

Southern California Edison

*A.23-03-005 – SCE's Application For A Permit To Construct Electrical Facilities With Voltages
Between 50 kV and 200 kV: Cal City Project*

DATA REQUEST SET E D - S C E - 0 0 1

To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Sheridan Mascarenhas
Job Title: Senior Advisor
Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 02:

Can Edwards Substation currently receive power from the tap to Southbase Substation?

Response to Question 02:

Southbase Substation cannot provide power to Edwards Substation. Southbase Substation is served power through a single 115 kV line emanating from Edwards Substation, which ultimately receives power from Kramer Substation. As there is no other power source to Southbase Substation, power can only flow from Edwards Substation to Southbase Substation, and not from Southbase Substation to Edwards Substation.

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To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Sheridan Mascarenhas
Job Title: Senior Advisor
Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 03:

The discussion indicates that the Project would improve reliability at Edwards Substation by constructing a new second source line to Edwards Substation from Holgate Switchyard. Would reliability at Edwards Substation also be improved from the new line from California City Substation?

Response to Question 03:

Reliability at Edwards Substation will be improved from the new loop formed by the proposed Kramer-Cal City 115 kV Subtransmission Line and the Cal City-Edwards-Holgate 115 kV Subtransmission Line. The Kramer-Cal City 115 kV Line will extend from Kramer Substation to Cal City Substation and the Cal City-Edwards-Holgate 115 kV Line will extend from Holgate Switchyard, connecting to both Edwards and Cal City Substations. These two new lines will form a loop connecting Kramer, Cal City, and Edwards Substations and Holgate Switchyard. The reliability at Edwards Substation will be improved via this loop because during an outage of either the Kramer to Holgate 115 kV Subtransmission Line or the line segment between Holgate Switchyard and the Edwards tap of the Cal City-Edwards- Holgate 115 kV Subtransmission Line power could still flow to Edwards Substation via Kramer Substation to Cal City Substation and then Cal City Substation to Edwards Substation.

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DATA REQUEST SET E D - S C E - 0 0 1

To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Jonathan Samson
Job Title: Project Engineer
Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 04:

The image of the upper right pole appears to illustrate a double circuit configuration with six conductors, but the figure indicates it is a single circuit configuration; please clarify.

Response to Question 04:

The figure is a profile view of a single circuit dead-end structure. The conductors on each side of the structure represent the same circuit dead-ending into the pole. Jumpers would connect the conductors on each side of the pole.

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To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Jonathan Samson
Job Title: Project Engineer
Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 05:

The footnote on page 3-16 discusses a proposed battery energy storage system (BESS) project adjacent to Cal City Substation site as “part of the interim mitigation projects described in Chapter 2.” This is not described in Chapter 2. Please provide additional information about BESS project and clarification about how it relates to SCE’s Project

Response to Question 05:

SCE is planning to build and operate a battery energy storage system (BESS) to provide some short-term loading capacity for the Cal City Electrical Needs Area (ENA), prior to the Cal City Substation 115 kV Upgrade Project coming online. The BESS and Cal City 115 kV Substation projects have independent utility; the projects are not connected nor reliant upon each other.

The BESS will be approximately 3MW, 6MWh with a targeted operating date of 2025. The project is currently in the planning stage and the exact size and location are not yet known.

The BESS would provide some loading relief but would not be sufficient to meet the 10-year forecast need of the Cal City Substation portion of the ENA, similar to the other mitigation projects described in PEA Section 2.1.2.3. The BESS would not be a substitute for the long-term solution provided by the Proposed Project.

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To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Jonathan Samson
Job Title: Project Engineer
Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 06:

The discussion indicates all poles would be in single circuit configuration but Figure 3.4-5a shows at least one double circuit pole. Please clarify.

Response to Question 06:

Most poles will be a single-circuit configuration; however, there will be seven TSPs that are double-circuited. PEA section 3.3.4.2.1 states the new Cal City-Edwards-Holgate 115 kV Subtransmission Line will include installation of “approximately 463 single-circuit LWS poles (including LWS H-Frames) and TSPs.” Footnote 3 of Table 3-3, “Structures to be Installed,” states that seven out of 16 TSPs will be shared (double circuit) by both the Cal City-Edwards-Holgate 115 kV and Cal City-Kramer 115 kV Subtransmission Lines, entering Cal City Substation from the north.

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To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Jonathan Samson
Job Title: Project Engineer
Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 07:

The discussion states that “no temporary or permanent gates are proposed,” but gates are described elsewhere as proposed for staging areas and for California City Substation. Please clarify.

Response to Question 07:

The discussion in PEA Section **3.5.1.2.3 New Access Roads: Gates** is specific to temporary or permanent gates for new access roads: no temporary or permanent gates are proposed for new access roads as part of the Proposed Project. However, gates are proposed for certain staging areas and for Cal City Substation:

Please refer to PEA Section **3.5.2.2.3. Staging Area: Security** for a description of proposed gates at staging areas.

Please refer to PEA Section **3.5.7.1.6 Gates** for a description of proposed gates at Cal City Substation.

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To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Jonathan Samson
Job Title: Project Engineer
Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 08:

Approximately how many distribution poles would be topped?

Response to Question 08:

SCE does not currently anticipate topping off any distribution poles. The determination as to whether any distribution poles will need to be topped will be made during the final engineering project phase.

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DATA REQUEST SET E D - S C E - 0 0 1

**To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Alexander Podruski
Job Title: Construction Advisor
Received Date: 4/14/2023**

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 09:

Describe who the anticipated water provider would be.

Response to Question 09:

As described in Section 5.19.4.2.2 of the PEA and data request response 1-24, the exact source of construction water supply is not known at this time. Contractors will select a water supplier closer to the start of construction. However, water is likely to be obtained from water suppliers in the region, specifically City of California City, Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK), or Mojave Water Agency (MWA), all of which have service areas covering the Proposed Project. Both AVEK and MWA are water wholesalers that provide water to various smaller local water purveyors in the region. The Proposed Project does not include construction or operation of any new groundwater extraction wells.

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DATA REQUEST SET E D - S C E - 0 0 1

To: Energy Division

Prepared by: Rey Gonzales

Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 12:

Provide the time, date, camera details, and height for each viewpoint. A general date range [March-August 2022] was provided but it is unclear if/how this corresponds to the photographs used for Figure 5.1-2.

Response to Question 12:

The time, date, height, and camera details for each Figure 5.1-2 photograph are identified in attachment *A.23-003-005 ED-SCE-001 Q. 12_ Viewpoint Photo and Camera Data.pdf*.

The following table describes the date, time, and height of all viewpoint photographs shown in Figure 5.1-2 of the PEA.

Viewpoint	Date	Time	Height (above ground surface) in feet
1	August 7, 2022	10:24 AM	5
2	March 3, 2022	12:07 PM	5
3	March 3, 2022	12:17 PM	5
4	March 4, 2022	2:39 PM	5
5	March 4, 2022	2:31 PM	5
6	March 4, 2022	2:18 PM	5
7	March 4, 2022	1:12 PM	5
8	March 4, 2022	12:44 PM	5
9	August 8, 2022	1:21 PM	5
10	August 7, 2022	10:59 AM	5
11	August 8, 2022	1:05 PM	5
12	August 7, 2022	11:31 AM	5
13	March 3, 2022	2:29 PM	5
14	March 4, 2022	12:29 PM	5
15	March 4, 2022	12:14 PM	5
16	March 3, 2022	11:59 AM	5
17	March 3, 2022	11:39 AM	5
18	March 3, 2022	11:21 AM	5

The following table provides camera details. These details apply to all images collected and described above.

Camera Type	Model	Shutter Speed	ISO	EXP	Flash/ No Flash
Canon	EOS Rebel T8i 31 mm f/9	1/400 sec	100	0	No flash

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Prepared by: Rey Gonzales

Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 13:

Provide a pdf version of Appendix B.

Response to Question 13:

A PDF version of Appendix B – Emissions Calculations, was included in Volume 5 of the PEA in SCE's original submittal.

Southern California Edison

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DATA REQUEST SET ED - SCE - 001

To: Energy Division

Prepared by: Rey Gonzales

Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 15:

The text mentions Figure set 5.4-1 through 5.4-3; however, no such figures were included in the PEA. Please provide the missing Figure set 5.4-1 through 5.4-3.

Response to Question 15:

Figure sets 5.4-1 Project Study Area (*A. 23-003-005 ED-SCE-001 Q. 15_ Project Study Area_ Figure 5.4-1*), 5.4-2 Vegetation Communities (*A. 23-003-005 ED-SCE-001 Q. 15_ Vegetation Communities_ Figure 5.4-2*), and 5.4-3 Special Status Species Habitat (*A. 23-003-005 ED-SCE-001 Q. 15_ Special Status Species Habitat_ Figure 5.4.3*) are attached to this data request.

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Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

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Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 16:

Table 5.4-2 remove Global ranking for Nevada Joint Fir to ensure consistency in table.

Response to Question 16:

The global ranking has been removed and a revised Table 5.4-2 is attached to this data request (*A. 23-003-005 ED-SCE-001 Q. 16_Table 5.4-2 Natural Communities*).

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Question 17:

The BLM Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan (DRECP) serves as a habitat conservation plan (HCP) for the entire Project site, as described in Appendix A of the Biological Resources Technical Report; however, PEA Section 5.4.4.2.6 states that there are no adopted HCPs or natural community conservation plans within the study area. Please clarify. Note as the Project area is within the California Desert Area Plan and covered by the record of decision for the DRECP, this also applies to the visual resources methodology.

Response to Question 17:

The DRECP is being implemented in two phases. Phase I consisted of the BLM Land Use Plan Amendment (LUPA) to the California Desert Conservation Plan (CDCA), Bishop Resource Management Plan, and Bakersfield Resource Management Plan. Phase II will consist of adopting a General Conservation Plan (GCP) for approximately 5.5 million acres of non-federal land and a Conceptual Plan-Wide Natural Community Conservation Plan (NCCP) that encompasses the entire DRECP plan area. The GCP, which would be developed by the USFWS, would function as a Section 10 (ESA) Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for issuing ITPs; however, this is still a planned approach that has not yet been implemented and was not included in Phase I of the DRECP (the LUPA). Therefore, we do not consider the DRECP as an HCP in this analysis. Nonetheless, Proposed Project consistency with applicable policies of the DRECP is analyzed in Section 5.11, Land Use and Planning, of the PEA.

Visual Resources methodology is described in Section 5.1 - Aesthetics. SCE will also consult with Energy Division and BLM on visual resources methodology.

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Question 18:

Provide electronic copies of the following references: Wesson et al. 2021 report and the Urbana Preservation & Planning 2021 report.

Response to Question 18:

Given the confidential nature of these documents, electronic copies of these references will be provided in response to this data request from SCE's Archaeologist directly to Energy Division Consultant Archaeologist, Ashleigh Sims.

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Question 21:

Please send additional geotechnical reports for remaining Project components when they are available.

Response to Question 21:

To date, only one geotechnical report has been prepared for the Proposed Project. This geotechnical report covers Proposed Project components at Cal City Substation and is appended to the PEA as Appendix P. Geotechnical reports prepared in support of other Proposed Project components (e.g., subtransmission scope elements) will be provided to Energy Division upon completion.

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Question 24:

The section states that construction is estimated to require approximately 476 acre-feet of water. Please clarify what proportion of this estimated water would be sourced through groundwater. If recycled water is proposed for use, clarify the anticipated source for reclaimed or recycled water.

Response to Question 24:

As described in PEA Section 5.19.4.2.2 and in response to this data request, question 9, the exact source of construction water supply is not known at this time. Contractors will select a water supplier closer to the start of construction. However, water is likely to be obtained from water suppliers in the region, specifically the City of California City, Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK), or Mojave Water Agency (MWA), all of which have service areas covering the Proposed Project. Both AVEK and MWA are water wholesalers that provide water to various smaller local water purveyors in the region. The Proposed Project does not include construction or operation of any new groundwater extraction wells.

Based on a review of each water supplier’s Urban Water Management Plan, approximately 88 percent of the City of California City's water supply, approximately 5 percent of AVEK's water supply, and approximately 66 percent of MWA's water supply would be obtained from groundwater in 2025 (the closest year to Proposed Project construction for which water supply projections are available) (City of California City 2017, AVEK 2021, MWA 2021). For purposes of estimating potential groundwater use, it is assumed that construction within California City limits (approximately 37 percent of Proposed Project alignment) would source water from the City of California City, construction within unincorporated Kern County (approximately 34 percent of Proposed Project alignment) would source water directly or indirectly from AVEK, and construction within unincorporated San Bernardino County (approximately 29 percent of Proposed Project alignment) would source water directly or indirectly from MWA. Based on these percentages and the percentage of each supplier’s supply sourced from groundwater in 2025, it is estimated that approximately 254 acre-feet (approximately 53%) of the Proposed Project's 476-acre-foot temporary construction demand would be sourced through groundwater.

As described in Section 5.10.4.2.2 of the PEA, SCE would preferentially purchase recycled water, if and when such supply is available. The City of California City currently produces tertiary treated recycled water for golf course irrigation and is one potential source of recycled/reclaimed water that may be used during Proposed Project construction.

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Question 26:

The figure appears to list the Russell I as a prospect. This is the active Rio Tinto (also known as 20 Mule Team borax) mine operated by U.S. Borax. The Project is adjacent but does not cross the mine footprint. Please clarify

Response to Question 26:

Figure 5.12-1 was created using the latest available data from the United States Geological Survey's (USGS's) Mineral Resources Data System (MRDS). Note 2 from Table 5.12-1 indicates that the Rio Tinto Borax Mine is represented by the Russel I and Vanuray prospects and that these activities occur approximately 1 mile from the Proposed Project.

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Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 27:

Figure 5-12: The figure identifies an active sand gravel pit along Interstate 395. No such mine is visible on aerial images of the area.

Response to Question 27:

Figure 5.12-1 does not indicate any active sand gravel pits along Interstate 395. Figure 5.12-1 was created using the latest available data from the USGS's MRDS.

SCE concurs that aerial images of the area do not indicate the presence of a sand and gravel producer along U.S. 395.

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To: Energy Division

Prepared by: Rey Gonzales

Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 28:

Provide a kmz file with data showing identified sensitive receptor locations on Figure 5.13-1 relative to the Project alignments and alternatives.

Response to Question 28:

A KMZ file containing the sensitive receptor locations depicted on Figure 5.13-1 is attached to this Data Request response (*A. 23-03-005 ED-SCE-01 Q. 28_Sensitive Receptor Locations_Figure 5.13-1*).

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Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

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Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 29:

Were the noise measurements taken at sensitive receptors? Please provide the basis for choosing the measurement locations.

Response to Question 29:

As described in PEA Section 5.13.1.2.2, noise monitoring was conducted in two locations to characterize existing ambient noise levels in the vicinity of sensitive receptors.

Monitoring Location 1 is located approximately 300 feet south of the Cal City Substation and approximately 440 feet north of the intersection of Mendiburu Road and Hacienda Boulevard. This location was selected to capture the existing operational noise levels of the substation in the vicinity of the nearest sensitive receptors—existing residences and California City High School—located near the intersection of Mendiburu Road and Hacienda Boulevard. The noise monitor was placed on SCE-owned property between the substation and these sensitive receptors.

Monitoring Location 2 is located approximately 165 feet west of the intersection of Suckow Road and Claymine Road. This location was selected to capture existing ambient noise levels in the vicinity of residential uses that would be located proximate to 115 kV construction activities.

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Received Date: 4/14/2023

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Question 30:

What are the five measurements at each 20-minute interval for the long-term measurement data presented in Appendix M?

Response to Question 30:

Noise measurements were recorded at 4-minute intervals between each timestamp recorded in PEA Appendix M.

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Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Received Date: 4/14/2023

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Question 31:

Would the construction/operational workforce be sourced through the local area or would there be a need for temporary relocation. If possible, provide the approximate distance construction workers would travel to the site.

Response to Question 31:

As described in PEA Section 5.14.4.2.1, it is likely that some of the construction crew members would commute from surrounding areas; however, a construction contractor has not been hired for the Proposed Project and staffing specifics are unknown at this time.

As documented in PEA Appendix B, SCE assumed an average commute distance of 120 miles (round trip) for each construction crew member throughout the duration of the Proposed Project.

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Prepared by: Rey Gonzales

Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Received Date: 4/14/2023

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Question 32:

Provide emergency response times for California Highway Patrol, Kern County Sheriff’s Office, San Bernardino Sheriff’s Department, California City Police Department, and Edwards Air Force Base 95th Security Forces

Response to Question 32:

Via personal communication with the California Highway Patrol, they have estimated their average response time to the City of California City to be between 10 and 15 minutes depending on the exact nature of the call. The Kern County General Plan does not contain response time data and additional personal communication with the Kern County Sheriff’s Office has confirmed that this data is unavailable. The San Bernardino Countywide Policy Plan does not contain response time data and additional personal communication with the San Bernardino Sherriff’s Department has been inconclusive in obtaining response time data. The City of California City’s General Plan indicates that response time for the California City Police Department to the central core area of the city is typically 3 to 5 minutes and response time to the northeastern portion of the city is 10 to 12 minutes. Personal communication with the Edwards Air Force Base’s 95th Security Forces indicated that their typical response time to the City of California City is approximately 20 minutes.

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Prepared by: Rey Gonzales

Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

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Question 33:

Identify the recycling centers and/or destination for solid waste that would be used for construction debris.

Response to Question 33:

As discussed in PEA Sections 3.5.14.1.5 and 5.19.4.2.4, the final disposition site of recyclable and non-recyclable materials generated during construction has not been determined at this time, as the selection of such a site will depend upon market conditions at the time of construction. However, multiple landfills and recycling facilities exist in the region and are described in the PEA as sites that may accept Proposed Project-related recyclables and waste. These include the Boron Sanitary Landfill, Mojave-Rosamond Sanitary Landfill, Edwards Air Force Base Main Base Sanitary Landfill, California City Recycling and Transfer Station, McKittrick Waste Treatment Site, Ridgecrest Recycling and Sanitary Landfill, and Tehachapi Sanitary Landfill. Of these, all but the California City Recycling and Transfer Station and McKittrick Waste Treatment Site accept construction/demolition debris and may be used for Proposed Project-generated construction debris.

As described in Sections 3.5.14.3 and 5.19.4.2.4, hazardous waste generated during construction may be disposed of at either Clean Harbors Buttonwillow or Kettleman Hills Hazardous Waste Facility. Old oil-filled equipment used in support of the Proposed Project may also be transported to SCE's Shop Services and Instrumental Divisions' facility in Westminster, California for maintenance, repair, and disposal as necessary.

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Prepared by: Rey Gonzales
Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager
Received Date: 4/14/2023**

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 34:

Provide an estimate for operational water demand and the likely source.

Response to Question 34:

As discussed in PEA Section 5.19.4.2.2, operations and maintenance (O&M) activities associated with the Proposed Project would be similar to those currently performed by SCE for existing substations and their associated lines and infrastructure. The PEA acknowledges that insulator washing is a potential source of operational water demand; however, insulator washing has generally not been performed for existing SCE infrastructure in the Proposed Project area, as it is not considered a high contaminant region. As such, estimating operational water demand associated with insulator washing would be speculative, because such an activity would be uncommon and potentially unnecessary during O&M of the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project does not include any components anticipated to result in regular operational water consumption. However, as discussed in Section 3.8.4.4 of the PEA, routine access road maintenance would be conducted on an annual and/or as-needed basis. Such maintenance is anticipated to include blading and brushing and would require water for dust control. SCE assumes road maintenance would generally occur annually and that blading/brushing would cover 2 to 4 miles of access road per day (depending on geographic and environmental conditions), resulting in approximately 22 days per year of access road maintenance (covering approximately 64 linear miles of access road, as described in Table 3-6 of the PEA). Using the disturbance areas for access roads shown in Table 3-6 of the PEA, the same assumptions for daily water application and evapotranspiration as used for construction water demand, and applying a 10 percent contingency, water demand associated with access road maintenance is expected to total approximately 2.2 acre-feet per year.

Operational water is anticipated to be supplied by local water providers in the Proposed Project area, including the City of California City or local water purveyors served by larger wholesalers, such as the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency or Mojave Water Agency.

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Question 35:

The PDF for PEA Volume 3 is missing the bookmark for Chapter 5.20, Wildfire. Please provide a revised file with the bookmark for posting on the Energy Division's webpage for the Project.

Response to Question 35:

We have added the missing bookmark and attached a revised PDF file of Volume 3 in response to this data request (*A. 23-03-005 ED-SCE-01 Q. 35_Cal City PEA Volume 3*).

Southern California Edison

*A.23-03-005 – SCE’s Application For A Permit To Construct Electrical Facilities With Voltages
Between 50 kV and 200 kV: Cal City Project*

DATA REQUEST SET E D - S C E - 0 0 1

To: Energy Division

Prepared by: Rey Gonzales

Job Title: Sr. Environmental Project Manager

Received Date: 4/14/2023

Response Date: 4/28/2023

Question 36:

The PEA states that no historical fires have occurred within 1 mile of the Project. Please provide an expanded discussion for a 5-mile radius (at minimum).

Response to Question 36:

According to the CAL FIRE online historical fire map, one fire has occurred within 5 miles of the Proposed Project Alignment. The Jerusalem Fire that occurred in 1977 and burned 380 acres was located approximately 2.2 miles east of the Proposed Project alignment (CAL FIRE 2022a). No historical fires have overlapped with the Proposed Project alignment.