



505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298

**Notice of Preparation
Environmental Impact Report
Ivyglen Project
Proposed by Southern California Edison Company
Application No.'s A. 07-01-031 and A. 07-04-028**

To: All Interested Parties

Si usted necesita una copia de este documento en español o si necesita información acerca del proyecto por favor llame a (951) 274-7293.

A. Subject

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) determined that the Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line Project (Application No. A. 07-01-031, filed January 16, 2007) and the Fogarty 115 kV Substation Project (Application No. A. 07-04-028, filed April 30, 2007) are consolidated into a single proceeding for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis. Hereafter, the combined, single project will be referred to as the Ivyglen Project. Under the direction of the CPUC as the lead agency, a draft and final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) will be prepared for the proposed project to comply with CEQA.

B. Summary of the Proposed Project

SCE proposes to construct, operate, and maintain a new 115 kV subtransmission line to connect the existing SCE Valley and Ivyglen Substations, and to construct a new Fogarty Substation to provide additional electrical services to the City of Lake Elsinore area (Proposed Project). The Proposed Project also includes constructing improvements at the Valley and Ivyglen Substations to accommodate the proposed subtransmission line, tie-ins between the new Fogarty Substation and existing subtransmission and telecommunications lines, installation of a new telecommunications line between Valley and Ivyglen Substations, transfer of distribution facilities, and stockpiling and/or disposal of old electrical distribution line poles. The project consists of the four elements listed below:

- **Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line or Proposed Subtransmission Line**
 - Construction of a new 115 kV electrical subtransmission line, approximately 25 miles long, connecting the existing Valley and Ivyglen Substations
 - Transfer of existing distribution circuits along portions of the proposed subtransmission line to new 115 kV poles

- **Valley and Ivyglen Substation Improvements**
 - Installation of new 115 kV switching and protective equipment to terminate the proposed subtransmission line at the existing Valley and Ivyglen Substations

- **Telecommunications System**
 - Installation of approximately 25 miles of fiber optic cable to provide data communication between the Valley and Ivyglen Substations
 - Integration of the telecommunications line on the proposed subtransmission line poles, with the exception of approximately 600 feet of telecommunication line that would be installed underground
 - Telecommunications equipment improvements at the Valley and Ivyglen Substations
 - Installation of two fiber optic cable segments between the Fogarty Substation and the existing fiber optic cable between the Elsinore and Ivyglen Substations

- **New Fogarty Substation**
 - Construction of a new 115/12 kV substation. The Fogarty Substation would be an unattended, automated, low-profile, 56 mega volt-ampere (MVA) 115/12 kV substation
 - Installation of three tubular steel poles (TSPs) to support two new 115 kV subtransmission line segments approximately 200 feet each, connecting the Valley-Elsinore-Ivyglen 115 kV subtransmission line to the Fogarty Substation
 - Construction of six underground 12 kV distribution circuits

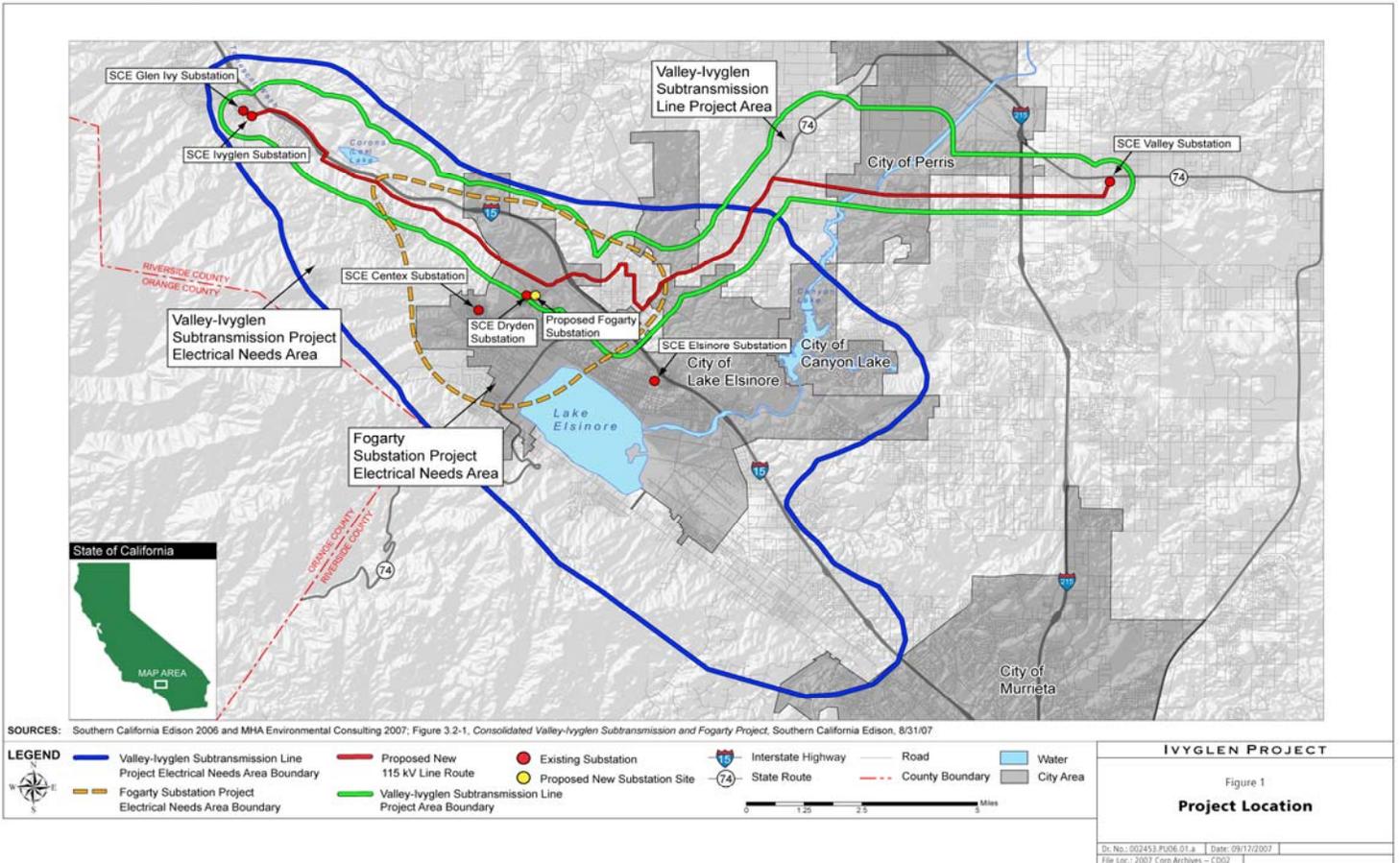
The Proposed Project would be located in a rapidly developing area of southwestern Riverside County. The Proposed Project is described in terms of the Project Study Area, the two Electrical Needs Areas, the Proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line Route, and the Proposed Fogarty 115/12 kV Substation Site, as defined below.

The **Project Study Area** is the Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Line southern corridor, an approximately 4,000 foot wide corridor along the proposed subtransmission line route and alternative routes. The Project Study Area is the area where the subtransmission line element is located. The alternative route segments and alternative Fogarty Substation site locations evaluated are also located within the Project Study Area.

There are two **Electrical Needs Areas** that have been identified for the Proposed Project. The first, the Valley-Ivyglen Electrical Needs Area, is comprised of the southwestern area of Riverside County, the northern portion of the City of Lake Elsinore, and the community of Glen Ivy Hot Springs. This Electrical Needs Area is served by five Valley South System substations: Centex, Dryden, Glen Ivy, Elsinore, and Ivyglen. The second area, the Fogarty Electrical Needs Area, is located wholly within the boundaries of the Valley-Ivyglen Electrical Needs Area. The Fogarty Electrical Needs Area is comprised of the urbanized areas of the City of Lake Elsinore and adjacent areas of the southwestern portion of Riverside County. This Electrical Needs Area is currently served by Centex, Dryden, and Elsinore Substations. These two Electrical Needs Areas would benefit from the Proposed Project.

The **Proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line Route** is the approximately 25 mile long route for the proposed subtransmission line connecting the Valley and Ivyglen Substations located within the Project Study Area.

The **Proposed Fogarty 115/12 kV Substation Site** is located in the northern portion of the City of Lake Elsinore. The approximately 6.6-acre site is located east of Terra Cotta Road, west of future Dolbeer Street, south of future Kings Highway and north of the future Hoff Avenue. Figure 1 delineates the Project Study Area, two Electrical Needs Areas, the Proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV subtransmission line route, and the Proposed Fogarty 115/12 kV Substation Site.



C. Project Alternatives

The following alternatives, developed by SCE in their Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (PEA), would be considered. As part of the environmental review process for the Proposed Project, the CPUC will evaluate the feasibility of the alternatives described below and whether or not they meet CEQA requirements. In addition, the CPUC may develop other alternatives for evaluation in the EIR. Based on the input received during the scoping process, new alternatives could be developed to reduce impacts identified for the Proposed Project.

VALLEY-IVYGLLEN SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

SCE considered three system alternatives and the No Project Alternative to meet the forecasted electrical demand within the Valley-Ivyglen Electrical Needs Area, as defined on pages 1-2 and 1-3 in the Proponent’s Environmental Assessment, Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line Project. These alternatives are listed below.

- **System Alternative V-I.1:** Construct a new 115 kV subtransmission line that traverses between the Valley 500/115 kV and Ivyglen 115/12 kV substations
- **System Alternative V-I.2:** Upgrade the existing electrical subtransmission and distribution system, including upgrades at the Glen Ivy and Elsinore Substations
- **System Alternative V-I.3:** Convert the Ivyglen Substation from a 115/12 kV substation to a 66/12 kV substation and transfer it to the Mira Loma 220/66 kV System
- **System Alternative V-I.4:** No Project Alternative

The proposed Valley-Ivyglen 115 kV Subtransmission Line Project is needed to provide additional line capacity to an area served by a single 115 kV line that is projected to exceed capacity in 2007. In addition, the Proposed Project is needed to provide a second 115 kV subtransmission line to Ivyglen Substation in order to be consistent with SCE's reliability criteria.

FOGARTY AREA SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

SCE considered two system alternatives and the No Project Alternative to meet the forecasted electrical demand within the Fogarty Electrical Needs Area, as defined on pages 1-1 through 1-11 in the Proponent's Environmental Assessment, Fogarty 115/12 kV Substation Project. These alternatives are listed below.

- **System Alternative F.1:** Construct a new 115/12 kV substation, extending the existing Valley-Elsinore-Ivyglen kV Subtransmission Line into the new substation, and constructing six underground 12 kV distribution circuits within the Fogarty Electrical Needs Area
- **System Alternative F.2:** Construct a new 33/12 kV substation, reconfigure four existing 12 kV distribution lines, and install three new underground 33 kV lines
- **System Alternative F.3:** No Project Alternative

The proposed Fogarty Substation Project is needed to provide additional distribution capacity to a rapidly growing area served by three existing SCE substations: Centex 33/12 kV, Dryden 33/12 kV, and Elsinore 115/12 kV and 115/33 kV. Centex Substation will be retired in 2007, and projected area demand would exceed the distribution capacity of Dryden and Elsinore in 2009.

CONSOLIDATED SYSTEM ALTERNATIVES

SCE also considered three consolidated system alternatives and the No Project Alternative to meet the forecasted electrical demand within both the Valley-Ivyglen Electrical Needs Area and the Fogarty Electrical Needs Area. These alternatives are listed below.

- **Consolidated System Alternative A:** Construct a new 115 kV subtransmission line that traverses between the Valley 500/115 kV and Ivyglen 115/12 kV substations (System Alternative V-I.1), and construct a new 115/12 kV substation, extending the existing Valley-Elsinore-Ivyglen kV Subtransmission Line into the new substation, and constructing six underground 12 kV distribution circuits within the Fogarty Electrical Needs Area (System Alternative F.1)
- **Consolidated System Alternative B:** Construct a new 115 kV subtransmission line that traverses between the Valley 500/115 kV and Ivyglen 115/12 kV Substations (System Alternative V-I.1), but take no action regarding the Fogarty Electrical Needs Area

- **Consolidated System Alternative C:** Construct a new 115/12 kV substation, extending the existing Valley-Elsinore-Ivyglen kV Subtransmission Line into the new substation, and constructing six underground 12 kV distribution circuits within the Fogarty Electrical Needs Area (System Alternative F.1), but take no action on the Valley-Ivyglen Electrical Needs Area
- **Consolidated System Alternative D:** No Project Alternative

D. Scope of EIR and Discussion of Potential Impacts

CEQA requires agencies to consider environmental impacts that may result from a proposed action, to inform the public of potential impacts and alternatives, and to facilitate public involvement in the assessment process. The EIR for the proposed project will describe in detail the nature and extent of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and each alternative, and will discuss appropriate mitigation measures for any adverse impacts. The EIR will include, among other matters, discussions of the purpose and need for the proposed action, a description of alternatives, a description of the affected environment, an evaluation of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, and explanations of proposed mitigation.

The PEA for the Proposed Project identified the following potential environmental impacts. The EIR may identify additional impacts.

Aesthetic Resources

- Potentially significant changes in the appearance of the Project Study Area could result from the removal of vegetation and the introduction of subtransmission line poles that range between 80 and 100 feet in height.
- As the Proposed Project transmission line route and the substation sites would travel through rural areas with views of hillsides and natural landscape features, there is the potential for the Proposed Project to have an adverse effect on scenic vistas in the immediate vicinity of the Proposed Project route and substation locations.
- Nighttime construction lighting would be used during project construction and the proposed Fogarty substation would include operational nighttime security lighting that could affect the nighttime view.

Agricultural Resources

- The proposed subtransmission line and associated telecommunications line would cross 1.1 miles of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance combined. Also, up to 2.72 acres of agricultural lands would be disturbed due to the installation of new poles.

Air Quality

Air emissions resulting from construction of the proposed subtransmission line, telecommunications line, substation, access roads, pole removal, and installation would include the following:

- Emissions attributed to vehicle transport of workers to and from the Project Study Area
- Dust from substation site grading, road grading and pole site boring
- Emissions from construction vehicles operating on site

- Trucks hauling materials (e.g. concrete, poles, and conductors) to the work site
- Dump trucks hauling away construction debris such as excavated soil and old poles that are being replaced

Construction would generate dust and exhaust emissions. In the PEA, the emission levels were found to be less than the SCAQMD regional criteria and the Local Significance Thresholds. The EIR will provide a third party review of the emission levels reported in the PEA. The EIR will also include an analysis of potential greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the proposed project.

Biological Resources

- Several special status plant species currently occur, historically occurred, or have the potential to occur along the proposed subtransmission line route. Construction activities could result in direct effects to special status plant species, as well as removal or destruction of habitat. Impacts would be related to the following activities:
 - Road grading and construction
 - Pole site preparation and line stringing activities
 - Tree and scrub removal to facilitate line/pole placement
 - Movement of equipment and project materials
- Sensitive species present during construction in affected areas could be crushed from operation of heavy machinery and foot traffic. Construction activities could remove, destroy, or denude existing habitat, thereby potentially reducing available habitat for sensitive plant species.
- The Valley Substation is surrounded by agricultural, nonnative grassland and developed and disturbed habitats, wherein wildlife species such as the burrowing owl and Stephen's kangaroo rat may be identified.
- The Ivyglen Substation is surrounded by Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, coastal sage scrub, and developed and disturbed habitat. Wildlife species such as the burrowing owl, coastal California gnatcatcher, Bell's sage sparrow, Southern California rufous-crowned sparrow, Orange-throated whiptail, San Diego horned lizard, and Stephen's kangaroo rat may be identified within these habitats.
- The proposed Fogarty Substation site is predominantly vegetated with nonnative grasses. Special status plant species include the Long-spined spineflower, and habitat suitable for the presence of burrowing owls exists at the site.

Cultural and Paleontological Resources

- Construction of the proposed subtransmission line route and telecommunications line could potentially impact 23 cultural resource sites, of which two are eligible for listing on the California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR). These two sites could be avoided during construction by shifting the proposed subtransmission line route within the Proposed Project Study Area or by spanning the site by not placing any new utility poles or access roads within site boundaries.
- There are no known human remains in the Project Study Area. There is a possibility that unidentified remains could be identified during grading or excavation activities.
- The proposed Fogarty Substation site is located on surface exposures of the fossiliferous Silverado Formation, which dates to the Paleocene Epoch, and is

overlain by a thin sedimentary veneer of Holocene alluvium. Although Holocene surface sediments in the Project Area have low paleontological sensitivity, the Silverado Formation has a high potential to contain significant paleontological resources and is assigned high paleontological sensitivity. Due to the high paleontological sensitivity of the area, ground disturbing construction activities have the potential to unearth a unique paleontological resource, the destruction of which would be a significant adverse impact.

Geology and Soils

- Geology and soil hazards potentially affecting the proposed project include fault rupture, strong earthquake groundshaking, liquefaction, ground cracking, and expansive soils.
- Soil erosion during construction activities is another potential impact, and would be addressed by SCE's best management practices.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- Hazardous materials that would be used during construction of the proposed subtransmission line would include gasoline, diesel fuel, oils, solvents, and lubricants from construction vehicles.
- There would also be a potential for release of paints, solvents, adhesives, or cleaning chemicals during construction.
- The hazards associated with excavating holes for the placement of poles for the proposed subtransmission line include accidental contact with existing underground gas lines.
- Construction of the proposed subtransmission line and telecommunications line could potentially interfere with emergency response by ambulance, fire, paramedic, and police vehicles at locations where subtransmission line stringing activities would occur. The temporary road and lane closures associated with construction activities could lengthen response times required for emergency vehicles passing through the construction zone.
- Construction of the proposed project could present a fire risk. Grasslands within and adjacent to the proposed project are prone to wildfires and could be ignited if proper fire prevention measures are not implemented. Fire risk during project construction could result from refueling, operating vehicles, and cigarette smoking. Fire risk could include ignitable material (packaging, etc.) that could be on site.

Hydrology and Water Quality

- Project construction activities could cause erosion and result in increased sedimentation in local drainages. .

Noise

- On-site noise during construction would occur primarily from heavy-duty diesel and gasoline powered construction equipment. Off-site noise would be generated from trucks delivering materials and equipment to the job-sites, as well as from vehicles used by workers commuting to and from the job sites.

- Operational noise would occur as a result of corona noise discharge from active electrical line, noise generated from substation activities, and noise generated from maintenance activities.
- On-site groundborne vibration and groundborne noise during construction would occur primarily from heavy-duty diesel and gasoline-powered construction equipment. Off-site groundborne vibration and groundborne noise would be generated from trucks delivering materials and equipment to the job-sites.

Public Services and Utilities

- Fire and emergency services and police services would be required to service the Proposed Project and Project Study Area during construction and operation.
- The construction of the Proposed Project could increase the risk of fire from vehicle traffic and construction equipment through the potential for sparks to ignite dry grasses.
- Operation of the Proposed Project would require fire and police services. Services could be required in the event of fire or vandalism.

Transportation and Traffic

- The Proposed Project would cause short-term, temporary construction-related traffic impacts where the subtransmission line crosses roadways, and where construction would be conducted within a road ROW. Traffic would be generated by construction worker commute trips and equipment deliveries. Hauling materials, such as poles, concrete, conductor, excavation spoils, and removed poles, would temporarily increase existing traffic volumes in the Project Study Area.
- Construction could result in roadway closures at locations where the construction activities, especially subtransmission line stringing, would be located within the ROWs of public streets and highways. There would be a possibility that roadway closures would be required over transportation routes during line stringing activities.

Cumulative Impacts

- The Project may contribute to cumulative impacts when the potential impacts identified above are considered along with impacts from other projects in the area.

E. Project Scoping Process and Scoping Meetings

The CPUC will conduct two public scoping meetings in the project area. Details on the time and location of the two scoping meetings are included below. Addresses and directions are included on the following page.

1-February 6, 2008 6 P.M. Prehearing Conference (PHC) followed by public scoping meeting

Lake Elsinore Cultural Center
183 North Main Street
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530

2- February 7, 2008 2 P.M. public scoping meeting

Bob Glass Gymnasium
101 North D Street
Perris, CA 92570

The purpose of the public meetings will be to describe the proposed project and to allow responsible agencies, interested agencies, and the general public the opportunity to comment on the scope, focus, and content of the EIR. These comments will be used to focus the environmental analysis in the EIR.

Comments on the scope and content of the EIR will be accepted for a period of 30 days from the date of the NOP as required by CEQA. Comments may be provided during the scoping meeting, mailed, faxed, or emailed to the CPUC during the 30-day comment period. Comments on the NOP may be mailed to the following address:

**Public Scoping Comments
RE: Ivyglen Project
130 Battery Street, Suite #400
San Francisco, CA 94111**

Emailed comments may be sent to the following address: ivyglen@ene.com. Faxed comments can be sent to the following number: (415)-981-0801. An information only voicemail is available at (591) 274-7293. Please include your name and mailing address at the bottom of the comment for mailed, faxed, and emailed comments and note the "Ivyglen Project."

Comments on the NOP must be received or postmarked by February 22nd 2008 to be accepted. No comments on the NOP will be accepted after the comment period is closed. Interested parties will have an additional opportunity to comment on the Ivyglen Project during the 45-day public review period to be held for the Draft EIR.

MEETING #1	
Date	February 6, 2008
Time	6 P.M. Prehearing Conference (PHC) followed by public scoping meeting
Location	Lake Elsinore Cultural Center 183 North Main Street Lake Elsinore, CA 92530
Directions	Take Main Street Exit from I-15 Turn right on North Main Street

MEETING #2	
Date	February 7, 2008
Time	2 P.M. public scoping meeting
Location	Bob Glass Gymnasium 101 North D Street Perris, CA 92570
Directions	Take D Street Exit from I-215 (Escondido Expy.)

F. Agency Comments

This NOP has been sent to responsible and trustee agencies, cooperating federal agencies, and the State Clearinghouse. We need to know the views of your agency as to the scope and content of the environmental information, which reflects your agency's statutory responsibilities in connection with the proposed Project. Once again, responses should identify the issues to be considered in the Draft EIR, including significant

environmental issues, alternatives, mitigation measures, and whether the responding agency will be a responsible agency or a trustee agency. Due to the time limits mandated by State laws, your response must be sent at the earliest possible date but no later than 30 days (February 22th, 2008) after receipt of this notice. Please send your response to:

**Public Scoping Comments
RE: Ivyglen Project
130 Battery Street, Suite #400
San Francisco, CA 94111**

The California Public Utilities Commission hereby issues this Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.

Jensen Uchida
California Public Utilities Commission

January 22nd , 2008

G. Additional Information

Information about the Proposed Project and the CEQA compliance process is available at the following Web site:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/electric/Environment/Current+Projects/index.htm>

The Web site will be used to post all public documents related to the EIR, including notices of public hearings. No public comments will be accepted on this Website.

However, the Web Site will provide a sign-up option for interested parties to be placed on the Project mailing list and a printable comment form. The Proponent's Environmental Assessment is available at the following Web site

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/electric/Environment/Current+Projects/index.htm>.

Information and documents related to the CPUC's rate case proceedings can be found at <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/PUC/energy/electric/rates+and+tariffs/>. The California Environmental Quality Act guidelines are available at the following website:

http://www.ceres.ca.gov/topic/env_law/ceqa/guidelines/ Appendix G, which serves as an environmental checklist for all CEQA documents is available here:
http://www.ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/guidelines/pdf/appendix_g-3.pdf

The California Public Utilities Commission hereby issues this Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report.