

	<p>California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></p>
	<p>East County (ECO) Substation Project</p> <p>Compliance Status Report: 028</p> <p>April 27, 2014</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 April 14 2014 through April 27 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 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; excavation, conduit placement, backfilling and paving within the

underground duct bank; jack-and-bore drilling activities; vault installation and in-and-out tie-in activities; and continued horizontal directional drilling.

In accordance with MM-BIO-1c, biological monitors were onsite throughout the underground right-of-way to survey areas of active construction for compliance with biological mitigation measures. 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 being placed beneath construction equipment staged along the right-of-way in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a and spill kits were readily accessible (see Photo 1 – Attachment A).

Trenches and excavations were observed being covered to prevent wildlife entrapment in accordance with MM-BIO-7a. In an attempt to reduce the risk of nesting bird settlement in accordance with MM-BIO-7j, staged equipment in areas of high bird activity were covered with thin netting so as to avoid bird or wildlife settlement or entrapment.

Archaeological monitors 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 (see Photo 2 – Attachment A). Trucks used during spoil removal associated with excavation were observed actively covering loads in accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1 (see Photo 3 – Attachment A).

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued rough-grading; rock and spoil removal at pole pad sites and access roads; continued drilling and placing concrete for foundations; and continued maintenance of access roads and repair of sediment and erosion control devices.

Biological monitors were present to ensure construction activities remained within the approved work limits and to monitor for sensitive wildlife species (MM-BIO-1a and MM-BIO-1c). A rosy boa (*Lichanura trivirgata*) was safely relocated from the right-of-way and was reported to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Dust control measures were observed being implemented, which consisted of watering during rough grading and applying water along access roads. Track-out prevention measures were also observed in place, which consisted of rumble plates and rock at points of ingress/egress to construction access roads.

Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles, silt fence and gravel bags are being maintained along the right-of-way in accordance with MM-HYD-1 (see Photo 4 – Attachment A). Staged and active stationary equipment featured containment as required by MM-HAZ-1a.

Per the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan, SDG&E was observed inspecting equipment along the right-of-way to ensure fire suppression equipment was present. Routine patrols were completed by the fire inspection team throughout the construction activities and fire tools were observed at all construction sites as required by MM-FF-1 (see Photo 5 – Attachment A).

East County Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued delivery of spoil for rough-grading of the southeast corner of the 500 kV pad; continued topsoil spreading; continued concrete form building and substation structures and buildings construction; continued installation of ground grid and electrical systems; installation and wiring of circuit breakers; continued wiring within the control shelter and other buildings; continued pouring of Class II base within the 230/138 kV substation pad; continued installation of security fencing around the 230/138 kV substation pad; continued final grading of the western portion of the 500 kV substation pad; and continued repair and maintenance of installed sediment and erosion control devices throughout the site.

In accordance with MM-BIO4-A and MM-AQ-1, a consistent schedule of water trucks to control dust during rough-grading activities in the southeast corner of the 500 kV pad and along access roads and commonly used routes within the substation boundaries was observed during this reporting period (see Photo 6 – Attachment A). 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.

Hazardous materials stored onsite were observed to be 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.

Construction equipment and staged materials throughout the substation were equipped with drip pan containment as stipulated by MM-HAZ-1a and fire suppression equipment per MM-FF-1. Fire patrol was on site and actively checking all personnel for SWEAP training stickers in accordance with MM-FF-1 and the Project Health and Safety Plan (MM-HAZ1-b).

Boulevard Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of concrete form and foundation construction; continued installation of circuit breakers and wiring; excavation for the conduit line at the headwall work area associated with the box culvert under Old Highway 80; and trenching, vault excavation, laying conduit, and slurry pouring associated with the 138kv Underground duct bank.

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 fence 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.

A fire patrol was on site and actively checking all personnel for WEAP training stickers and required fire equipment in accordance with MM-FF-1. Throughout the substation, fire tools were set out at individual areas of work for easy access in case of an emergency and in accordance with MM-FF-1.

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. 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

Non-Compliance Report #5: On April 21st, an 18-wheel delivery truck utilized a non-approved access road that is no longer in use and dead-ends at a locked SDG&E gate. During an attempt to back down the access road, the trailer knocked down ESA roping and resulted in travel outside of an approved access road and within the boundaries of an ESA. Nearby construction crews worked within the approved limits of the access road to free the truck, which impacted approximately 30 square feet of previously disturbed road shoulder and 10 square feet of juniper woodland, consisting of one Mojave yucca (*Yucca schidigera*). The activity was determined to be a Non-Compliance given the encroachment into an ESA. SDG&E filed Non-Compliance Report #5 with the CPUC on April 22nd.

Following the Non-Compliance incident, SDG&E held extensive tailboard training and a follow-up meeting with its contractors revising mobilization procedures and reviewing the importance of remaining within the approved work areas and on approved access roads. In addition, monitors placed additional signage and flagging to block off non-project related access roads to minimize the potential for delivery trucks to utilize non-project approved access roads.

Deviations: On April 24th, a flatbed semi-truck drove over boundary staking and roping at the SWPL loop-in site while delivering materials to the 500 kV ECO Substation site. While attempting to reach the substation on an approved SWPL access road that originates at Old Highway 80, the semi-truck operator became disoriented and attempted to turn around, in the process cutting the corner and driving over boundary roping and t-posts. The area measured approximately 7 feet by 5 feet by 10 feet and one jojoba (*Simmondsia chinensis*) plant sustained damage. The incident deviates from MM-BIO-1A and ECO-BIO-10, which require all Project activity be confined to the approved access roads.

On April 25th, while a truck operator was conducting a U-turn on its way to delivering Class II base to the 500 kV ECO Substation pad, a twin trailer belly dump truck journeyed off of the access road and through a commonly used flat public space lacking any project signage. No biological or cultural resources were impacted as a result of the off-road travel. The incident deviates from MM-BIO-1A and ECO-BIO-10, which require all Project activity be confined to the approved access roads.

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.

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. Crews were also observed erecting A-frames and H-braces.

138 kV Underground Construction

Construction crews have completed 33 vaults and 62% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled.

138 kV Overhead Construction

Forty-seven steel pole pads/spur roads have been completed, fifteen pole foundations are complete, and one pole has been erected.

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 September 2014.

SWPL Loop-In – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the SWPL Loop-In. SDG&E is anticipated to complete construction in June 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 November 2014.

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: Drip pan containment bins beneath equipment staged along the right-of-way in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a.



Photo 2: Water trucks 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.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: Trucks covering loads in accordance with MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1.



Photo 4: 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.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: Routine patrols were completed by the fire inspection team throughout the construction activities and fire tools were observed at all construction sites as required by MM-FF-1.



Photo 6: In accordance with MM-BIO4-A and MM-AQ-1, water trucks are utilized to minimize dust along access roads and commonly used routes within the substation boundaries.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

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

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