



June 2, 2023

Louis Torres
Project Manager
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Monthly Report Summary #65 for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project

Dear Mr. Torres:

This report summarizes the compliance monitoring activities that occurred during the period from **March 1 to 31, 2023**, for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project in Orange County, California. Compliance monitoring was performed once between March 1 and 31, 2023, to ensure all project-related activities conducted by San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) and its contractors were in compliance with the Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the SOCRE Project, as adopted by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on December 15, 2016.

The CPUC has issued the following Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for the SOCRE Project to SDG&E:

- NTP-1 (October 13, 2017): Geotechnical investigation and hazardous materials abatement at the future San Juan Capistrano Substation.
- NTP-2 (December 18, 2017): Conduct site preparation activities and construction staging at the future San Juan Capistrano Substation.
- NTP-2 Addendum 1 (March 23, 2018): Modified alignment of the interior fence separating the upper and lower yards, removal of three de-energized 138-kilovolt (kV) rack structures and associated hazardous materials abatement activities.
- NTP-3 (April 27, 2018): Rebuild and upgrade of the San Juan Capistrano Substation.
- NTP-4 (October 29, 2018): Transmission and distribution line work.
- NTP-5 (July 26, 2019): Installation of the 138-kV and 230-kV eastern getaways and removal and installation of 12-kV distribution lines.
- NTP-6 (October 30, 2019): Removal and replacement of the existing 138-kV transmission line with a new double-circuit 230-kV transmission line from Rancho Viejo Road southeast to pole 41.
- NTP-6 Addendum 1 (September 29, 2020): Extension of the scope of NTP-6 to pole 42, located just north of the Talega Hub and outside of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.
- NTP-7 (February 4, 2021): Installation of two 230-kV transmission lines, reconfiguration of three 138-kV lines, and relocation of a 69-kV line within the Talega Hub and Corridor.

The WSP USA Inc. (WSP) compliance monitoring team completed onsite compliance checks during this reporting period to verify compliance of ongoing site preparation and construction activities. The CPUC/WSP compliance monitoring team visited the San Juan Capistrano Substation site and other

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project construction areas on March 22, 2023. The WSP site inspection report that summarizes observed construction activities and compliance events, as applicable, and verifies mitigation measures (MMs) and applicant proposed measures (APMs) were completed for the site visits. This report is attached below (Attachment 1).

Project activities in March 2023 were covered under NTP-3, NTP-4, NTP-6 and NTP-7. At the Capistrano Substation (NTP-3) the 230-kV gas-insulated substation (GIS) equipment installation was completed. The control room equipment continued to be installed throughout the month of March 2023. Cables and jumpers were pulled and terminated in the 230-kV GIS building. The GIS Enclosure electrical was installed. Construction on the Transformer bank 61 and 62 pads and associated containment walls was conducted. Other activities such as placement of security pull boxes, conduit placement, restoration on the former utility structure, Hi Pot testing, and 230-kV point-to-point testing were conducted. At the Long Park and Westport complex (NTP-4), lane stripping on Camino Capistrano was conducted. There was construction staging at the La Pata Staging Area (NTP-6). At the Talega Hub and corridor, groundwork consisted of adding grading pads, as well as refreshing existing access roads and installation of water bars and dissipators. The soldier wall at Location 18A and Vendura wall at Location 13A was constructed.

In addition, SDG&E conducted routine inspection, maintenance, and monitoring activities in March 2023. Inspection activities included weekly Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) inspections at all construction activity areas to ensure there were no best management practice (BMP) deficiencies or potential non-compliance incidents. Rain events occurred on March 1, 14, 15, 19-22 and 29-30. BMP maintenance took place at the San Juan Capistrano Substation and La Pata Staging areas. Sediment and erosion control barriers were installed on the northern and southern access roads, as well as on the eastern slope of the Project. Fiber rolls were replaced at both the northern and southern entrances to the San Juan Capistrano Substation and throughout sites in-progress in anticipation of rain events.

SDG&E conducted monitoring, as applicable, for cultural, paleontological, and biological resources. Cultural monitoring was conducted while drilling and installing a pole at Location 43. No observations of cultural resources or non-compliance incidents were noted by the monitor during this month's reporting period. Paleontological monitoring occurred at ground-disturbing activities at Locations 6B 9A, 10A, 18A, 43, 45, and 50. Paleontological observations made during the month of March 2023 included the Santiago formation at Location 45. No non-compliance incidents were noted by the monitor during this month's reporting period for paleontological resources. Biological monitoring and daily pre-construction sweeps were conducted in March 2023. No active bird nests, burrowing owl nests, or biological non-compliance incidents were recorded in this reporting period.

Project compliance during the March 2023 monitoring period was achieved through regular communication with and reporting by SDG&E. Communication between the CPUC/WSP compliance team and SDG&E has been regular and effective. SDG&E's monthly environmental compliance report for March 2023 provides a compliance summary and includes a description of construction activities, a look-ahead construction schedule, a monthly biological monitoring report, a summary of compliance with project commitments (MMs/APMs), a summary of non-compliance incidents and public complaints (as applicable), a record of SOCRE Project personnel that received safety and environmental awareness training during the reporting month, and a list of upcoming or pending Minor Project Refinements (MPRs) and outstanding agency deliverables.

Overall, the SOCRE Project has maintained compliance with the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) based on adherence to applicable MMs and APMs and satisfaction of pre-construction requirements and conditions of approval for NTP-1, NTP-2, NTP-2 Addendum 1,



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NTP-3, NTP-4, NTP-5, NTP-6, NTP-6 Addendum 1, NTP-7, MPR-1, MPR-1 Addendum 1, MPR-1 Addendum 2, MPR-3, MPR-4, MPR-5, MPR-6, MPR-7, MPR-8, MPR-9, MPR-10, MPR-11, MPR-12, and MPR-13, MPR-14, and MPR-15.

Compliance Incidents

No compliance incidents were reported during March 2023.

Public Concerns

No public concerns were reported during March 2023.

Minor Approvals

The CPUC authorized MPR Request-16 on March 31, 2023, including the use of a new temporary work area north of Talega Substation as a staging area to facilitate NTP-7 construction activities.

Furthermore, SDG&E submitted MPR Request-17 for the SOCRE Project on March 16, 2023. MPR-17 would include the use of three new temporary work areas in the Talega Hub to facilitate corrugated metal pipe installations during NTP-7 foundation construction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fernando Guzman', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Fernando Guzman
CPUC Compliance Manager, WSP

cc: Richard Quasarano, Environmental Project Manager, SDG&E



ATTACHMENT 1

CPUC Site Inspection Reports



South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project CPUC Site Inspection Form

Project:	South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project	Date:	March 22, 2023
Project Proponent:	San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)	Report #:	VS159
Lead Agency:	California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)	Monitor(s):	CPUC/WSP Compliance Monitor
CPUC PM:	Louis Torres, Energy Division	AM/PM Weather:	Overcast, cool and breezy following recent rains
CPUC CM (WSP):	Fernando Guzman	Start/End time:	1300 – 1600 hrs
Project NTP(s):	Notice to Proceed (NTP)-1, NTP-2, NTP-2 Addendum 1, NTP-3, NTP-4, and NTP-5		

SITE INSPECTION CHECKLIST (Based on monitor's observations during site visit; responses do not imply that monitor observed all staff, crews, and parts of the project during this inspection)

Safety and Environmental Awareness Program (SEAP)	Yes	No	N/A
Is the WEAP training in place and does it appear to have been completed by all new hires (construction and monitors)?	X		
Erosion and Dust Control (Air and Water Quality)	Yes	No	N/A
Have temporary erosion and sediment control measures (Best Management Practices [BMPs]) been installed?	X		
Are erosion and sediment control measures (BMPs) properly installed (without apparent deficiencies) and functioning as intended during rain events?	X		
Are measures in place to avoid/minimize mud tracking onto public roadways, in accordance with the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)?	X		
Is dust control being implemented (i.e., access roads watered, haul trucks covered, soil piles are tarped, streets cleaned on a regular basis)?	X		
Are work areas being effectively watered prior to excavation or grading?	X		
Are measures in place to stabilize soils and effectively suppress fugitive dust?	X		
Equipment	Yes	No	N/A
Are observed vehicles maintaining a speed limit of 15 miles per hour on unpaved roads?	X		
Are observed vehicles/equipment arriving onsite clean of sediment or plant debris?	X		
Are observed vehicles/equipment turned off when not in use?	X		
Work Areas	Yes	No	N/A
Is exclusionary fencing or flagging in place to protect sensitive biological or cultural resources?	X		
Are observed vehicles, equipment, and construction personnel staying within approved work areas and on approved roads?	X		



Are excavations and trenches covered at the end of the day?	X		
Are wildlife escape ramps installed at 100-foot intervals with ramps not exceeding 2:1 slopes?	X		
Biology	Yes	No	N/A
Have preconstruction surveys been completed for biological (coastal California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, southwestern will flycatcher, rare plants) resources, as appropriate?	X		
Are biological monitors present onsite?	X		
Are appropriate measures in place to protect sensitive habitat and/or drainages (i.e., flagging, signage, exclusion fencing, biological monitor, appropriate buffer distance enacted)?	X		
Have wildlife been relocated from work areas? If yes, describe below.	X		
Have impacts occurred to adjacent habitat (sensitive or non-sensitive)? If yes, describe below.	X		
Were any threatened or endangered species observed? If yes, describe below.		X	
If there are wetlands or water bodies near construction activities, are adequate measures in place to avoid impacts on these features?	X		
Have there been any work stoppages for biological resources? If yes, describe below.		X	
Cultural and Paleontological Resources	Yes	No	N/A
Are identified cultural/paleo resources that will not be relocated/salvaged clearly marked for exclusion?			X
Are archaeological and paleontological monitors onsite if needed?	X		
Are appropriate buffers maintained around sensitive resources (e.g., cultural sites)?			X
Have there been any work stoppages for cultural/paleo resources? If yes, describe below.		X	
Hazardous Materials	Yes	No	N/A
Are hazardous materials that are stored or used on site properly managed?	X		
Are procedures in place to prevent spills and accidental releases?	X		
Are required fire prevention and control measures in place?	X		
Are contaminated soils properly managed for onsite storage or offsite disposal?	X		
Work Hours and Noise	Yes	No	N/A
Are required night lighting reduction measures in place?			X
Is construction occurring within approved hours?	X		
Are required noise control measures in place?			X

AREAS MONITORED (i.e., structure numbers, yards, or substations)
San Juan Capistrano Substation and SOCRE transmission line work.

DESCRIPTION OF OBSERVED ACTIVITIES (i.e., mitigation measures [MMs] of particular focus or concern, construction activity, any discussions with first-party monitors or construction crews)

I arrived at the substation at 1300 hours and met with the Environmental Inspector (EI). Since my last site visit on March 28, the rainy weather had continued, creating muddy conditions at the substation and shutting down the Phase II work.

The exit/entry best management practices (BMPs) appeared to be in good condition (Photo 1), and street sweepers were operating in the public roadway.

Work continued within the new substation, and some fire wall installation had been completed around the transformer location (Photo 2). The EI indicated that the transformers may be delivered and set within the next one or two weeks. Large quantities of material for the transformers had been delivered to the site (Photo 3).


The site remained wet and muddy, and the environmental team was encouraging crewmembers to park outside the project site (Photo 4).

Crews were waiting for the Phase II area to dry out before beginning work again (Photo 5). Some BMP upgrades had been completed, but the large amount of rain had overwhelmed most of the BMPs (Photos 6 & 7). A new straw wattle placed along the edge of a tower pad helped stop a rill from enlarging (Photo 8). I discussed some additional BMPs with the EI; however, the muddy site conditions made accessing and working in the area difficult.

A number of slides and slumps along the existing access roads had caused problems for the crews and will need to be cleaned up before work can continue. Work crews had cut water bars and added straw wattles along some of the access roads at the east end of the project area (Photo 9).



Equipment remained parked at the 18A tower site; all equipment had drip pans underneath (Photo 10).

<p>MITIGATION MEASURES VERIFIED (Refer to the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program [MMCRP], e.g., MM BIO-5. Report only on MMs pertinent to your observations today)</p> <p>All project personnel have been through the environmental training with hardhat stickers (MM HAZ-3, MM CUL-1).</p>
<p>RECOMMENDED FOLLOW-UP (i.e., items to check on next visit, minor issues to resolve)</p> <p>Check on BMPS, site monitors and erosion control measures.</p>
<p>COMPLIANCE SUGGESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS (i.e., suggestions to improve compliance on-site, environmental observations of note)</p>
<p>COMPLIANCE SUMMARY</p> <p>Check all applicable boxes below to indicate new conditions or issues that have occurred since your last visit. Note this information on the monitoring datasheet and document with photographs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New biological or cultural discovery requiring compliance with MMs, permit conditions, etc.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Potential compliance incident(s) observed. Document incident(s) and potential for environmental resources to be impacted.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New non-compliance issues reported by SDG&E monitors since your last visit. Describe issues and resolution under “compliance suggestions or additional observations” (above) and include SDG&E report identification number.</p>
<p>PREVIOUS NON-COMPLIANCE ITEMS REQUIRING FOLLOW-UP OR RESOLVED TODAY:</p>


REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
3/23/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 1 – Exit/Entry BMPs remain in place and are functioning. Photo facing west.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
3/23/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 2 – Some firewall installation has been completed around the transformer locations. Photo facing north.
3/23/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 3 – Materials are being brought in for the new transformers. Photo facing northwest.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
3/23/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 4 – Staging area east of the new substation. Photo facing west.
3/23/23	SOCRE Project – Phase 2		Photo 5 – Overview of the main Phase II work area. Photo facing east.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
3/23/23	SOCRE Project – Phase 2		Photo 6 – BMPs within the drainage. Photo facing east.
3/23/23	SOCRE Project – Phase 2		Photo 7 – BMPs within the drainage. Photo facing east.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
3/23/23	SOCRE Project – Phase 2		Photo 8 – Straw wattle installed to alleviate riling off a newly built tower pad. Photo facing north.
3/23/23	SOCRE Project – Phase 2		Photo 9 – Access roads at the east end of the Phase 2 work area. Photo facing northeast.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
3/23/23	SOCRE Project – Phase 2		Photo 10 – Parked equipment at the 18A TSP site. Photo facing south.

Completed by:	CPUC/WSP Compliance Monitor
Date:	3/29/23

Reviewed by:	Manager
Date:	03/29/23