



Artesian 230kV Substation Expansion Project CPUC Minor Project Refinement Form

Minor project refinements are strictly limited to changes that will not trigger an additional permit requirement (except local government ministerial permits and associated requirements), do not substantially increase the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on criteria used in the IS/MND, create a new significant impact, are located within the geographic boundary of the study area of the IS/MND, and that don't conflict with any mitigation measure or applicable law or policy.

Date Requested: November 11, 2020

Report No.: MPR-6

Date Approved: TBD

Approval Agency: California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

Property Owner(s):

San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) - ROW
Black Mountain Ranch LLC – Underlying Land Owner

Location:

Location 37 (E14 / Z133531), first pole east of Dove Canyon Road, north of Camino Del Norte.

Land Use/Vegetative Cover:

Maintained access road as well as unmaintained

Sensitive Resources:

Aquatic

Modification
From:

☐ Permit

☐ Plan/Procedure

☐ Specification

☐ Drawing

☐ Mitigation
Measure

☒ Other: Construction
work areas

Reference Documents

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the San Diego Gas & Electric Company's Artesian 230kV Substation Expansion Project. Prepared for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC A.16-08-010), dated February 2018.

Notice to Proceed (NTP) request for the Artesian 230/60 kV Substation Expansion Project. Authorized by the CPUC on September 18, 2019.



Artesian 230kV Substation Expansion Project (D.19-07-007)

Describe how project refinement deviates from current project. Include photos.

The requested change is to make minor revisions, directly adjacent to the work area, to allow for overland travel and outrigger placement to stage a crane truck instead of a bucket truck near the existing wood pole; a crane truck is needed at this location due to the height and configuration of hardware on the existing wood pole. (See photos of proposed minor revisions in Attachment A).

The specific changes are as follows:

Location:

Location 37 (E14 / Z133531), first pole east of Dove Canyon Road, north of Camino Del Norte. The original work area for this location is 480 square feet (sq. ft.) to accommodate a bucket truck (12 ft. x 40 ft.) within the maintained access road, plus a footpath through natural openings in vegetation to the pole.

Construction Equipment and Durations:

One crane truck will be needed to perform overhead work as well as workers needed to install the outriggers to stabilize the crane. No additional equipment is needed. Activity duration will be approximately two weeks estimated for the end of December 2020 or Early 2021.

Original Condition:

The photographs in Attachment A depict the original and proposed work area to be used for temporary construction activities.

Justification for Change:

The listed work area needs to be revised as described herein to allow for safe access to an existing pole. Due to the height and configuration of hardware on the existing wood pole, the work area at Location 37 (E14 / Z133531), a crane truck is needed to perform overhead work as opposed to the planned bucket truck. SDG&E performed a site walk with the construction contractor and requested a change where the need for MPR-6 was identified by the contractor as required to complete construction activities.

Maps & Figures:

Refer to Figure 1 in Attachment B. Figure 1 depicts the original work area and the proposed modified MPR-6 work area.

Environmental Impact:

The requested work area modifications would not result in new impacts when compared to the impacts disclosed in the Final IS/MND. The existing Project Mitigation Measures and APMs would ensure that all impacts are less than significant. Additional detail is provided below for key resources.

Concurrence (if appropriate):

Concurrence for the modified work areas is not required. All work is within the IS/MND study area and does not trigger permits from any other agencies.



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Resources:	
Biological	<input type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Present <input type="checkbox"/> N/A, Change would not affect resources
Previous Biological Survey Report Reference: Chambers Group, Inc. 2016. <i>Biological Technical Report for the San Diego Gas & Electric Company Artesian Substation Expansion Project</i> , San Diego County, California. July 2016. Environmental Science Associates (ESA). <i>San Diego Gas and Electric Artesian 230kV Substation Expansion Project Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration</i> . Prepared for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). March 2019. San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) 1995. <i>San Diego Gas and Electric Company Subregional Natural Community Conservation Plan</i> . SDG&E 2016. <i>SDG&E Proponents Environmental Assessment for the Artesian 230 kV Substation Expansion Project</i> (A.16-08-010) Volumes I and II.	
Cultural	<input type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A, changes would not affect resources
Previous Cultural Survey Report Reference: Foglia, S.E. and J. Hennessey. 2014. <i>Archaeological Survey for Artesian 230kV Substation Expansion, San Diego, San Diego County, California</i> . SDG&E 2016. <i>SDG&E Proponents Environmental Assessment for the Artesian 230 kV Substation Expansion Project</i> (A.16-08-010) Volumes I and II. San Diego Natural History Museum 2015. <i>Paleontological Records Search – Transmission Line 6961 Sycamore to Bernardo</i> Williams, Brian and Isabel Cordova. 2012. <i>Inventory of the Cultural Resources along SDG&E's Tie Line 6961, San Diego County, California</i> .	
Disturbance Acreage Changes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Disturbance acreage: The original acreage of 480 sq. ft., plus an additional approximately 64 ft. (4 x 16 ft.) needed for the outriggers to the stabilize the crane truck, will result in a total of 544 sq. ft.	



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CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Geology, Soils, and Seismicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The MPR-6 scope of work would not affect CEQA impacts relating to geologic hazards, including seismicity. MPR-6 would occur at the existing work area analyzed and included in the IS/MND as a Project feature and work area. Implementation of MPR-6 would not expose the Project, work areas, or workers to any new or increased risk from geologic hazards. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-6.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Agency approval (i.e., grading permit or similar process) is not required for implementation of MPR-6.
Hazardous Materials and Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-6 will not change the use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials or wastes. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-6.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-6 would not require additional agency consultation or approval related to hazardous materials or wastes. There would be no significant increase of threat or risk derived from the use of hazardous substances, which would not change from what was analyzed in the IS/MND.
Hydrology and Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Use of the MPR-6 work area would not affect impacts related to hydrology and water quality. The MPR-6 work area was designed to avoid all aquatic resources in the area. Crane work will occur when the road is dry and no rain is forecasted. All construction activities at the MPR-5 work area would be subject to the Project SWPPP and all applicable BMPs. BMPs such as silt fencing and straw waddles will be installed around work areas to prevent the degradation of water quality. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-6.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Use of MPR-6 Area will not affect or change the Project SWPPP in a way of a manner that would require a change in Project coverage under the Construction General Permit. Recycled Water would not be used as part of MPR-6, and therefore MPR-6 would not affect the Water Reclamation and Recycling (WRR) permit. No additional agency consultation or new permits would be required.
Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	No ground disturbance will occur as a result of the proposed work. Therefore, no cultural resources compliance measures are required. Additionally, no paleontological resources compliance measures are required.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The MPR-6 work area would not affect any cultural or paleontological resources not previously disclosed in the IS/MND, and additional consultation would not be required.
Traffic and Circulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Implementation of MPR-6 would not change estimated trips in and out of the project area by workers or vehicles. There would be no change in the level of service on streets surrounding the project area compared to analysis in the IS/MND. There would be no effect on public transportation, Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-6.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Agency Consultation is not required for implementation of MPR-6. There would be no new encroachment permits or changes to traffic control plan requirements.




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CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Noise and Vibration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-6 proposes the use of a crane truck instead of a bucket truck in the original work plan. This construction equipment used for implementation of MPR-6 would be similar to the equipment analyzed in the IS/MND. The change in the MPR-6 work area would be physically located adjacent to the original work area and impacts from construction noise would not differ from those disclosed in the IS/MND. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-6.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The Project must comply with the City of San Diego's noise ordinance. The addition of the MPR-6 work scope would not require consultation with the City, as work would conform to City's noise ordinance, including allowable hours for construction activities.
Aesthetics/ Visual Resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Work performed under MPR-6 would not result in any additional impacts to the visual character in the project area. The physical changes that would result from MPR-6 would be temporary, located adjacent to the originally analyzed work areas. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-6.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Agency Consultation is not required for use of the MPR-6 Area. The CPUC has exclusive jurisdiction over the siting, design, and construction of the Project.
Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The MPR-6 area but does not change the nature or intensity of construction activities. Therefore, MPR-6 is not anticipated to result in any changes relating to emission of criteria pollutants or diesel particulate matter (DPM).
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Additional agency consultation or approval would not be required for implementation of MPR-6.
Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<p>MPR-5 will require minor revisions to previously identified work areas, as described above. The new work areas will not impact any biological resources (i.e., habitats) that were not identified and mitigated for in the IS/MND.</p> <p>The revised work area is approximately 544 sq. ft., which represents an increase of approximately 64 sq. ft. The work area includes approximately 448 sq. ft of bare ground and approximately 96 sq. ft. of restored coastal sage scrub. Impacts will be mitigated in terms of the SDG&E NCCP in compliance with AMP BIO-2.</p> <p>Due to the presence of habitat suitable to support nesting birds, a pre-construction nesting bird survey is required in compliance with APM BIO-3 if work is to occur within the bird breeding season (February 1 - August 31). In addition, for vegetation trimming of restored coastal sage scrub habitat, vegetation clearing must occur outside of the nesting bird breeding season, consistent with APM BIO-3. Biological monitoring would be required during construction in compliance with APM BIO-7.</p> <p>The MPR-5 work area has been designed to minimize and avoid impacts to special status plants to the greatest extent feasible in compliance with MM BIO-1. Three southwestern spiny rush (<i>Juncus acutus</i>; California Rare Plant Rank [CRPR] 4.2) individuals in the area required for crane staging will be trimmed back under the guidance of biological monitor and will be avoided by the crane. Trimming is not expected to result in take of the plants and would not trigger compliance actions associated with MM BIO-2.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Recommendations for the MPR-6 work area include sensitive and non-sensitive habitats similar to those analyzed and mitigated for in the IS/MND. No new or additional agency consultation, reporting, or permitting is required with the Wildlife Agencies.



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Approvals	Date	Name (print)	Signature	
San Diego Gas and Electric Project Manager		Irina Peterson		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
San Diego Gas and Electric Environmental Project Manager		Eden Nguyen Kilburg		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
San Diego Gas & Electric Compliance Manager		Keri Cuppage		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
CPUC Project Manager		Patricia Kelly	 <small>Patricia Kelly (Nov 18, 2020 10:43 PST)</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved with conditions (see below) <input type="checkbox"/> Denied

For CPUC Compliance Manager Use Only

☐ Refinement Approved ☐ Refinement Denied ☐ Beyond Authority

Conditions of Approval or Reason for Denial:

CPUC requests presence of biological monitor for MPR6 activity.

Prepared by:

Date:

ATTACHMENT A
Site Photographs

Artesian 230kV Substation Expansion Project

Minor Project Refinement (MPR) 06: Site Photographs



Photo 1. Overview of access road to Location 37 (E14). View south on October 8, 2020.

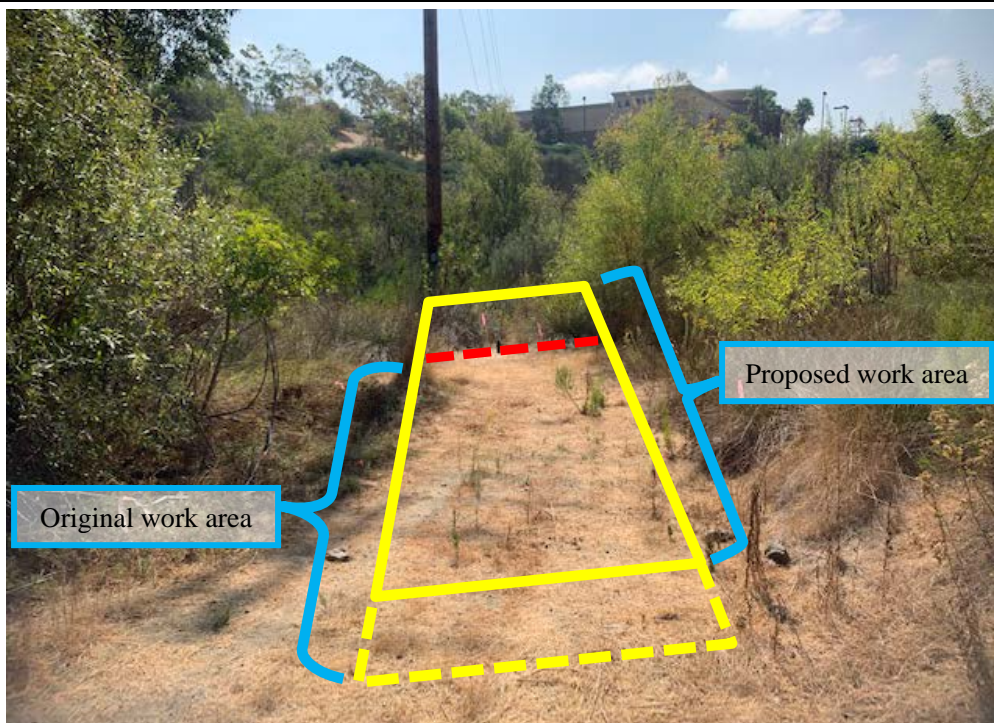


Photo 2. Overview of proposed crane work area vs. original work area. End of maintained access road indicated by red dashed line. Outrigger placement will be within natural openings in vegetation under the guidance of a biological monitor. View south on October 8, 2020.

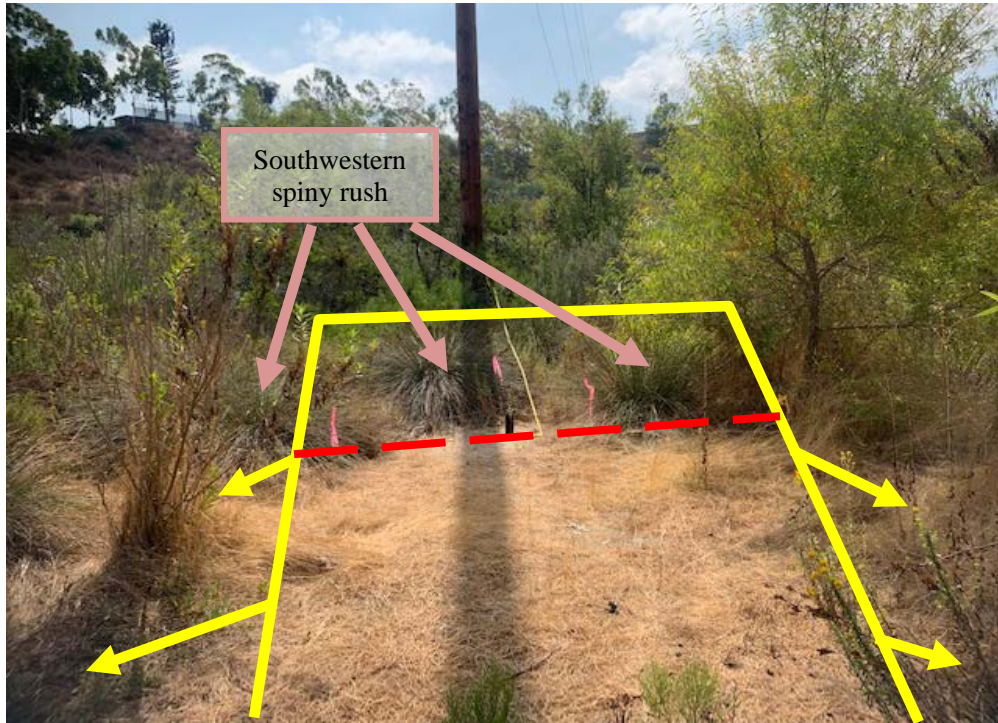
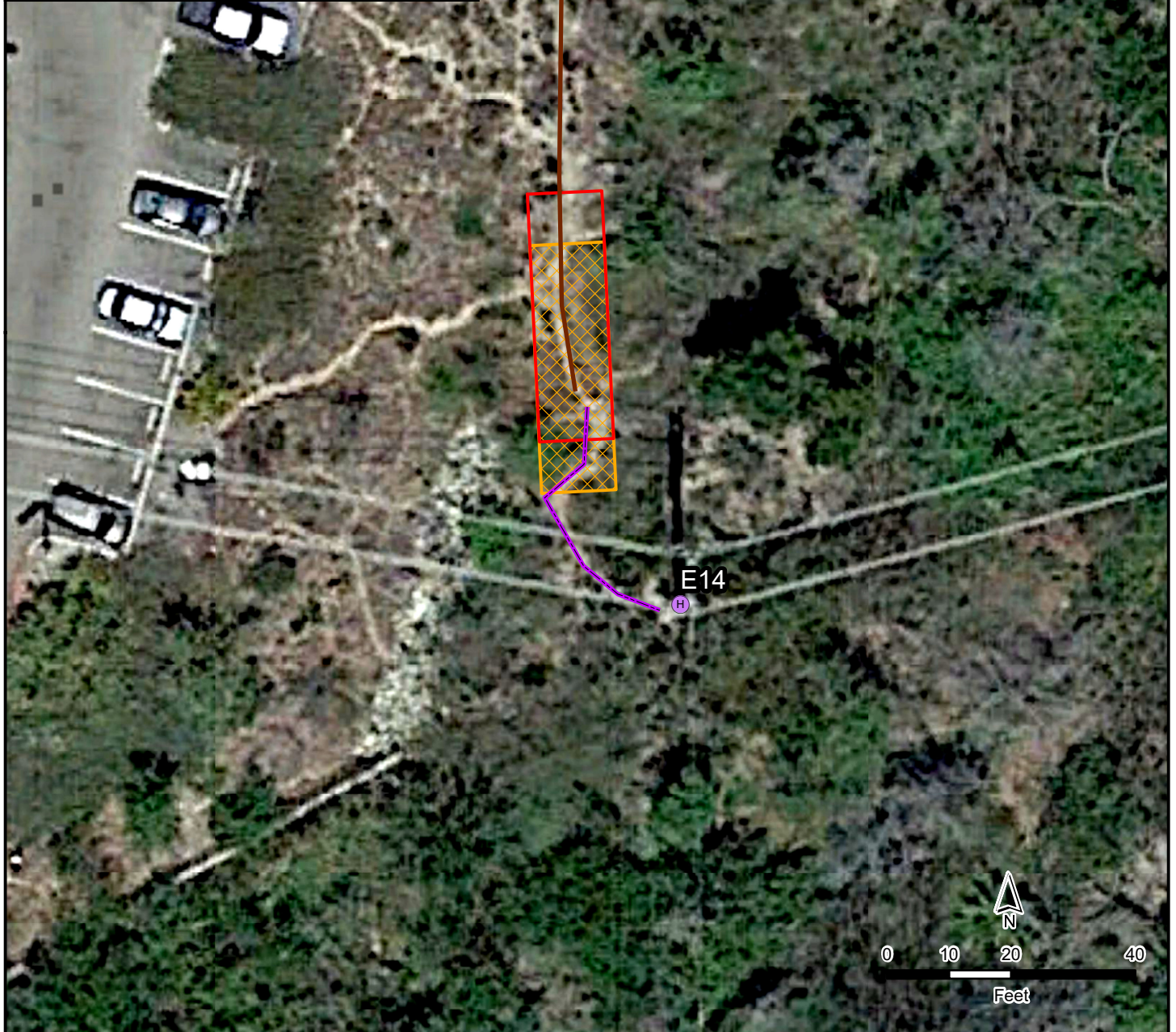
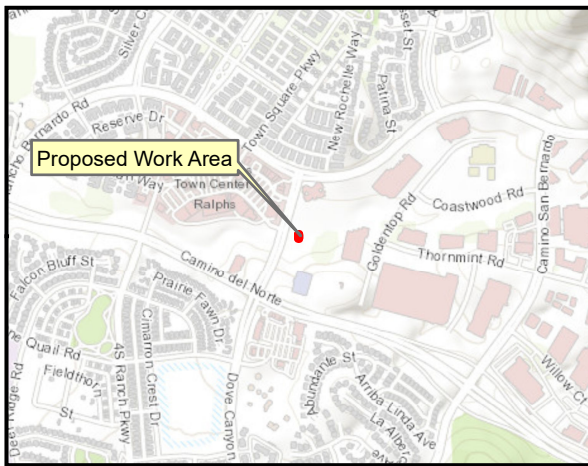






Photo 3. View of where unmaintained portion of access road to Location 37 begins, indicated by red dashed line. Crane staging will require vegetation trimming to three southwestern spiny rush (*Juncus acutus*) individuals as shown. View south on October 8, 2020.



Photo 4. View of access road that leads to Location 37. Outriggers will be placed within openings in vegetation (yellow arrows indicate potential placement). View facing north from where the unmaintained portion begins on October 8, 2020.

ATTACHMENT B
Figure



- | | |
|--|--|
|  Original Location 37 Work Area:
Bucket Truck Staging |  Existing Maintained Access |
|  Proposed Work Area Revision for
Location 37 (E14) |  Unmaintained Access |

Outrigger locations for the Revised Location 37 Work Area are not shown, and will be determined in the field.

Figure 1
Proposed Work Area Revision
for Location 37 (E14)





ARR_MPR6_REV00_CPUC_approval18Nov2020

Final Audit Report

2020-11-18

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By:	Maria Hensel (MHensel@esassoc.com)
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