

Southern California Edison
A.09-09-022 – ASP

DATA REQUEST SET CPUC - Supplemental Data Request - 018

To: CPUC
Prepared by: Rey Gonzales
Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager
Received Date: 8/31/2023

Response Date: 9/13/2023

Question DG-MISC-87:

Resource Areas/Topic: Noise and Vibration

SCE Data Submittal Item/Page: SCE Third Amended Application and PEA - Revised Environmental Impact Analysis, Section 4.11.5

Data Gap Question

Provide modeling files and/or calculation spreadsheets used in the impact analysis to confirm results.

Response to Question DG-MISC-87:

The inverse square law was used to calculate the change in predicted construction noise levels resulting from construction activities moving closer or further from sensitive receptors. The attached spreadsheet (See DG-MISC-87_ASP Noise Calculation Spreadsheet) provides the calculations that were used to derive the revised predicted noise levels.

As noted with red text in the attached calculations, eight values from Table 4.11-17 and Table 4.11-19 from Appendix O: Revised Environmental Impact Analysis of the Third Amendment to the PEA were erroneously transcribed from the calculation sheet. As a result, these tables should be revised to reflect the correct values. In six of the eight cases, the transcribed value was higher than the calculated value. In the remaining two cases, while the transcribed value was lower than the predicted value by 1 dBA, this error would not change the impact conclusion nor change the severity of an existing impact.

Table 4.11-17: Noise Levels at Closest Sensitive Receptors in Lake Elsinore

Project Component	Receptor Distance	Predicted Noise Level
Original Staging Area ASP 8	531	65
Staging Area ASP 4	80	81
Staging Area ASP 12	185	74

Table 4.11-19: Alberhill Project Unmitigated Construction Noise Levels at Clese Sensitive Receptors

Project Component	Original Receptor Distance	Original Predicted Noise Level	Revised Receptor Distance	Revised Predicted Noise Level
500 kV Transmission Line SA				
Closest to ROW	338	71	845	63
Closest to Tower SA-1	1,197	60	1,455	58
Closest to Tower SA-2	900	63	860	63
Closest to Tower SA-3	691	65	1,340	59
Closest to Tower SA-4	2,096	56	2,340	55
500 kV Transmission Line VA				
Closest to ROW	23	95	580	67
Closest to Tower VA-1	1,110	61	1,410	59
Closest to Tower VA-2	736	65	625	66
Closest to Tower VA-3	668	65	1,200	60
Closest to Tower VA-4	2,132	56	2,260	55
VA2 Access Road	322	72	340	72
VA3 Access Road	266	73	770	64
Helicopter Platforms				
Helicopter Platform 1	70	59	1,425	33
Helicopter Platform 2	567	61	2,300	49
Helicopter Platform 3	1,978	50	2,195	49

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To: CPUC
Prepared by: Rey Gonzales
Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager
Received Date: 8/31/2023

Response Date: 9/13/2023

Question DG-MISC-88:

Resource Areas/Topic: Biological Resources

SCE Data Submittal Item/Page: SCE Third Amended Application and PEA - Revised Environmental Impact Analysis, Section 4.4.5

Data Gap Question

Section 2.4.2 General Disturbance states, “In some instances, additional temporary construction areas (approximately 16.5 acres) would be required outside of the previously identified general disturbance area.”

Provide the results for field biological surveys conducted within the 16.5 acres of additional temporary disturbance required outside of the previously identified general disturbance area. The results can be included in an updated Appendix F – MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report for Alberhill System Project (i.e., Appendix F of the 2017 FEIR) or an updated Appendix E – Biological Surveys Conducted for the Proposed Valley Ivy-Glen and Alberhill Projects or Appendix G – Special Status Species Occurrence Potential for VIG and Alberhill, as applicable. Accordingly, update Tables 4.4-4, 4.4.-5, and 4.4.-6 in the PEA.

Response to Question 9/13/2023DG-MISC-88:

With the exception of a portion of one workspace along Segment ASP8 (See attached DG-MISC-88_Figure 2-61, 115 kV General Disturbance Area_ASP8 Survey Area Gap), the remainder of the 16.5 acres of additional temporary construction areas was analyzed during previous surveys, as described within Appendix A: Detailed Maps of the Study Area of the Draft MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report.

A supplemental habitat assessment will be performed along the above specified ASP8 workspace portion to confirm that the existing vegetation type and special-status species potential which occur within said portion are consistent with the previously completed assessments for the remainder of the 16.5 acres of additional temporary construction areas. Once the supplemental habitat assessment is complete, SCE will provide any necessary updates to Tables 4.4-4, 4.4-5, and 4.4-6 from Appendix O: Revised Environmental Impact Analysis.

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DATA REQUEST SET CPUC - Supplemental Data Request - 018

To: CPUC
Prepared by: Rey Gonzales
Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager
Received Date: 8/31/2023

Response Date: 10/2/2023

Question DG-MISC-88 Supplemental:

Resource Areas/Topic: Biological Resources

SCE Data Submittal Item/Page: SCE Third Amended Application and PEA - Revised Environmental Impact Analysis, Section 4.4.5

Data Gap Question

Section 2.4.2 General Disturbance states, “In some instances, additional temporary construction areas (approximately 16.5 acres) would be required outside of the previously identified general disturbance area.”

Provide the results for field biological surveys conducted within the 16.5 acres of additional temporary disturbance required outside of the previously identified general disturbance area. The results can be included in an updated Appendix F – MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report for Alberhill System Project (i.e., Appendix F of the 2017 FEIR) or an updated Appendix E – Biological Surveys Conducted for the Proposed Valley Ivy-Glen and Alberhill Projects or Appendix G – Special Status Species Occurrence Potential for VIG and Alberhill, as applicable. Accordingly, update Tables 4.4-4, 4.4.-5, and 4.4.-6 in the PEA.

Response to Question DG-MISC-88 Supplemental:

As indicated in our original response to DG-MISC-88, a supplemental habitat assessment was performed along ASP8 to confirm the existing vegetation type and special-status species potential to occur are consistent with the previous survey results that were identified in the Draft MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report on September 21, 2023.

During the habitat assessment, the survey area (0.2-acre site) was comprised of red stem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), dove weed (*Croton setiger*), vinegar weed (*Trichostema lanceolatum*), and non-native grasses. Non-native grasses were not identifiable due to recent trimming/mowing. When compared to the vegetation community types from SCE’s Draft MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report, the survey area would be considered non-native grassland; however, it provides very limited and low-quality habitat for any potential special-status species in the vicinity due to non-native grasses being maintained at ground level. In addition, a dirt access road (categorized as residential/urban/exotic consistent with the Draft MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report) was also observed within the survey area. No special-status species or hydrological features were observed. The methods and results from this habitat assessment have been documented in the attached memorandum.

Because the vegetation types within previously un-surveyed area are consistent with those identified in adjacent workspaces in the Draft MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report, no new special-status species with the potential to occur within this work area were identified. Tables 4.4-4, 4.4.-5, and 4.4.-6 in Appendix O: Revised Environmental Impact Analysis from the Third Amendment to the Proponent's Environmental Assessment already accounted for the similar vegetation community types that were confirmed by the supplemental habitat assessment's results and no further edits to them are required.

MEMO

2023 Habitat Assessment for the Alberhill System Project

To: Rey Gonzales, Southern California Edison (SCE)
From: Robert Curley, Insignia Environmental (Insignia)
Date: September 27, 2023

On September 21, 2023, Brian Cropper (Biologist, Insignia) conducted a habitat assessment for SCE's Alberhill System Project (Proposed Project) within a work area associated with Segment ASP8 of the proposed 115 kilovolt (kV) subtransmission line in western Riverside County, California. The survey area for this habitat assessment was limited to an approximately 0.2-acre site that was not surveyed during previous vegetation community surveys. The survey area is depicted in Figure 1: Survey Area Map. This memorandum describes the methods and results of the survey.

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND SURVEY AREA

The survey area is located within an existing SCE transmission line corridor northwest of the city of Menifee. A majority of the disturbance areas associated with the Proposed Project in this location were surveyed as part of previous habitat assessment efforts. As depicted in Figure 1: Survey Area Map, the western portion of one planned temporary work area is located outside of the areas that were previously surveyed. This temporary work area is located in a flat valley with minimal topographical diversity. The temporary work area is primarily surrounded by residential development and is located in a rural area with limited native vegetation communities.

HABITAT ASSESSMENT

Prior to conducting the field survey, background research on the survey area was conducted; this included a review of topographical maps, California Natural Diversity Database records, and hydrology data from the National Hydrography Dataset. The habitat assessment included identifying all potential habitat types within the survey area, including areas of potential habitat directly adjacent to the survey area boundary. Insignia's biologist walked close transects in order to observe any special-status plant species or signs or special-status species wildlife. Full coverage of the survey area was achieved.

RESULTS

During the 2023 habitat assessment, the survey area was observed to be devoid of native vegetation communities; it consists of disturbed habitat comprised of red stem filaree (*Erodium cicutarium*), dove weed (*Croton setiger*), vinegar weed (*Trichostema lanceolatum*), and non-native grasses. Non-native grasses were not identifiable due to recent trimming/mowing. The survey area appears to be consistently maintained and trimmed as part of operation and maintenance activities associated with SCE's existing transmission lines. When compared to the vegetation community types from SCE's Draft MSHCP Biological Resources Technical Report, this portion of the survey area could be considered non-native grassland; however, it provides very limited and low-quality habitat for any potential special-status species in the vicinity due to non-native grasses being maintained at ground level. In addition, a dirt access

road (bare ground) was observed traversing the survey area. No special-status species or hydrological features were observed. Due to the low quality of the habitat, no special-status species are expected to occur within the survey area.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Survey Area Map

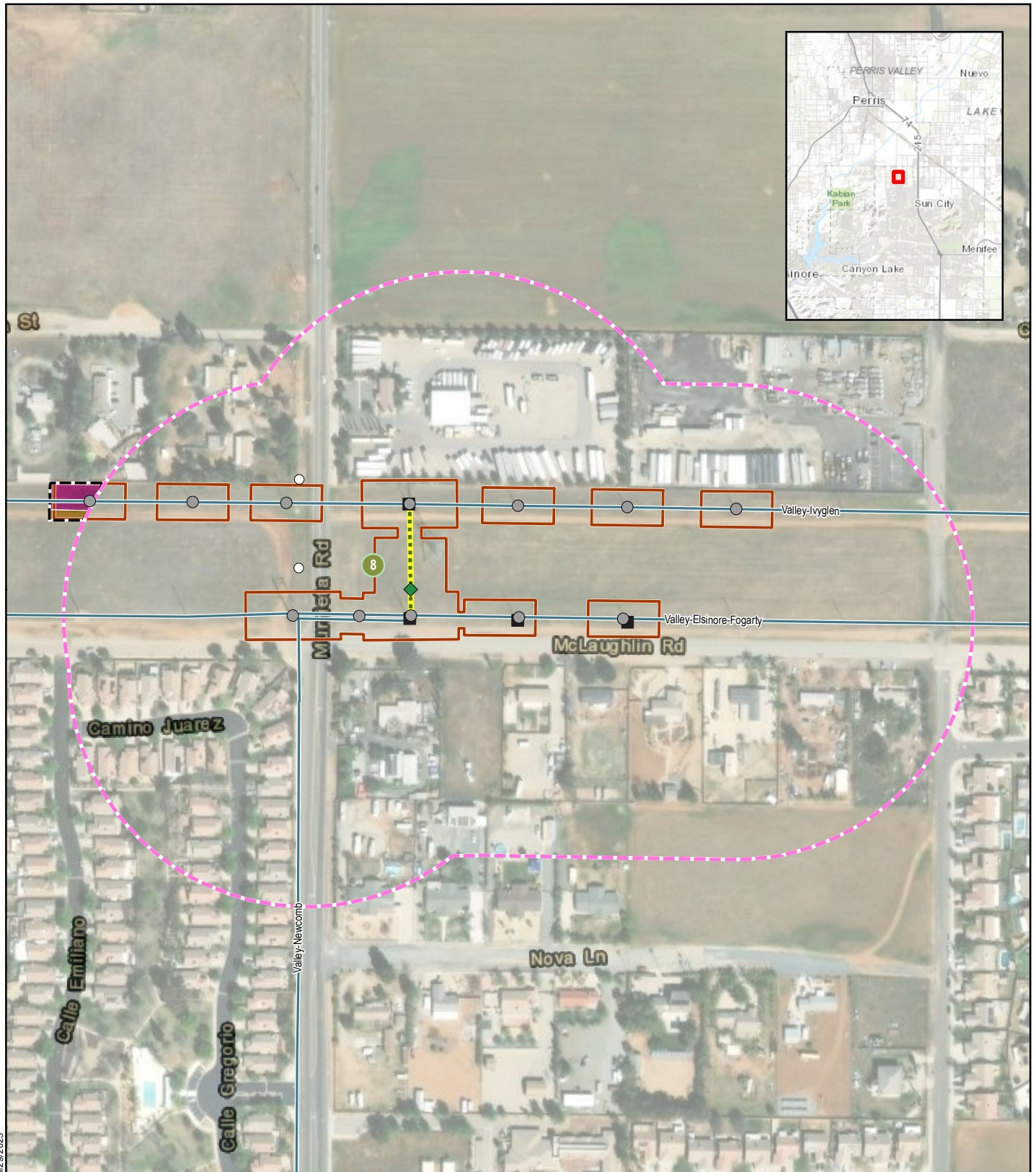
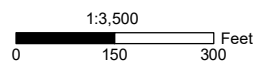


Figure 1: Survey Area Map

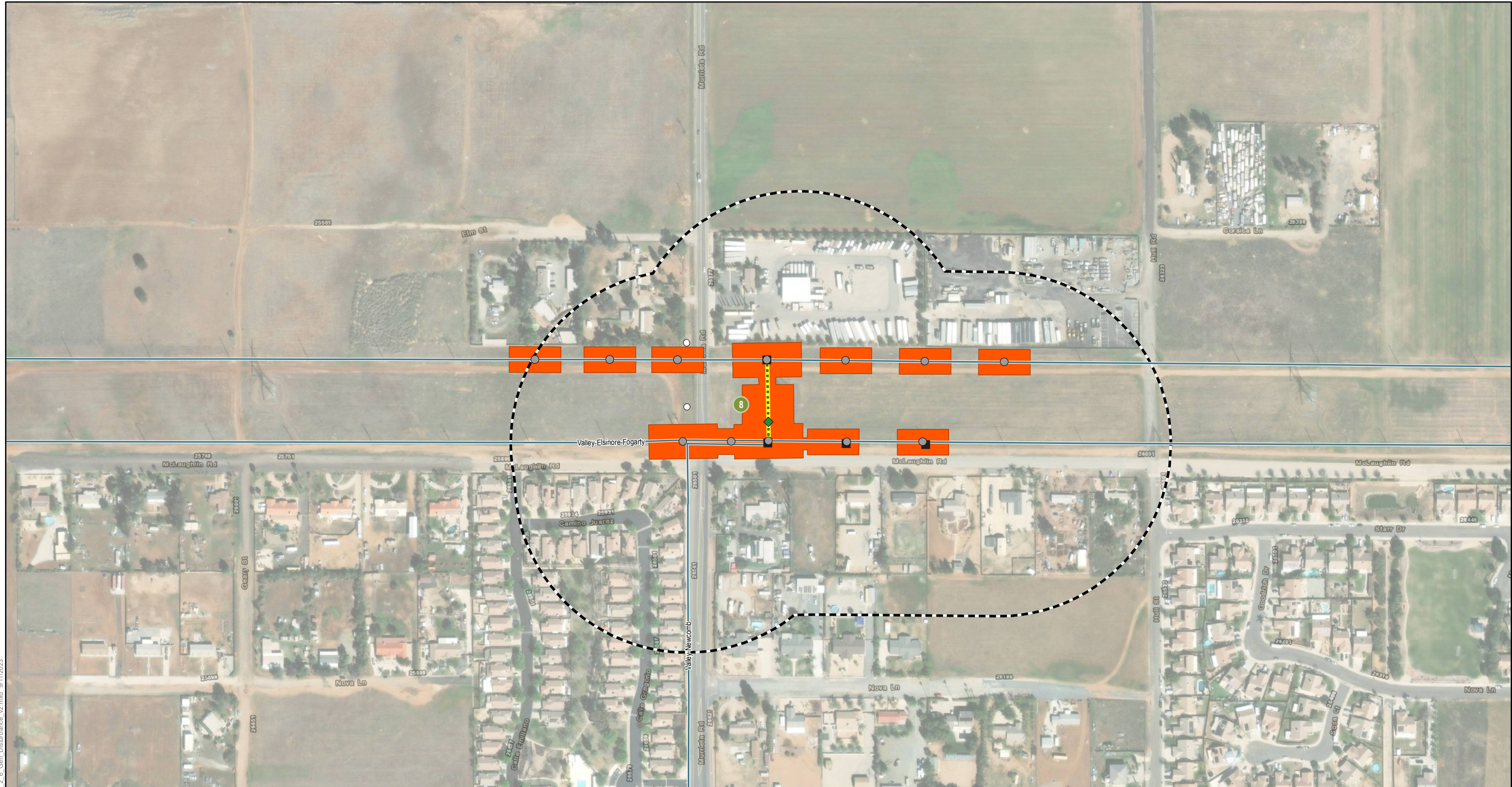
Alberhill System Project

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Previous Survey Area | Existing Pole/Structure | ASP Segment |
| Supplemental Survey Area | New/Modify Pole/Structure | New 115 kV Underground Vault |
| NNG - Non-Native Grasslands | Remove Pole/Structure | Additional 115 kV Disturbance Area |
| RUE - Residential/Urban/Exotic | Proposed 115 kV Cable in New Underground Duct Bank | |
| | Existing Overhead 115 kV Subtransmission Line | |



REFERENCES

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- EI. 2018. Botanical Survey Report for the Alberhill System Project.
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- United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2000. Guidelines for Conducting and Reporting Botanical Inventories for Federally Listed, Proposed and Candidate Plants. Online. <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/botanical-plant-inventory-guidelines.pdf>. Site visited September 2023.
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 2023. Information for Planning and Consultation system. Online. <https://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>. Site visited September 2023.



Z:\Projects\SCE_Alberhill\Amended_FEA\MXD\Figures\Fig_2_B_Gen_Disturbance_v2.mxd 9/11/2023

- Prior Veg. Comm. Survey Area
- ASP Segment
- Existing Pole/Structure
- New/Modify Pole/Structure
- Remove Pole/Structure
- Proposed 115 kV Cable in New Underground Duct Bank
- Existing Overhead 115 kV Subtransmission Line
- New 115 kV Underground Vault
- Additional 115 kV Disturbance Area

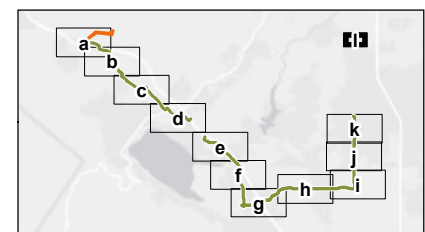
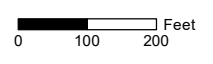


Figure 2-61
115-kV General Disturbance Area
Alberhill System Project



Southern California Edison
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DATA REQUEST SET CPUC - Supplemental Data Request-018

To: CPUC
Prepared by: Jason Alan Livingston
Job Title: Project Engineer
Received Date: 08/31/2023

Response Date: 09/13/2023

Question DG-MISC-89:

Resource Areas/Topic: Revised Project Description/GHG

SCE Data Submittal Item/Page: SCE Third Amended Application and PEA – Revised Project Description/GHG

Data Gap Question

Circuit breakers proposed for the project at Alberhill (500 kV) and 115 kV equipment at Alberhill, Valley and Newcomb could emit GHG due to leakage of SF₆. CARB Resolution 20-28 applies to owners of gas insulated equipment (GIE) which includes circuit breakers. Explain why these circuit breakers are proposed to use SF₆ in light of the requirements to eliminate SF₆ in GIE per CARB Resolution 20-28.

Response to Question DG-MISC-89:

The recent California Air Resources Board (CARB) ruling pertaining to the phaseout of SF₆ gas-insulated equipment contains phaseout dates, after which no Gas-Insulated Equipment (GIE) owner may acquire SF₆ GIE for use in California, unless one of several exemptions or exceptions to the rule can be applied.¹ At the earliest, these phaseout dates do not begin until January 1, 2025.

Depending upon the GIE characteristics (e.g., voltage class), these phaseout dates will continue until as late as January 1, 2033.

SCE intends to phaseout SF₆ GIE, in accordance with the CARB ruling. In the event project requirements—or factors outside of SCE’s control—preclude SCE from phasing out said GIE by the proscribed phaseout dates, SCE will seek a Phaseout Exemption pursuant to Section 95357 of the Final Regulation Order.²

¹ Regulation for Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Gas-Insulated Equipment, Section 95352.

² *Id.*, at Section 95357.

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To: CPUC
Prepared by: Rey Gonzales
Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager
Received Date: 8/31/2023

Response Date: 9/13/2023

Question DG-MISC-90:

Resource Areas/Topic: Revised Project Description/Hydrology

SCE Data Submittal Item/Page: SCE Third Amended Application and PEA - Revised Environmental Impact Analysis, Section 4.9.5

Data Gap Question

The footnote on page M-146 states:

~~⁴⁸¹⁹ The applicant estimates Preliminary engineering suggests that grading would require 91,000 118,100 cubic yards of soil be cut and 157,700 184,700 cubic yards be filled at the proposed substation site. An additional 11,000 cubic yards of fill would be required due to subsidence. In total, the applicant estimates that 77,700 cubic yards of fill would be required, which has been rounded for the sake of this analysis to approximately 80,000 cubic yards.~~

Page O-98 states:

Grading at the ~~approximately 42.9~~46-acre substation site would be required to provide a flat area for substation construction. There are no substantial drainages on the site, but the site likely experiences minor water flow and ponding during and after precipitation events. Grading would require cut of about ~~91,000~~120,000 cubic yards of soil and fill about ~~80,000~~185,000 cubic yards of soil. The substation site

Explain the discrepancy between the grading estimates at the Alberhill substation site and provide the correct grading cut and fill estimates.

Response to Question DG-MISC-90:

The footnote on Page M-146 uses grading estimates that were not rounded, while the grading estimates on Page O-98 were rounded to the nearest 10,000 and 1,000 cubic yards, respectively. In order to eliminate this discrepancy, the values articulated within the footnote on page M-146 should be revised, as follows:

“Preliminary engineering suggests that grading would require approximately 120,000 cubic yards of soil be cut and approximately 185,000 cubic yards be filled at the proposed substation site.”