

A. INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW

This section provides a general background (Section A.1) and a project overview (Section A.2), including purpose and need as it applies to federal agencies and the Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians (Section A.3). It also includes a description of project objectives (Section A.4) and discusses agency use of this Joint Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) (Section A.5). The Reader's Guide (Section A.6) explains the organization and content of the EIR/EIS. References cited are listed in Section A.7.

A.1 Background

San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) has filed an application (A.09-08-003) for a Permit to Construct (PTC) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for the proposed East County (ECO) Substation Project. The proposed ECO Substation Project would be located near the unincorporated communities of Jacumba and Boulevard, approximately 70 miles east of downtown San Diego, in the southeastern portion of San Diego County, California. The proposed ECO Substation Project would primarily be located on private lands with a 1.5-mile portion of the proposed 138 kV transmission line project component located on federal lands administered by the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management (BLM); therefore, SDG&E has also requested a right-of-way (ROW) grant from the BLM for the 1.5-mile portion of the proposed 138 kV transmission line component.

In considering the proposed ECO Substation Project, the CPUC and BLM have evaluated a range of projects, including active generator applications that have been submitted to the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) for connections to the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) through the ECO Substation Project. The CPUC and BLM have evaluated these projects to determine whether they are so closely related to the proposed ECO Substation Project as to be considered "connected actions" under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and "whole of the action" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The CPUC (as lead agency under CEQA) and the BLM (as lead agency under NEPA) have identified two projects in these categories:

- The Tule Wind Project, as proposed by Pacific Wind Development (a subsidiary of Iberdrola Renewables, Inc.), which would tie into the proposed Boulevard Substation rebuild component of the ECO Substation Project
- The Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Generator-Tie (ESJ Gen-Tie) Project (as proposed by Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC, which would connect into the proposed ECO Substation.

These two projects, along with the proposed ECO Substation Project, are collectively referred to as the Proposed PROJECT. They are described briefly in Section A.2 and in detail in Section B, Project Description, of this EIR/EIS.

In addition, the proposed Invenenergy and SDG&E Campo Wind Project, as well as the Manzanita Wind Project, which would connect to the Boulevard Substation Rebuild are viewed as reasonably foreseeable. Furthermore, ENEL submitted an application for an Administrative Permit for the Jordan Wind Energy Project to the County of San Diego (County). The CPUC and BLM have determined that these three wind energy projects are sufficiently developed to analyze impacts where feasible. Therefore, for purposes of this EIR/EIS, the Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan projects will be qualitatively evaluated at a programmatic level because sufficient project-level information has yet to be developed. The proposed Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan wind energy projects will still require project-specific environmental review and evaluation under all applicable environmental regulations once sufficient project-level information is developed. By including these nascent wind projects as components of the proposed wider PROJECT, it allows the lead agencies to further consider broad impacts, mitigation and consequences of the ECO substation project specifically, and the wider PROJECT as a whole.

The purpose of this joint EIR/EIS is to evaluate the environmental impacts of the Proposed PROJECT, as well as the proposed Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan wind energy projects and cumulative impacts, including impacts that would be expected to result from construction and operation of the Proposed PROJECT. The EIR/EIS will provide recommended mitigation measures, which, if adopted, would avoid or minimize environmental impacts. In accordance with CEQA and NEPA requirements, this EIR/EIS identifies alternatives to the Proposed PROJECT (including the No Project/No Action Alternative) and evaluates the environmental impacts associated with these alternatives. Based on this environmental impact assessment, as well as the relative sensitivities of impacts in the study region, Section E of this EIR/EIS determines the “Environmentally Superior Alternative” as required by CEQA. NEPA requires identification of the “Agency Preferred Alternative,” which may or may not be the same as the Environmentally Superior Alternative. The Agency Preferred Alternative may be identified by the NEPA lead agency in either the Draft or Final EIS.

The content of this EIR/EIS reflects input received from government officials, agencies, non-governmental organizations, and concerned members of the public during the EIR/EIS scoping period. The scoping period followed the CPUC’s publication of the Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an EIR (December 28, 2009) and the BLM’s publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register (December 29, 2009). During this comment period, several public involvement activities were completed: public distribution of the NOP, NOI, and a scoping meeting notice; establishment of an Internet web page; two public scoping meetings; and

meeting with a number of the affected local jurisdictions (see details in Section I of this EIR/EIS). Consultation with agencies also continued after the formal scoping period ended. The issues evaluated in this EIR/EIS are derived from comments made during the scoping period and are summarized in Section I of this EIR/EIS and presented in the Public Scoping Report prepared for the Proposed PROJECT issued on March 24, 2010. The Scoping Report is posted on the CPUC's and BLM's websites at:

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

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/nepa/tule.html>.

A.2 Overview of the Proposed Project

The Proposed PROJECT would be located in southeastern San Diego County, approximately 70 miles east of downtown San Diego, near the unincorporated communities of Jacumba and Boulevard. The following provides an overview of the Proposed PROJECT that comprises the ECO Substation, Tule Wind, and ESJ Gen-Tie projects, along with the proposed Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan wind energy projects.

ECO Substation Project

The ECO Substation Project, as proposed by SDG&E, includes the following major components:

- Construction of a 500/230/138-kilovolt (kV) substation in eastern San Diego County
- Construction of the SWPL Loop-In, a short loop-in of the existing SWPL transmission line to the proposed ECO Substation
- Construction of a 138 kV transmission line, approximately 13.3 miles in length, running between the proposed ECO Substation and the rebuilt Boulevard Substation
- Rebuild of the existing Boulevard Substation.

The proposed ECO Substation Project would provide an interconnection hub for renewable generation along SDG&E's existing SWPL 500 kV transmission line. In addition to accommodating the region's planned renewable energy generation, the project would also provide a second source for the southeastern 69 kV transmission system that avoids the vulnerability of common structure outages, which would increase the reliability of electrical service for Boulevard, Jacumba, and surrounding communities.

Tule Wind Project

The Tule Wind Project, as proposed by Pacific Wind Development, would include the following major components:

- Up to 134 wind turbines, ranging in size from 1.5 megawatt (MW) (328 feet in height) and 3.0 MW (492 feet in height)
- A 34.5 kV overhead and underground collector cable system linking the wind turbines to the collector substation
- A 5-acre collector substation site and a 5-acre operations and maintenance (O&M) building site
- Two permanent meteorological towers and one sonic detecting and ranging (SODAR) unit
- A 138 kV overhead transmission line running south from the collector substation to be interconnected with the rebuilt SDG&E Boulevard Substation.

The proposed Tule Wind Project would generate 200 MW of electricity and would connect to the proposed Boulevard Substation rebuild component of SDG&E's ECO Substation Project where the electricity generated would feed into the existing SWPL 500 kV transmission line.

ESJ Gen-Tie Project

As proposed, the ESJ Gen-Tie Project would have the capacity to import up to 1,250 MW of renewable energy generated in northern Baja California, Mexico, and transmit to the existing SWPL transmission line in southeastern San Diego County, California. The selected route would interconnect with SDG&E's proposed ECO Substation and would be constructed on three to five 150-foot lattice towers or 170-foot steel monopoles, extending south from the point of interconnection for less than 1 mile to the U.S-Mexico international border. Only renewable energy would be transmitted via the gen-tie line. Although Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC has proposed a 500 kV and a 230 kV Gen-Tie, only one of these would be built, with the 230 kV option being the preferred alternative. The EIR/EIS will address both the 500 kV and 230 kV gen-tie lines, as well as potential biological, visual resource, and fire impacts to the United States associated with wind turbines constructed in Mexico.

Campo Wind Project

SDG&E proposes to construct and operate approximately 106 turbines capable of generating 160 MW of electricity on its reservation lands. The project would be located south of the Tule Wind Project and west of the Boulevard Substation on the Campo Indian Reservation. Construction of the project would occur over a single phase. Turbines (approximately 450 feet tall from ground to tip of the fully extended turbine blade) would be located on available ridgelines on the reservation. In addition to the 160 MW of generating capacity proposed for this project, the Campo Tribe has requested that an additional 140 MW of generation be analyzed in the BIA's NEPA review of the project for future development purposes. The proposed Invenenergy and

SDG&E Campo Wind Project would connect with the Boulevard Substation Rebuild component of the ECO Substation Project.

Manzanita Wind Project

The Manzanita Tribe proposes a project capable of generating up to 57.5 MW, which could include up to 25 wind turbines depending on the turbine size selected. These wind turbines are proposed to be located on the same ridgeline as the existing Kumeyaay Wind facility. Turbines are proposed to be approximately 414 feet tall from ground to tip of the turbine blade fully extended. The Manzanita Wind Project would connect with the Boulevard Substation Rebuild component of the ECO Substation Project.

It is expected that the Campo and Manzanita wind energy projects would develop a switchyard for both facilities on non-tribal lands and a new 138 kV transmission line would be constructed along the existing ROW of the 69 kV transmission corridor that currently connects to the existing Boulevard Substation. The new 138 kV transmission line would interconnect with the proposed Boulevard Substation Rebuild component of the ECO Substation Project.

Jordan Wind Project

The developers of the Jordan Wind Project have completed a preliminary wind energy assessment to construct and operate 40 2.3 MW turbines (total generating capacity of 92 MW) west of Boulevard in unincorporated San Diego County. The towers of the proposed wind turbines would be approximately 260 feet tall (height from ground to tip of fully extended blade would be approximately 430 feet). ENEL has submitted an Administrative Permit application to the County of San Diego for development of the meteorological towers for the project. As proposed, construction of the project would occur between February and October 2013, and commercial operations are scheduled to begin in November 2013. The proposed point of interconnection for the Jordan Wind Project is the Boulevard Substation Rebuild component of the ECO Substation Project.

A.3 Purpose and Need

A.3.1 BLM Purpose and Need

The BLM is the federal lead agency for preparation of this EIR/EIS in compliance with the requirements of NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulation for implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500 et seq.), and the BLM NEPA Handbook (H-1790-1, BLM 2008a) in the evaluation of SDG&E's proposed ECO Substation Project and Pacific Wind Development's proposed Tule Wind Project.

The BLM's purpose and need for the ECO Substation Project is to respond to SDG&E application under Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. 1761) for a ROW grant to construct and operate a 138 kV transmission line on public lands in compliance with FLPMA, BLM ROW regulations, and other federal applicable laws. The BLM will decide whether to approve, approve with modification, or deny issuance of a ROW grant to SDG&E for their proposed ECO Substation Project.

The BLM's purpose and need for the Tule Wind Project is to respond to Pacific Wind Development's applications under Title V of the FLPMA for a ROW grant to construct, operate, and decommission a wind energy facility and a 138 kV transmission line on public lands in compliance with FLPMA, BLM ROW regulations, and other federal applicable laws. The BLM will decide whether to approve, approve with modification, or deny issuance of a ROW grant to the applicant for their proposed Tule Wind Project.

BLM's review of Pacific Wind Development's application is also consistent with the following laws and directives pertaining to renewable energy resources:

- Section 211 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, enacted in August 2005, mandated up to 10,000 MW of non-hydropower, renewable-energy projects on public lands by 2015.
- Instruction Memorandum 2009-043, dated December 19, 2008, Wind Energy Development Policy, establishes BLM policy to ensure the timely and efficient processing of energy ROWs for wind power on public lands.
- Secretarial Order 3283 Enhancing Renewable Energy Development on public lands, signed January 16, 2009. This order facilitates the Department of the Interior's efforts to achieve the goals established in Section 211 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.
- Secretarial Order 3285 Renewable Energy Development by the Department of the Interior, signed March 11, 2009. The order establishes the development of renewable energy as a priority for the Department of the Interior and establishes a Departmental Task Force on Energy and Climate Change.
- Secretarial Order 3206: This order, which was signed by the Secretaries of the Interior and Commerce on June 5, 1997, clarifies the responsibilities of the departments when actions taken under the authority of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) may affect Indian lands, resources, or rights.
- Executive Order 13514: Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy and Economic Performance Executive Order 13514 was issued by President Obama on October 5, 2009, establishing requirements for sustainability in federal government and directing agencies to make greenhouse gas emission reductions a priority. This order establishes requirements

for the management of federal facilities and vehicles, strategic planning, and integration of sustainability goals in agency missions.

- Executive Order No. 13-175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, signed November 6, 2000.
- The Clinton Memorandum Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments, signed April 19, 1994.

The proposed Tule Wind and ECO Substation projects are in conformance with the applicable BLM land use plan, the Eastern San Diego County Resource Management Plan. The portions of the Tule Wind Project located on BLM lands would be on lands designated as available for wind energy development under the Eastern San Diego County Resource Management Plan (BLM 2008b). The portion of the ECO Substation Project located on BLM lands, a portion of the 138 kV transmission line, would be in a BLM-designated utility corridor (BLM 2008b). The Proposed PROJECT would not require an amendment to the Eastern San Diego County Resource Management Plan. More information can be found in Section D.4, Land Use, of this EIR/EIS.

A.3.2 Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians Project Purpose

At the tribal government level, the Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians' Land Use Code (Title 102) and Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) (Section 6.2) directs the tribe to develop renewable energy projects for its wind and solar energy resources on its East Ewiiapaayp portion of its Ewiiapaayp Indian Reservation. A key project objective is to facilitate the timely development of Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians' wind and solar energy resources through tribal renewable energy projects to serve economic and social needs of the tribe and its citizens.

A.4 Project Objectives

A.4.1 Requirements for Procurement of Renewable Energy

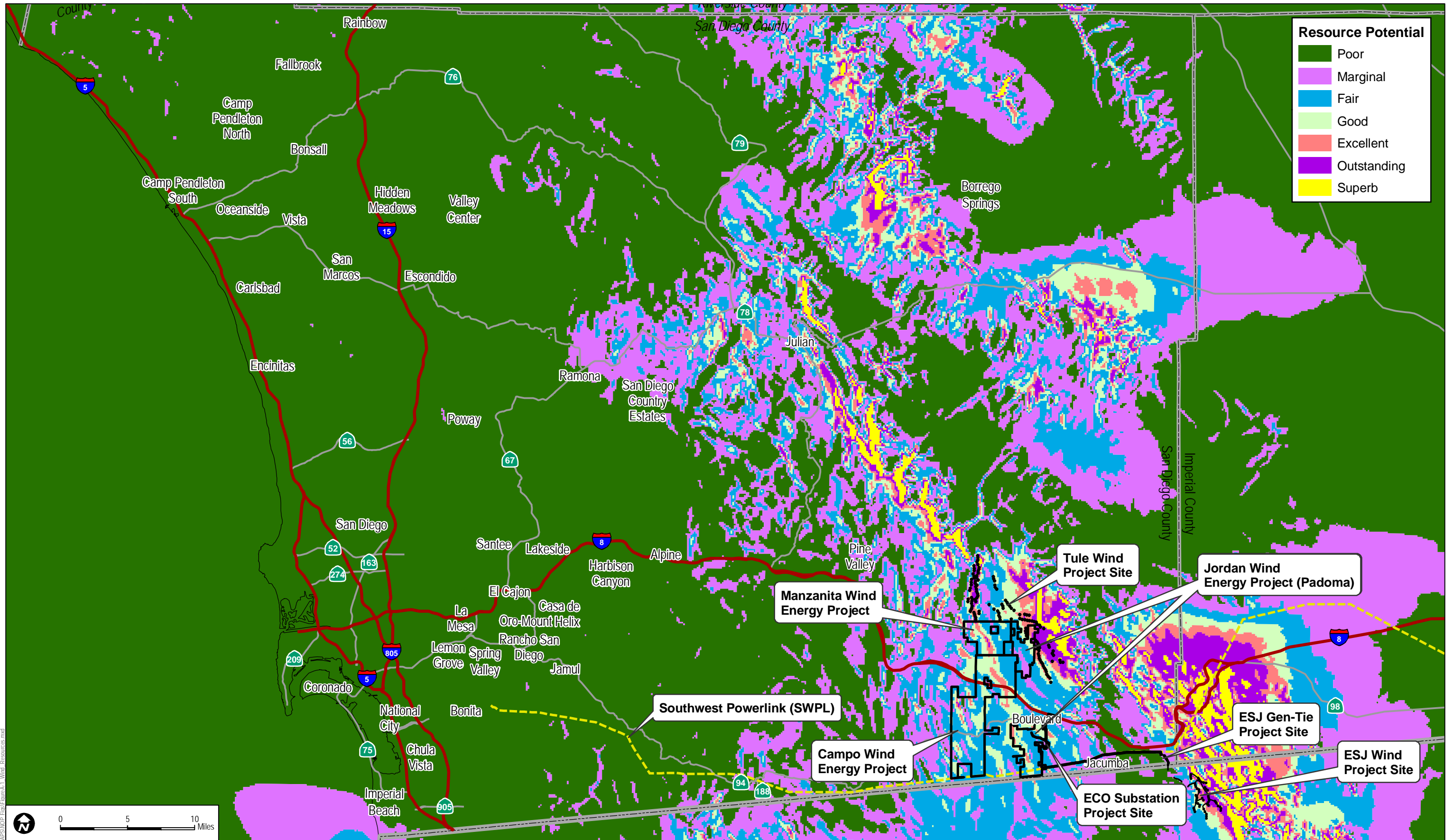
Efforts are underway at both the state and federal levels to increase renewable energy production. At the state level, California's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) program requires obligated load-serving entities (LSE), including SDG&E, to procure an additional minimum of 1% of retail sales per year from eligible renewable sources until 20% is reached, no later than 2010. Executive Order S-3-05 (June 2005) identified greenhouse gas emission-reduction targets for the state, providing the impetus for a potential expansion of the RPS program to include a goal of 33% renewable energy by 2020. Additionally, the California Air Resources Board issued the draft Climate Change Scoping Plan in June 2008, and a key component of achieving the

greenhouse gas targets is that California codify into statute and achieve a 33% RPS by 2020 (CARB 2008).

At the federal level, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 directs the BLM and other agencies within the U.S. Department of the Interior to study and take steps in support of increasing renewable energy production on federal lands (42 U.S.C. 15801).

According to California's RPS compliance filings, SDG&E's actual renewable power procurement percentage is 10.2% (SDG&E 2010). The Proposed PROJECT is an important element in developing additional renewable energy resources required to meet the current and future California RPS and federal Energy Policy Act goals for developing renewable energy.

With the advent of new technology, wind energy has become a viable renewable resource in certain areas of California. The Department of Energy's Wind Project and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) recently published a wind resource map for California identifying several key areas in southeastern California and northern Baja California, Mexico, for utility-scale wind development. These key wind resource areas are shown on Figure A-1, NREL Wind Resource Map. According to the research, notable good-to-excellent wind resource regions in the state include the mountains east of San Diego near the Proposed PROJECT and the existing SWPL 500 kV transmission line. The California Energy Commission (CEC) has also published California wind resource maps and numerical modeling with similar data (CEC 2006). Additionally, BLM's 2005 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) lays the groundwork for wind energy development on BLM-administered lands in the western United States (BLM 2005). The Final PEIS identifies eastern San Diego County near the Proposed PROJECT as an area with high-quality wind resources suitable for wind energy facilities.



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A.4.2 Statement of Objectives

A.4.2.1 CPUC Project Objectives

CEQA Guidelines (Section 15124[b]) requires that an EIR provide a statement of objectives sought by the proposed project that will assist the lead agency in developing a reasonable range of alternatives. In addition, CEQA Guidelines (Section 15126.6) requires that project objectives be set forth in an EIR/EIS to help define alternatives to the Proposed PROJECT that meet most of the basic project objectives. Having taken into consideration the project objectives set forth by SDG&E for the ECO Substation Project, Pacific Wind Development for the Tule Wind Project, and Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC, for the ESJ Gen-Tie Project, the CPUC has identified the following basic project objectives:

- C-1 Accommodate delivery of renewable energy to meet state and federal renewable energy goals from wind and solar sources in San Diego County
- C-2 Meet California's RPS program requiring utilities to purchase 20% of energy from renewable sources by 2010
- C-3 Meet the Governor's Executive Order S-14-08 that increased the RPS goal to 33% by 2020
- C-4 Improve the reliability of power delivery to the communities of Boulevard, Jacumba, and surrounding communities.

A.4.2.2 Proponents' Objectives

ECO Substation Project

SDG&E lists the following objectives for the ECO Substation Project and provides an explanation of how the ECO Substation Project meets those objectives (SDG&E 2009):

- ECO-1 Provide an interconnection hub for renewable generation that eliminates the need for multiple generator-owned or -operated switching stations along SDG&E's existing SWPL 500 kV transmission line. The primary purpose of the ECO Substation Project is to interconnect the planned renewable wind generation in southeastern San Diego County. Currently, six active generator applications have been submitted to CAISO for connections to the SWPL transmission line through the ECO Substation, totaling approximately 2,000 MW of wind generation. In addition, there is one active generator application (Tule Wind Project) that has been submitted to CAISO for

connection to the Boulevard Substation, totaling approximately 200 MW of wind generation.

Place a new hub of interconnection between the Imperial Valley Substation and the Miguel Substation, which are approximately 82 miles apart. Without the ECO Substation Project, each generator would need to have either a much larger gen-tie built (to interconnect at the Miguel Substation or Imperial Valley Substation) or a new substation built that would interconnect directly into the SWPL.

- ECO-2 Expand the interconnection capability to accommodate additional renewable generation in the future from wind and other sources in southeastern San Diego County to meet state and federal renewable energy goals. The location of the ECO Substation Project was selected in part to facilitate the interconnection hub concept. It is located near already planned wind generation projects (CAISO Generation Interconnection Queue) and close to a region with favorable wind potential as determined by the Department of Energy Wind Program and NREL.
- ECO-3 Facilitate interconnection of renewable generation sources in the Boulevard area.
- ECO-4 Improve reliability in the delivery of power to the communities of Boulevard, Jacumba, and surrounding communities by creating a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA)-controlled, normally open loop in the southeastern 69 kV transmission system to improve control, increase operational flexibility, and enhance the reliability of the regional transmission system.
- ECO-5 Provide a second source for the southeastern 69 kV transmission system that avoids vulnerability of common structure outages, thus increasing the reliability of electrical service for Boulevard, Jacumba, and surrounding communities.

Tule Wind Project

Pacific Wind Development lists the following objectives for the Tule Wind Project (Iberdrola Renewables, Inc. 2010a):

- TULE-1 Provide energy supply to help meet the state's planned population growth and future generations' needs.
- TULE-2 Provide renewable energy to contribute to the goals of the California RPS Program and Energy Report Update and contribute to the state's goal of increasing the renewable energy electricity mix to 33% by the year 2020.

TULE-3 Assist the BLM and other agencies within the U.S. Department of the Interior to increase the renewable energy production on federal lands as directed by the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

TULE-4 Assist the County of San Diego to accomplish its renewable energy goals and achieving the primary energy objectives of maximizing the development of renewable alternative sources of energy, as prescribed within the Energy Element of the General Plan.

ESJ Gen-Tie Project

Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC, has the following primary objective for the ESJ Gen-Tie Project (Pell, pers. comm. 2010):

ESJ-1 Provide generation-tie to transmit approximately 1,200 MW of renewable energy from a wind farm project proposed in northern Baja California, Mexico, to the proposed SDG&E ECO Substation.

Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan Wind Energy Projects

The majority of the CPUC's basic project objectives would also apply to the Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan wind energy projects. At the time this EIR/EIS was prepared, the project proponents for these three wind projects have not developed project-specific objectives.

A.5 Agency Use of this Document and Permits Required

A.5.1 CPUC

Pursuant to Article XII of the Constitution of the State of California, the CPUC is charged with the regulation of investor-owned public utilities, including SDG&E. The CPUC is the lead state agency for CEQA compliance in evaluation of SDG&E's proposed ECO Substation Project and, along with BLM, has directed the preparation of this EIR/EIS. In this role, the CPUC is responsible for compliance with CEQA and for coordinating with other state and local agencies that will use this EIR/EIS in their permitting processes.

This EIR/EIS will be used by the CPUC, in conjunction with other information developed in the CPUC's formal record, to act only on SDG&E's application for a PTC to construct and operate the proposed ECO Substation. Under CEQA requirements, the CPUC will determine the adequacy of the Final EIR/EIS and, if adequate, will certify the document as complying with CEQA. The CPUC will also act on SDG&E's application for a PTC. After the Final EIR/EIS is completed and certified, the CPUC will make a final decision on the ECO Substation Project.

The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) overseeing the PTC will write a draft decision based on the environmental documentation and testimony from parties to the proceeding. The ALJ and CPUC will consider the final environmental document, along with other issues, during preparation of the decision on the PTC application.

A.5.2 BLM

The BLM is the federal lead agency for the preparation of this EIR/EIS. The Draft EIR/EIS will be printed, filed with the EPA, and distributed to individuals, organizations, and agencies for review and comment. EPA will publish a notice of availability in the Federal Register. The date the EPA notice appears in the Federal Register initiates a 45-day public comment period. The BLM will publish a Notice of Availability (NOA) as well, which contains information about the project, comment period, contact information, and other supplemental information.

The Final EIR/EIS will be available to the public for a minimum of 30 days prior to issuing a record of decision (ROD), one for the ECO Substation Project and one for the Tule Wind Project. The publication of EPA's NOA in the Federal Register initiates the 30-day availability period.

Upon issuance of an ROD, the decision regarding the ROW grant may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals or challenged in Federal District Court. Specific guidance for appeal will be provided at the appropriate stage during the EIR/EIS process.

A.5.3 Responsible/Cooperating Agencies

Responsible/cooperating agencies, including the County of San Diego, California State Lands Commission, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians, will also use the EIR/EIS for their permitting processes. Following certification of the EIR/EIS by the CPUC, the County of San Diego will use the EIR/EIS for its discretionary action under CEQA in consideration of issuing two separate major use permits (Major Impact Service Utility), one for the Tule Wind Project and one for the ESJ Gen-Tie Project, because portions of those projects are within the County's jurisdiction. The County Planning Commission will consider issuing the major use permits. Because portions of the Tule Wind Project will occur on lands under the jurisdiction of the California State Lands Commission (in accordance with CEQA) and the BIA (in accordance with NEPA), these agencies will use the EIR/EIS for consideration of their required discretionary actions, as will responsible resource agencies. Table A-1 lists agency jurisdiction by Proposed PROJECT component.

Table A-1
Agency Jurisdiction of Project Components

Proposed PROJECT	Project Component	Jurisdiction	Miles/Acres ¹ under Jurisdiction
ECO Substation Project	ECO Substation 500 kilovolt (kV) and 230/138 kV Yards	California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) ²	85.9 acres
	Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-In	CPUC ²	1.74 acres
	138 kV Transmission Line	CPUC ²	11.8 miles
		BLM	1.5 miles
Boulevard Substation Rebuild	CPUC ²	3.2 acres	
Tule Wind Project	Wind Turbines and 34.5 kV Overhead and Underground Collector Cable System	Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians (17 wind turbines)	20.2 acres
		BLM (97 wind turbines)	280 acres
		CSLC (7 wind turbines)	37.5 acres
		County of San Diego (13 wind turbines)	49 acres
	Collector Substation	BLM	5 acres
	Operations and Maintenance Facility	BLM	5 acres
	Meteorological Towers	BLM	0.062 acres
	138 kV Transmission Line	BLM	7.42 miles
		County of San Diego	1.96 miles
State of California ³		0.36 miles	
ESJ Gen-Tie Project	500 kV Transmission Line (Steel Lattice Towers and Monopole Structures)	County of San Diego	10.65 acres
	230 kV Transmission Line (Steel Lattice Towers and Monopole Structures)	County of San Diego	9.6 acres
Campo Wind Project	Wind Turbines	Campo Band of Mission Indians and CPUC	unknown
	Switchyard and 138 kV Transmission Line	CPUC ²	unknown
Manzanita Wind Project	Wind Turbines	Manzanita Band in Mission Indians and CPUC	unknown
	Switchyard and 138 kV Transmission Line	CPUC ²	unknown
Jordan Wind Project	Wind Turbines	County of San Diego	unknown
	Switchyard and interconnection transmission line	County of San Diego and / or CPUC	unknown

¹ Acreage provided is permanent impact acreage. Temporary impact acreage for each project component is identified in Section B, Project Description, of this EIR/EIS. Mileage and acreage provided in table is approximate.

² Although these components of the ECO Substation, Campo, and Manzanita wind energy projects would be located on, or traverse, County of San Diego land, the County does not have jurisdiction of utility facilities. The CPUC has jurisdiction over these utilities according to California Constitution Article 12, Section 8.

³ The Tule Wind 138 kV transmission line would traverse State of California (Conservation Camp) lands and would cross Caltrans ROW at the Interstate 8 crossing.

A.5.4 Other Agencies

As listed in Table A-2, several other state and federal agencies may rely on information in this EIR/EIS to inform them in their decisions regarding issuance of specific permits related to project construction or operation. In addition to the CPUC and California State Lands Commission, state agencies such as the Department of Transportation, California Department of Fish and Game, Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the Office of Historic Preservation would be involved in reviewing and/or approving the Proposed PROJECT. In addition to the BLM and BIA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and ACOE are also a federal agencies with potential reviewing and/or permitting authority.

Table A-2 lists the federal, state, and local permits and authorizations required for the Proposed PROJECT prior to construction.

Table A-2
Permits or Other Actions Required Prior to Construction

Agency	Jurisdiction	Permit Regulatory Requirement
ECO Substation Project		
Federal		
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	National Historic Preservation Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Consultation
Council on Environmental Quality, National Environmental Policy Act	Environmental review of major federal actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Impact Statement
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Act 16 U.S.C. 1531–1544 Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Acts, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7 Consultation
Bureau of Land Management	FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROW Grant • NEPA Compliance • National Historic Preservation Act Compliance
Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit
Federal Aviation Administration	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helicopter Lift Plan • Form 7460-1
State		
California Public Utilities Commission	Transmission, substation, generation projects 50 kV and above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity • Certification of EIR • Permit to Construct
California Independent System Operator	Purpose and need for new transmission, substation, and generation projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interconnection approval
California Department of Fish and Game	Manage fish, wildlife, plant resources,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streambed Alteration 1601 Permit

East County Substation/Tule Wind/Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie Projects
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Table A-2 (Continued)

Agency	Jurisdiction	Permit Regulatory Requirement
	and habitats; California ESA, California Native Plant Protection Act, California Fish and Game Code Section 1601	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2061 Incidental Take Permit
California Department of Transportation	California streets and highways Code 660-711.21 CCR 1411.1-1411.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encroachment Permits • Traffic Control Plans
California Department of Toxic Substances Control	Hazardous Waste Control Act of 1972	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Hazardous Waste Generator ID • 90 days Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) Permit • Hazardous Material Business Plan
California Office of Historic Preservation	Potential to affect cultural or paleontological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Consultation
Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 7 (Colorado River)	Clean Water Act, Sections 401 and 402 Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, California Water Code Division 7. Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 401 Certification • Stormwater Construction General Permit 99-08-DWQ • National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System State (NPDES) Permit • Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs)
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)	Public Resource Code 4125-4128, and CCR Title 14 Division 1.5 Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Articles 1–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concurrence with Fire District approval of project Fire Protection Plan
Local		
San Diego County	County roads and highways, flood control/drainage channels, groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road/Highway Encroachment Permit • Grading and Wall Permits • Traffic Control Plans • Explosives Permit • Flood Control/Drainage Channel Encroachment/Crossing Permit • Excavation Permit Excavation Permit • Well permit and/or potential Groundwater Extraction Permit
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District	SDAPCD Regulation II, Rule 10.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authority to Construct and Permit to Operate
San Diego County Environmental Health Services	Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous Materials Business Plan • Hazardous Materials Inventory
San Diego Rural Fire Districts	Fire Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire District Approval

East County Substation/Tule Wind/Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie Projects
A. INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW

Table A-2 (Continued)

Agency	Jurisdiction	Permit Regulatory Requirement
Tule Wind Project		
Federal		
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	National Historic Preservation Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Consultation
Bureau of Indian Affairs	National Historic Preservation Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Consultation • ROW, lease approval. NEPA compliance for proposed activities on the Ewiiapaayp and Campo reservations
Council on Environmental Quality, National Environmental Policy Act	Environmental review of major federal actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Impact Statement
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Act 16 U.S.C. 1531–1544, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Acts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7 Consultation • Consultation (Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Acts)
Bureau of Land Management	FLPMA, 43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROW Grant • NEPA Compliance • National Historic Preservation Act Compliance
Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Water Act Section 404 Nationwide Permit
Federal Aviation Administration	—	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form 7460-1
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Proposed activities on the Ewiiapaayp Campo, and Manzanita reservations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEPA compliance • National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 Consultation • ROW lease approval
Tribal		
Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians	Ewiiapaayp Indian Reservation and Tribal Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribal planning (land use) permit and business permit
State		
California Independent System Operator	Purpose and need for new transmission, substation, and generation projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interconnection approval
California Department of Fish and Game	Manage fish, wildlife, plant resources, and habitats; California ESA, California Native Plant Protection Act, California Fish and Game Code Section 1601	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streambed Alteration 1601 Permit • Section 2061 Incidental Take Permit
California Department of Transportation	California streets and highways Code 660-711.21 CCR 1411.1-1411.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encroachment Permits • Transportation Permits
California Department of Toxic Substances Control	Hazardous Waste Control Act of 1972	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Hazardous Waste Generator ID • 90 days Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) Permit

East County Substation/Tule Wind/Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie Projects
A. INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW

Table A-2 (Continued)

Agency	Jurisdiction	Permit Regulatory Requirement
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous Material Business Plan
California Office of Historic Preservation	Potential to affect cultural or paleontological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
California State Lands Commission	Surface Land lease	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lease
Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 7 (Colorado River)	Clean Water Act, Sections 401 and 402 Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, California Water Code Division 7. Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 401 Certification • Stormwater Construction General Permit 99-08-DWQ • NPDES Permit • WDRs
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)	Public Resource Code 4125-4128, and CCR Title 14 Division 1.5 Chapter 7, Subchapter 2, Articles 1–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concurrence with Fire District approval of project Fire Protection Plan
Local		
San Diego County	County roads and highways, flood control/drainage channels, groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Use Permit • Road/Highway Encroachment/Crossing Permit • Grading and Wall Permits • Traffic Control Plans • New or expanded ROW Grant • Flood Control/Drainage Channel Encroachment/Crossing Permit • Excavation Permit • Well Permit and/or potential Groundwater Extraction Permit • Septic Permit
San Diego County Environmental Health Services	Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.95	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous Materials Business Plan • Hazardous Materials Inventory
San Diego Rural Fire Districts	Fire Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire District Approval
ESJ Gen-Tie Project		
Federal		
Council on Environmental Quality, National Environmental Policy Act	Environmental review of major federal actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Impact Statement
Department of Energy	Executive Order 10485	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presidential Permit
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Act 16 U.S.C. 1531–1544 Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Acts, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 7 Consultation
Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act, 33 USC 1341 Section 10, Rivers and Harbors Act Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationwide Permit
State		
California Independent System Operator	Purpose and need for new transmission, substation, and generation projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interconnection Approval

East County Substation/Tule Wind/Energia Sierra Juarez Gen-Tie Projects
A. INTRODUCTION/OVERVIEW

Table A-2 (Continued)

Agency	Jurisdiction	Permit Regulatory Requirement
California Department of Transportation	California streets and highways Code 660-711.21 CCR. 1411.1-1411.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation Permits
California Office of Historic Preservation	Potential to affect cultural or paleontological resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
Regional Water Quality Control Board, Region 7 (Colorado River)	Clean Water Act, Sections 401 and 402 Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, California Water Code Division 7. Water Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 401 Certification • Stormwater Construction General Permit 99-08-DWQ • NPDES Permit • WDRs
Local		
San Diego County	County roads and highways, flood control/drainage channels, groundwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Use Permit • County ROW permit • Excavation Permit • Encroachment Permit • Grading Permit • Groundwater Extraction Permit • Traffic Control Plans • Flood Control/Drainage Channel Encroachment/Crossing Permit • Excavation Permit
San Diego Rural Fire Districts	Fire Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire District Approval

A.6 Reader's Guide to EIR/EIS

A.6.1 Incorporation by Reference

The documents and portions of the documents listed in the following paragraphs have been used in preparing this EIR/EIS and are hereby incorporated by reference. Copies of these documents are available on the websites listed.

SDG&E ECO Substation Project, Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA). SDG&E's PEA (submitted as part of Application A.09-08-003 for the ECO Substation Project) contains certain information that is incorporated by reference in some sections of this EIR/EIS (SDG&E 2009). This document is available for public review via the Internet at the CPUC website:

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

Iberdrola Renewables, Inc., Tule Wind Project, Applicant's Environmental Document. The Applicant's Environmental Document contains certain information that is incorporated by reference in some sections of this EIR/EIS (Iberdrola Renewables, Inc. 2010a). This document is available for public review via the Internet at the BLM's and CPUC's websites:

<http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/elcentro/nepa/tule.html>.

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

Iberdrola Renewables, Inc. Major Use Permit Package (October 8, 2010). The Major Use Permit Package for the Tule Wind Project (Iberdrola Renewables, Inc. 2010b) is available for public review via the Internet at the CPUC's website:

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

Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC Major Use Permit Package (November 20, 2009). The Major Use Permit Package for the ESJ Gen-Tie Project (ESJ 2009) is available for public review via the Internet at the CPUC's website:

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

Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC Major Use Permit Application Revisions due to a change in the ECO Substation location and other project refinements (May 28, 2010). The revision Major Use Permit application for the ESJ Gen-Tie Project is available for public review via the Internet at the CPUC's website:

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

Sunrise Powerlink Project Final EIR/EIS. Prepared by Aspen Environmental Group for the CPUC and BLM (CPUC and BLM 2008a). This information is available via the Internet at: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/aspen/sunrise/sunrise.htm>.

Sunrise Powerlink Project Recirculated Draft EIR/Supplemental Draft EIS. Prepared by Aspen Environmental Group for the CPUC and BLM (CPUC and BLM 2008b). This information is available via the Internet at:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/aspen/sunrise/toc-rdeir.htm>.

A.6.2 EIR/EIS Organization

This EIR/EIS is organized as follows:

Executive Summary. A summary description of the Proposed Project/Proposed Action, the alternatives, their respective environmental impacts, and the Environmentally Superior (CEQA) and Agency Preferred (NEPA) Alternative.

Section A (Introduction/Overview). A discussion of the background, project objectives, and purpose and need for the project; a brief project description; and a discussion of the public agency use of the EIR/EIS.

Section B (Project Description). Detailed description of the ECO Substation, Tule Wind, and ESJ Gen-Tie projects, as well as the proposed Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan wind energy projects.

Section C (Alternatives). Description of the alternatives evaluation process, description of alternatives considered but eliminated from further analysis and the rationale thereof, and description of the alternatives analyzed in Sections D and E.

Section D (Environmental Analysis: Proposed PROJECT, including the proposed Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan wind energy projects, and Alternatives). A comprehensive analysis and assessment of impacts and mitigation measures for the Proposed PROJECT and alternatives, including the No Project/No Action Alternative. This section provides assessment of impacts and mitigation measures for the proposed Campo, Manzanita, and Jordan wind energy projects at a programmatic level. This section is divided into main sections for each of 17 environmental issue areas (e.g., biological resources, visual resources, air quality) that contain the environmental settings/affected environments and effects of the Proposed PROJECT and each alternative. In addition, each section provides applicable regulations, plans, and standards. A mitigation monitoring, compliance, and reporting summary table is provided at the end of each issue area analysis.

Section E (Comparison of Alternatives). An analysis of the relative advantages and disadvantages of the Proposed PROJECT in comparison with the alternatives evaluated and identification of both the CEQA “Environmentally Superior Alternative” and the NEPA “Environmentally Preferred Alternative.” Consistent with Section 15126.6 of the CEQA Guidelines, the alternatives analysis includes “a range of reasonable alternatives to the project, or to the location of the project, which would feasibly attain most of the basic objectives of the project but would avoid or substantially lessen any of the significant effects of the project” (14 CCR 15000 et seq.). Similarly, consistent with CEQ’s NEPA Regulations (40 CFR 1502.14), the environmental impacts of the proposed project and alternatives are provided in comparative form, defining the issues and providing a clear basis for choice by decision makers. Ultimately, the analysis includes identification of the CEQA “Environmentally Superior Alternative,” consistent with CEQA Guidelines, Section 15126.6(e)(2), and the NEPA “Environmentally Preferred Alternative” consistent with the BLM’s NEPA Handbook H-1790-1, Section 9.7.1 (BLM 2008a).

Section F (Cumulative Scenario and Impacts). A discussion of the cumulative scenario and impacts of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable projects in the project vicinity.

Section G (Required CEQA/NEPA Topics). A discussion of topics required by CEQA and NEPA, including growth-inducing effects, irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources and environmental changes, adverse unavoidable impacts (Class I) identified in Sections D.2 through D.18, relationship between short-term uses of the environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, and compliance with applicable federal environmental regulations and policies.

Section H (Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting). A discussion of the mitigation monitoring and reporting program requirements for the Proposed PROJECT as identified in this EIR/EIS.

Section I (Public Participation). A brief description of the public participation program for this EIR/EIS.

Section J (Report Preparation). A listing of individuals that contributed to the preparation of this EIR/EIS.

A.7 References

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42 U.S.C. 15801. Energy Policy Act of 2005. Public Law 109-58.

- 43 U.S.C. 1701–1782. Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, as amended. Public Law 94-579.
- BLM (Bureau of Land Management). 2005. *Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on Wind Energy Development on BLM-Administered Lands in the Western United States*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management. June 2005.
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Pell, J. 2010. "ESJ Project Objectives." Email from Dr. Jerry Pell (Department of Energy) to R. Nitka (Dudek), January 21, 2010.

SDG&E (San Diego Gas and Electric). 2009. *Proponent's Environmental Assessment for the East County 500/230/138 kV Substation Project*. August 2009.

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