

SDG&E 10/29/10 Response
A. 10-06-007 South Bay Substation Relocation Project PTC
Energy Division Data Request 02 Dated October 22, 2010
SDGE-ED-002: Q 1-6, & 8

Question 1:

San Diego Fairy Shrimp - The CPUC has been contacted by the USFWS regarding their review of the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA). The USFWS has indicated that seasonal ponds or basins are present onsite that hold water and that these areas have the potential for being occupied by fairy shrimp (federally listed endangered San Diego Fairy shrimp). USFWS indicated there are records in multiple pools that are located adjacent to the San Diego Bay just across the Bay from the project site. The project limits will need to be surveyed.

Based on CPUC's correspondence with the USFWS a vernal pool/fairy shrimp survey will need to be completed in order to identify whether the federally listed species is present within any portion of the project site where construction activities are proposed. The USFWS requires two seasons of vernal pool/fairy shrimp surveys to be completed. The two seasons may include two wet season surveys or a wet and a dry season survey. A survey that is started within the next couple weeks will provide an ideal opportunity to determine if the seasonal ponds are occupied given the recent rain events. This would then constitute a wet season survey. A dry season survey could then be completed shortly following the wet season survey if the wet season survey is negative. Based on the project schedule it is crucial that SDG&E complete the vernal pool/fairy shrimp surveys as quickly as possible to identify whether the federally listed species is present onsite. In the event SDG&E does not have a federally permitted fairy shrimp biologist available to complete the work immediately, Dudek is available to conduct the required surveys upon your request.

SDG&E Response:

The City of Chula Vista Multiple Species Conservation Program Subarea Plan database does not contain locality records regarding San Diego fairy shrimp within the City of Chula Vista Subarea. San Diego fairy shrimp are known to occur in the vernal pool complexes of the Otay Mesa, which is outside of the Subarea Plan area. Vernal pool habitat that may be suitable for this species is present within the portion of the Otay Ranch that is within the City of Chula Vista Subarea.

SDG&E will employ permitted biologists to conduct the vernal pool/fairy shrimp surveys, following the USFWS survey protocol for Listed Vernal Pool Brachiopods. In order to conduct the surveys in as timely a manner as possible, a wet season and dry season survey will be conducted. The specified protocol for a wet season survey consists of sampling all waterbodies holding at least 3 centimeters of standing water 24 hours after a rain event. All invertebrates from the sample will be identified and water quality data will be tested and recorded. This

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process will be repeated once every two weeks, beginning no later than two weeks after initial inundation. Depending on weather conditions and whether any invertebrates are collected from the on-site waterbodies, the wet season survey is anticipated to be completed in the spring of 2011.

If San Diego fairy shrimp are identified from the wet season survey, a dry season survey will not be required. However, if no San Diego fairy shrimp are identified during the wet season survey, a dry season survey must be conducted to provide conclusive evidence that no species are located on the Project site. Depending on weather conditions, any dry season survey will begin in June or July. Following USFWS protocol, biologists will then collect soils samples from various locations within each pool/swale, up to 6 inches in depth. These samples will be sent to a specialist to identify any cysts. Results from any dry season survey should be completed by late summer or early fall 2011.

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Question 2:

Coastal Development Permit (CDP): The PEA indicates that the City of Chula Vista will be responsible for issuance of a CDP for construction of the Bay Boulevard substation. Please indicate whether there is any possibility that the Port of San Diego would be responsible for issuance of a CDP for any project component.

SDG&E Response:

Although the PEA states that the City of Chula Vista (City) is responsible for issuing a CDP, SDG&E has since determined that the appropriate entity to issue the CDP is the California Coastal Commission as discussed in the response to Data Request 01, Question 3 SDG&E does not believe that the Unified Port of San Diego (Port District) is responsible for issuance of a CDP for any project component. Nonetheless, in the event it is determined that the California Coastal Commission's authority to issue a CDP for any portion of the Project has been delegated to the Port District or the City as a matter of law, SDG&E will request consolidated review by the Coastal Commission of all aspects of the project pursuant to Coastal Act section 30601.3. Thus, SDG&E does not anticipate that either the Port District or the City will be responsible for issuance of a CDP for any Project component.

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Question 3:

Please provide the geographic information system (GIS) files that were used to create exhibits included in the Preliminary Jurisdictional Wetland Delineation Report, dated June 11, 2010. The Preliminary Jurisdictional Wetland Delineation Report is included as Attachment 4.4-B to the PEA.

SDG&E Response:

The GIS shapefiles used to create the figures included in Attachment 4.4-B: Preliminary Wetland Delineation Report have been attached. The following shapefiles have been included in this attachment:

- Potential Jurisdictional Resources
- Project Site Boundary
- Mapped Wetland and Water Features
- Mapped Soil Boundaries
- 1859 Mapped Waters Boundaries
- Data Point/Photo Point

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Question 4:

Please provide the GIS files used to create the following exhibits included in the PEA:

- a. Figure 4.10-1
- b. Figure 4.10-3

SDG&E Response:

The GIS files used to create Figure 4.10-1: Noise Measurement Location Map were submitted with the PEA on the Confidential Materials CD. These GIS files have been separated into two folders—Project Component Shapefiles and Resource Specific Shapefiles. The Project Components Shapefiles folder contains all of the shapefiles used to generate background data that represents the existing and proposed facilities. SouthBay_NoiseMonitoring.shp contains the noise measurement locations depicted on this figure. These shapefiles have been attached.

Figure 4.10-3: Bay Boulevard Substation Operational Noise Contours was created without the use of GIS. A simplified, grayscale version of Figure 3-3: Bay Boulevard Substation Conceptual Site Plan was used to generate the background data for this figure. The graphical output from EENoise, the noise modeling software used to simulate the operational noise from the substation, was then superimposed onto the background data to form the composite image. The original output from EENoise has been included within Attachment 4.10-B: Noise Study for the South Bay Relocated 230/69/12 kV Substation.

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Question 5:

Please provide the GIS files used to create Figure 1, CNEL 60 Contour, that was included in the letter from San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) to CPUC dated August 27, 2010.

SDG&E Response:

The GIS files used to generate the background data for Figure 1: CNEL 60 Contour are identical to those described previously in the response to Question 4. Similar to Figure 4.10-3: Bay Boulevard Substation Operational Noise Contours, the contour line depicted on Figure 1: CNEL 60 Contour was taken from the graphical output of CadnaA, the noise modeling software used to simulate the construction noise from the Proposed Project, and superimposed onto the background data. The original output from CadnaA has been submitted as a digital attachment. A revised shapefile—SouthBay_NoiseMonitoring_v2.shp—has also been attached and includes the third noise monitoring location.

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Question 6:

Please provide the JPEG images for the photos and visual simulations included in Figures 4.1-2, 4.1-3, 4.1-4, and 4.1-5 of the PEA.

SDG&E Response:

The original photographs and simulations used to generate Figures 4.1-2 through 4.1-5 of Section 4.1-1 Aesthetics have been attached. The following files have been included:

- Figure 4.1-2: Photographs from Across San Diego Bay
 - Fig 4_1-2 Photos Across SD Bay - View A.jpg
 - Fig 4_1-2 Photos Across SD Bay - View B.jpg

- Figure 4.1-3: Visual Simulation - Viewpoint 1
 - Fig 4_1-3 Visual Sim - VP1 - Original Photo.jpg
 - Fig 4_1-3 Visual Sim - VP1 - Simulation.jpg

- Figure 4.1-4: Visual Simulation - Viewpoint 2
 - Fig 4_1-4 Visual Sim - VP2 - Original Photo.jpg
 - Fig 4_1-4 Visual Sim - VP2 - Simulation.jpg

- Figure 4.1-5: Visual Simulation - Viewpoint 3
 - Fig 4_1-5 Visual Sim - VP3 - Original Photo.jpg
 - Fig 4_1-5 Visual Sim - VP3 - Simulation.jpg

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Question 7:

Response No. 8 provided by SDG&E on October 1, 2010, identified substation modifications that will be required to accommodate the proposed Bay Boulevard Substation. Please identify whether these improvements will be completed within the fenced limits of the Telegraph Canyon Substation, Imperial Beach Substation, and Miguel Substation.

SDG&E Response:

A response to this question will be provided shortly.

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Question 8:

Response No.1 provided by SDG&E on August 16, 2010, identified that “Attachment C: List of Property Owners to the application provides a list of adjacent property owners”. Attachment C was not provided in the PEA. Please submit a word document or excel version of “Attachment C: List of Property Owners”.

SDG&E Response:

The attached Microsoft Word document contains the list of adjacent property owners.

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