



Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line Project

Project Overview

Southern California Edison (SCE) is proposing to construct the Valley-Ivyglen Project to reduce reliability concerns associated with the existing single-circuit 115-kV subtransmission line that serves Fogarty and Ivyglen substations and to eliminate the potential for a 115-kV system overload within the Electrical Needs Area (Figure 1). To address these concerns, SCE is proposing to construct a new single-circuit 115-kV subtransmission line and fiber optic line between the existing Valley and Ivyglen Substations (Figure 1). The 27-mile-long primarily overhead subtransmission line would be located in approximately 23 miles of new right-of-way. The fiber optic line would be installed overhead on proposed overhead structures and underground in new and existing conduit.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), as Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Valley-Ivyglen Project. The CPUC is also the Lead Agency for another SCE proposed project—the Alberhill System Project (Alberhill Project)—which would be constructed within approximately 6.5 miles of the same right-of-way and would be located on some of the structures constructed for the Valley-Ivyglen Project. Due to geographic proximity, overlapping impacts, and similar timelines, the CPUC determined that it would be in the public's best interest to disclose the environmental impacts of the Valley-Ivyglen and Alberhill Projects in a single EIR. The EIR will provide separate analyses for each project. This EIR will describe the nature and extent of the impacts resulting from the Valley-Ivyglen and Alberhill Projects. There will be opportunities during the EIR process for the public to learn about and comment on the proposed projects and their environmental impacts.

Potential Environmental Impacts Identified

In its initial review of the Valley-Ivyglen Project, the CPUC has identified the following potential adverse environmental impacts:

- Aesthetics** – Operation of a new subtransmission line could result in impacts on scenic roads.
- Air Quality** – Construction activities could result in fugitive dust emissions that exceed local air district thresholds.
- Biological Resources** – Construction activities could result in impacts on special status species and sensitive habitats.
- Hazardous Materials** – Construction activities could result in temporary effects from the use of hazardous materials.
- Hydrology and Water Quality** – Construction activities could result in impacts on drainage patterns and water quality.
- Land Use** – Operation of a new subtransmission line could conflict with local land use policies.
- Noise** – Construction activities could result in noise levels that temporarily exceed local thresholds.
- Traffic** – Helicopter use during construction could result in temporary impacts on air traffic.



For more information...

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Public Scoping Comments and Next Steps

The CPUC invites the public to present comments about the Valley-Ivyglen and Alberhill Projects and the scope of the EIR. Comments may be mailed, emailed, or faxed. All public scoping comments must be received or postmarked by June 5, 2015. Once the public scoping period ends, the CPUC will prepare a Draft EIR, which will be circulated for public review and comment.

Background for the Valley-Ivyglen Project – Abbreviated Timeline

2007 to 2010

The CPUC completed the CEQA review and granted SCE a Permit to Construct the Valley-Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line and Fogarty Substation Project.

2012

SCE substantially completed construction of the Fogarty Substation.

2013

SCE filed a Petition for Modification (PFM) for the Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line and Fogarty Substation Project. Modifications included:

- Route modification;
- Additional underground installations;
- Additional subtransmission structures and types;
- Alternative construction methods, including helicopter use, blasting, temporary transmission poles, and retaining walls; and
- Modifications to work areas, staging areas, access roads, and helicopter operation yards.

The CPUC decided to consolidate the environmental reviews of the Valley-Ivyglen Project and the Alberhill Project into one EIR; the administrative proceedings would remain separate.

2014

SCE filed an amended PFM, which included an additional route modification. The CPUC approved SCE's request to bifurcate Fogarty Substation from the Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line Project to allow for completion of work at Fogarty Substation.

2015

The CPUC deemed the 2014 PFM complete and released a Notice of Preparation of an EIR on May 6, 2015 for the Valley-Ivyglen and Alberhill Projects.

