosteel@dudek.com, with a subject line "SDG&E TL637".