

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



September 8, 2010

Kevin O'Beirne
San Diego Gas & Electric
8330 Century Park Court, CP32D
San Diego, California 92123

RE: San Diego Gas & Electric South Bay Substation Relocation Project Application for a Permit to Construct (Application No. 10-06-007); Determination of Completeness

Dear Mr. O'Beirne:

The Energy Division of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has completed its review of San Diego Gas & Electric's (SDG&E's) Application (A.10-06-007) for a Permit to Construct the South Bay Substation Relocation Project. With the supplemental data and information provided by SDG&E, the Commission has determined that the Application/Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) contains sufficient information to satisfy the requirements of the Commission's Information and Criteria List and can now be deemed complete. The Commission has identified questions and data requests as listed in *Attachment A*. These questions and data requests for additional information do not constitute a deficiency, but are necessary to complete the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis for the subject project. Please note that this determination has been made with the understanding that the Commission may request additional data, as necessary, to review and analyze the potential environmental effects of the proposed project in accordance with requirements of CEQA.

Please do not hesitate to call me at (415) 703-5484 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jensen Uchida".

Jensen Uchida
Energy Division, Room 4A

CC: Linda Wrazen, SDG&E
Mary Turley, SDG&E
John Porteous, Dudek
David Hochart, Dudek
Gary Weatherford, CPUC
Nicholas Sher, CPUC

**South Bay Substation Relocation Project
SDG&E Application (10-06-007)**

**Proponents Environmental Assessment
Completeness Review**

September 3, 2010

CHAPTER 3.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- 1) Please provide a timeline for the proposed construction activities in relation to the South Bay Power Plant demolition. The timeline should identify when construction of the various project components would occur for the South Bay Substation Relocation Project in relation to the South Bay Power Plant demolition activities.
- 2) Section 3.4.4, South Bay Substation Demolition: Please clarify whether any of the existing utilities such as gas lines that are owned and operated by San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) located within the limits of the South Bay Power Plant property would be removed as part of this project. If utilities that are owned and operated by SDG&E located outside of the South Bay Substation limits are not planned to be removed as part of this project, please identify the responsible party for removal of these facilities and indicate when removal will be completed.
- 3) Table 3-17, Coastal Development Permit: Please indicate whether a Coastal Development Permit will be required for the demolition of the existing South Bay Substation. In the event a Coastal Development Permit is required, please identify the Agency that will be responsible for issuance of the Coastal Development Permit.
- 4) Section 3.0.3, Methods: Please identify whether it would be feasible to co-locate a 69-kilovolt (kV) conductor within the proposed 138 kV duct bank. The discussion should indicate whether the proposed undergrounding of the 138 kV and associated duct bank could be redesigned to include a 69 kV conductor to allow for the potential undergrounding of the 69 kV utilities located within the South Bay Power Plant property limits.
- 5) Section 3.4.0, Bay Boulevard Substation: The Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) identifies a 75-foot-tall lattice steel tower to support an approximately 8-foot-diameter microwave telecommunications disc at the proposed Boulevard Substation. Please identify whether the project is consistent with the Height Regulations provided in Section 19.46.060 of the City of Chula Vista Municipal Code. The response should indicate whether a reduced tower height is feasible and the design rationale for the proposed communication tower height.

South Bay Substation Deficiency Letter (Continued)

- 6) Section 3.4.2, 69 kV Relocation: Please identify the location of the existing overhead 12 kV distribution circuits that would be underbuilt onto the proposed 69 kV poles. An exhibit that identifies the location of the existing 12 kV utilities should be provided along with an exhibit that shows the location of the future 12 kV facilities to be underbuilt onto the proposed 69 kV poles.
- 6) Please indicate whether all proposed utilities will be located within the existing 300-foot-wide easement.
- 7) Please indicate whether any substation modifications will be required to other substations located within the service area to accommodate the proposed Bay Boulevard Substation.

Section 4.4 Biological Resources

- 1) Figure 4.4-2, Vegetation Communities Map. In the response submitted by SDG&E on August 23, 2010, SDG&E states that Figure 4-2, Vegetation Communities Map, has been revised to include the requested vegetation communities and associated Holland codes. Please provide the revised exhibit.
- 2) Wetland Vegetation: Please provide any updates and correspondence with other Agencies regarding whether the project site contains wetlands characteristics that are considered environmentally sensitive habitat areas under the California Coastal Act.
- 3) Coyote Bush Scrub: Coyote brush scrub is considered a sensitive habitat by the City of Chula Vista and California Department of Fish and Game. Please indicate whether SDG&E has any mitigation credits within the NCCP mitigation banks for coyote brush scrub, which is a subtype of coastal sage scrub.

Section 4.10 Noise

- 1) Figure 4.10-1, Noise Measurement Location Map: Please provide the noise measurement location for noise measurement site location number 3 (Marina View Park) referenced in the response provided by SDG&E on August 24, 2010.