



December 27, 2023

Andrew Chan
Project Manager
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: Monthly Report Summary #72 for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project

Dear Mr. Chan:

This report summarizes the compliance monitoring activities that occurred during the period from **October 1 to 31, 2023**, for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project in Orange County, California. Compliance monitoring was performed once between October 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 an onsite compliance check 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 October 19, 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) was completed for the site visit. This report is attached below (Attachment 1).

Project activities in October 2023 were covered under NTP-3, NTP-4, NTP-5, and NTP-7. Work at the San Juan Capistrano Substation included ground gridding east of the 230-kV gas-insulated substation (GIS); installing primary cable at the 230-kV capacitor banks; removing wooden poles; continuing functional trip testing; excavating and installing lighting conduit; installing fiber cables, firewall grout, wall drains, and screen wall barbed wire; installing the southeast roll up door framing on the 230-kV GIS; installing historical building electrical supply; continuing 138-kV fence removal; retesting 230-kV wire changes; RFS wire Z222799 through Z228471 and Z228472; RFS wire Z228472 through Z120040; and transmission work. Work under NTP-4 included changing out pull box 3316 insert; wrecking out pole butts; redirecting conduit from the east side of pole 260222 to the west side; and RFS overhead conductor work. Work under NTP-5 included RFS overhead conductor work from Location 4. Work under NTP-7 included mobilizing a crane to the San Juan Capistrano Substation site; setting poles 12A, 45, and 46; digging, framing, and setting temporary poles at Locations 118, 1S, and 2S; preparing for outage work; digging and setting poles in concrete at Location 109; excavating trench and installing conduit at Location 109; and pulling wire, and dead-end lines between Locations 10A and 13A.

In addition, SDG&E conducted routine inspection, maintenance, and monitoring activities in October 2023. Inspection activities included weekly Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan inspections at all construction activity areas to ensure there were no best management practice deficiencies or potential non-compliance incidents. No rain events took place in October. SDG&E conducted monitoring, as applicable, for cultural and paleontological resources. Cultural monitoring was conducted during excavation for pole setting and ground anchors at Location 43 and for trenching at Location 109. Paleontological monitoring was completed during digging and trenching at Locations 43 and 109. No non-compliance incidents were noted by the monitors during this month's reporting period for cultural and paleontological resources.

SDG&E conducted monitoring, as applicable, for biological resources. Several observations were made during the month of October:

- Pre-construction sweeps were performed as necessary within the Cow Camp Staging Area. No special-status species were observed.
- Pre-construction surveys for nesting birds were not conducted during the reporting period as no work took place in areas requiring surveys during the nesting season.
- Burrowing owl surveys were conducted prior to ground-disturbing activities concurrently with pre-construction nesting bird surveys. No burrowing owls or nests were observed in October.
- A pre-construction sweep for arroyo toad was performed within the Cristianitos South Staging Area on the morning of October 2 after approximately 0.1 inches of precipitation on September 30. No toads were detected.
- No wildlife mortalities occurred in October.

Project compliance during the October 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 October 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 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, 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, MPR-15, and MPR-16, MPR-17, MPR-18, MPR-19, MPR-20, and MPR-21.

Compliance Incidents

No compliance incidents were reported during October 2023.

Public Concerns

No public concerns were reported during October 2023.

Minor Approvals

No minor approval requested were received during the reporting period of October 2023.

Sincerely,



Fernando Guzman
CPUC Compliance Manager, WSP

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

ATTACHMENT 1

CPUC Site Inspection Reports

October 19, 2023



South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project CPUC Site Inspection Form

Project:	South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project	Date:	October 19, 2023
Project Proponent:	San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)	Report #:	VS170
Lead Agency:	California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)	Monitor(s):	CPUC/WSP Compliance Monitor
CPUC PM:	Andrew Chan, Energy Division	AM/PM Weather:	Sunny, warm, and calm
CPUC CM (WSP):	Fernando Guzman	Start/End time:	1130 to 1315
Project NTP(s):	Notice to Proceed (NTP)-1, NTP-2, NTP-2 Addendum 1, NTP-3, NTP-4, NTP-5, NTP-6, and NTP-7		

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

<p>AREAS MONITORED (i.e., structure numbers, yards, or substations)</p> <p>San Juan Capistrano Substation and SOCRE transmission line work.</p>
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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 onsite at 1130 and met with the onsite Environmental Inspector.

A small portion of the southern earthen wall on site remained incomplete, awaiting installation of the final tubular steel pole (TSP) (Photo 1).

Clean-up activity was underway around the new substation (Photo 2), and an excavator was removing the final stockpiled soil (Photo 3).

Barriers and fencing were being installed around the buildings and along the interior roadways of the San Juan Capistrano Substation (Photo 4).

I drove to the Phase II work area as crews were preparing to pull wire. I met with the Lead Environmental Inspector (LEI) and we drove around the site. Many pieces of equipment were present onsite (Photos 5 and 6). The LEI stated that a biologist sweeps the project area prior to work beginning in the morning. No animals have been observed. I observed the TSP 47 pad site and access road (Photo 7).

A TSP near the Talega substation had been recently installed (Photo 8). Temporary coverings had been installed around the 12-inch TSP excavation and the foundation will be poured with concrete.

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)

All project personnel have been through the environmental training with hardhat stickers (MM HAZ-3, MM CUL-1).

RECOMMENDED FOLLOW-UP (i.e., items to check on next visit, minor issues to resolve)

COMPLIANCE SUGGESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS (i.e., suggestions to improve compliance on-site, environmental observations of note)


COMPLIANCE SUMMARY
 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.

New biological or cultural discovery requiring compliance with MMs, permit conditions, etc.

Potential compliance incident(s) observed. Document incident(s) and potential for environmental resources to be impacted.

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.

PREVIOUS NON-COMPLIANCE ITEMS REQUIRING FOLLOW-UP OR RESOLVED TODAY:

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
10/19/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 1 – A portion of the southern earthen wall awaiting stabilization. Photo facing south.

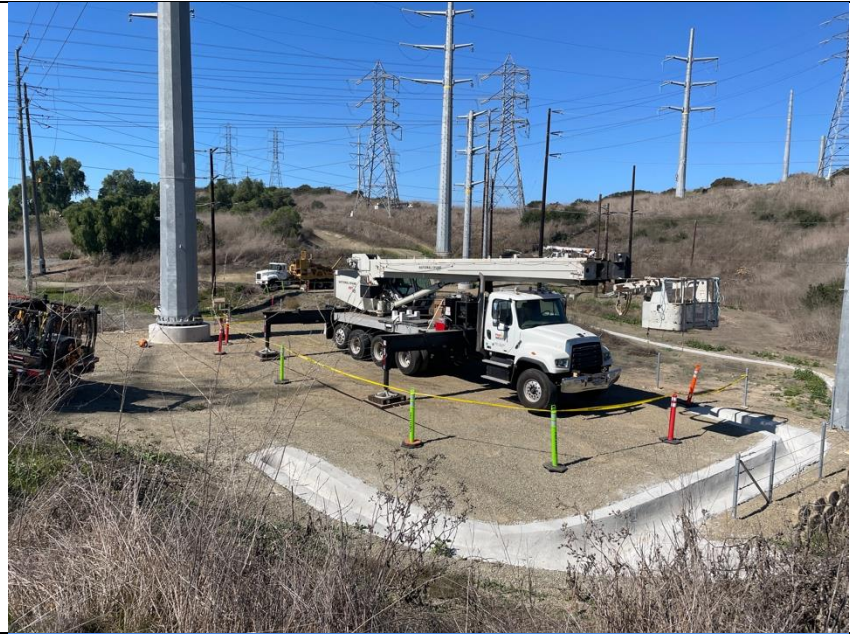

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Date	Location	Photo	Description
10/19/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 2 – Clean-up continued around the new substation. Photo facing south.
10/19/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 3 – An excavator removing stockpiled soil. Photo facing west.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Date	Location	Photo	Description
10/19/23	SOCRE Project		Photo 4 – Work continuing on fencing and barrier installation. Photo facing northwest.
10/19/23	SOCRE Project – Phase II		Photo 5 – Equipment parked at the Phase II work area preparing to pull wire. Photo facing east.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Date	Location	Photo	Description
10/19/23	SOCRE Project – Phase II		Photo 6 – Equipment at the Phase II work area preparing to pull wire. Photo facing northwest.
10/19/23	SOCRE Project – Phase II		Photo 7 – TSP 47. Photo facing east.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Date	Location	Photo	Description
10/19/23	SOCRE Project – Phase II		Photo 8 – Newly installed TSP near the Talega substation with temporary coverings in place. Photo facing east.

Completed by:	CPUC/WSP Compliance Monitor
Date:	11/06/23

Reviewed by:	Manager
Date:	XX11/08/23