

	<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: 025</p> <p>March 16, 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 March 3 to March 16 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 continued efforts with constructing the underground duct bank between the Boulevard Substation south to the overhead alignment and along Old Highway 80 between the East County Substation and the overhead alignment. Construction activities observed included repairing and placement of BMP’s along the right-of-way (ROW), excavation to create

the duct bank trench, placement of conduit within the duct bank, backfilling along duct bank alignment, vault placement and completing jack-and-bore activities.

In accordance with MM-CUL-1A, ESA markers were observed being maintained along the right-of-way in areas of active construction to protect Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) from inadvertent trespass (see Photo 1 – Attachment A). Archeological monitors and Native American observers were onsite monitoring construction activities in proximity to ESA's and in areas of initial ground disturbance.

CPUC approved environmental monitors conducted pre-construction wildlife sweeps prior to ground disturbing construction activities along the ROW in accordance with MM-BIO-1c. Excavations associated with the vaults and duct bank were observed being covered at the completion of daily construction activities to minimize the potential for wildlife entrapment (MM-BIO-7a).

Intersections between underground activities and publicly accessed paved roads were equipped with rumble plates to minimize the potential for trac-out along paved surfaces in accordance with MM-HYD-1 and MM-BIO-4a (see Attachment A - Photo 1). Trac-out observed along paved surfaces was observed being cleaned on a regular basis in accordance with the Dust Control Plan and MM-BIO-4a.

Traffic control measures were observed being implemented along Jewel Valley Road and Old Highway 80 in areas of active construction. Traffic control measures included signage notifying motorists of construction activities and flaggers directing one-way traffic per MM-TRA-1 (see Attachment A – Photo 2).

Spill kits were observed on site and securely attached to construction equipment to ensure materials are readily accessible for clean-up of small spills per MM-HAZ-1a. Crews were observed cleaning-up any minor spills that occurred during construction activities per the project requirements. Crews were also observed effectively managing construction debris by placing any trash within sealed designated trash bins.

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period included rough grading activities associated with establishing access roads and pad sites and drilling foundations.

Erosion control devices including silt fence were installed along the work limits to minimize the potential for discharges to occur beyond the project work limits in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1 (see Attachment A - Photo 3).

In accordance with MM-BIO-1a, the work limits have been clearly defined prior to ground disturbing activities (see Attachment A – Photo 4). Pre-construction nesting bird surveys were conducted by a CPUC approved biologist in accordance with MM-BIO7-j.

Per the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan, SDG&E was observed inspecting equipment along the ROW to ensure fire suppression equipment was present (see Attachment A – Photo 5).

As required by MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1, water trucks were observed suppressing fugitive dust emissions in areas of active construction and along unpaved access roads. Signage has been placed along access roads to enforce speed limits in and around all construction areas (see Attachment A – Photo 6).

East County Substation

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of concrete form building, drilling foundations for piers, installation of the ground grid and electrical systems, erecting steel A-frames and H-braces and continued installation of driveable grass pavers.

Construction activities were observed occurring within the approved work limits and were monitored by a CPUC approved environmental monitor. All steep trenches and excavations were observed being covered at the end of the day and/or earthen ramps were in place to allow for wildlife escape routes in accordance with MM-BIO-7a.

Construction equipment was observed to be equipped with required spill kits per MM-HAZ-1a and fire suppression equipment per MM-FF-1. All construction personnel observed onsite had hardhat stickers indicating they had completed the environmental awareness training per MM-BIO-1b.

Boulevard Substation

Construction activities at the Boulevard Substation included continued construction of foundation and concrete forms, drilling pier foundations, installation of circuit breakers and wiring, and spreading topsoil along the slopes adjacent to the substation.

Construction activities were observed being completed within the approved work limits and water trucks were onsite to minimize fugitive dust emissions per MM-BIO-4a and MM-AQ-1. Construction crews were observed placing topsoil that had been salvaged along slopes adjacent to the substation as part of the restoration efforts in accordance with MM-BIO-1d.

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 compliance issues/concerns were observed during this reporting period.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site

Construction crews have completed demolishing existing structures and have completed the finish-grade of the substation pad. 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

Construction crews have completed hydro-seeding application and slope stabilization of the topsoil along the slopes of the 500 kV and 230/138 kV substation pads. Construction activities associated with the above-grade components continues.

138 kV Underground Construction

SDG&E has completed the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line between the ECO substation and Old Highway 80. Construction crews have completed 23 vaults and 45% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled.

138 kV Overhead Construction

SDG&E continued to place ESA fencing along the right-of-way, remove vegetation, install erosion control devices, clearing and grading pad sites, and erecting steel poles. Forty steel pole pads/spur roads have been completed, six 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 October 2014.

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

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line – SDG&E began construction activities in November 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in October 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: In accordance with MM-CUL-1A, ESA markers were observed being maintained along the right-of-way to protect ESAs from inadvertent trespass.



Photo 2: In accordance with MM-TRA-1, flaggers and signage are being utilized along Jewel Valley Road to ensure the safe passage of motorists during construction activities.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: In accordance with MM-HYD-1 and the East County Substation Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), straw-wattles have been placed along the work limits to minimize the potential for erosion to be discharged offsite.



Photo 4: Construction crews were observed completing drilling activities within the approved work limits at steel-pole 90 in accordance with MM-BIO-1a.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: In accordance with MM-FF-1 and the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan, fire equipment was observed to be present on construction equipment.



Photo 6: In accordance with MM-BIO-7b, speed limit signage has been placed along access roads to enforce speed limits in and around all construction areas.

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