



## 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 13, 2020

Report No.: MPR-7

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:**

Z133523 – Location 45 (E21), first pole west of Camino San Bernardo, between Coastwood Rd. and Thornmint Rd. at approximately 33.0188903, -117.1024021.

**Land Use/Vegetative Cover:**

Bare ground, disturbed habitat, and landscaped/ornamental vegetation

**Sensitive Resources:**

Aquatic

Modification  
From:

☐ Permit

☒ Plan/Procedure

☐ Specification

☐ Drawing

☐ Mitigation  
Measure

☐ Other:

### 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 for the proposed work activities at Location 45 (E21). The current project includes overhead work only on this pole. The proposed change includes replacing the existing wooden pole with a steel-weathered pole (See photos in Attachment A).

The specific changes are as follows:

### Location:

Z133523 – Location 45 (E21), first pole west of Camino San Bernardo, between Coastwood Rd. and Thornmint Rd. at approximately 33.0188903, -117.1024021.

### Construction Equipment and Durations:

Anticipated equipment and vehicles include a drill, skidsteer, dump truck, concrete truck, line truck, bucket truck, crew trucks and foreman pickup trucks. The proposed work is anticipated to occur in mid-November 2020. The anticipated duration is as follows (within the approved work hours of 7 am-7 pm, Monday-Saturday):

Drilling: 1-2 days

Ground rod trench: 1 day

Set bases / backfill with concrete: 1 day

Set top of pole: 1 day

### 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 original work activities at Location 45 (E21) included overhead work only, consisting of a 314 sq. ft. work area around the pole, plus access via an existing dirt road. Final design of the project identified the need for replacement of this pole, consisting of the same work area size and access, and following methodology similar to other wood pole replacements that are already included in the project description.

### Maps & Figures:

Refer to Figure 1 in Attachment B. Figure 1 depicts the Location 45 (E21) work area. The size of the work area is the same for the original vs. proposed work.

### Environmental Impact:

The request 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.



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

<b>Resources:</b>	
<b>Biological</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Present <input type="checkbox"/> N/A, Change would not affect resources
<b>Previous Biological Survey Report Reference:</b>  Chambers Group, Inc. 2016. <i>Biological Technical Report for the San Diego Gas &amp; 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&amp;E Proponents Environmental Assessment for the Artesian 230 kV Substation Expansion Project (A.16-08-010) Volumes I and II</i> .	
<b>Cultural</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present <input type="checkbox"/> Resources Present <input type="checkbox"/> N/A, changes would not affect resources
<b>Previous Cultural Survey Report Reference:</b>  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&amp;E Proponents Environmental Assessment for the Artesian 230 kV Substation Expansion Project (A.16-08-010) Volumes I and II</i> .  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&amp;E's Tie Line 6961, San Diego County, California</i> .	
<b>Disturbance Acreage Changes:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Disturbance acreage:    Ground disturbance of up to 314 sq. ft. will be required for drilling of the new pole hole, ground rod installation, and removal of the existing pole.	



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

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-7 scope of work would not affect CEQA impacts relating to geologic hazards, including seismicity. MPR-7 would occur at the existing work area analyzed and included in the IS/MND as a Project feature and work area. Implementation of MPR-7 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-7.
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-7.
Hazardous Materials and Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-7 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-7.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-7 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-7 work area would not affect impacts related to hydrology and water quality. The MPR-7 work area was designed to avoid all aquatic resources in the area. All construction activities at the MPR-7 work area would be subject to the Project SWPPP and all applicable BMPs. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-7.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Use of MPR-7 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-7, and therefore MPR-7 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	<p>Implementation of MPR-7 would not affect cultural resources. Location 45 (E21) does not fall within 100 feet of any previously documented cultural resource.</p> <p>The native soils at Location 45 (E21) could contain paleontological resources, and paleontological monitoring will occur consistent with MM CUL-8. CUL-8 already addresses potential impacts from drilling activities along the project alignment, and the addition of the work covered by MPR-7 would not change the potential impacts to paleontological resources. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-7.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	The MPR-7 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-7 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-7.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Agency Consultation is not required for implementation of MPR-7. There would be no new encroachment permits or changes to traffic control plan requirements.
Noise and Vibration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-7 proposes the use of a drill, skidsteer, dump truck, concrete truck, line truck, bucket truck, crew trucks and foreman pickup trucks. Construction noise from use of this equipment would not differ from noise impacts disclosed in the IS/MND. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-7.




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

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.
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-7 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-7 would not result in any additional impacts to the visual character in the project area. The physical changes that would result from MPR-7 during construction would be temporary, located adjacent to the originally analyzed work areas. The new steel pole that will replace the wood pole will visually match the other steel poles that are being installed as part of the project. Therefore, no change to CEQA impacts would occur as a result of MPR-7.
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Agency Consultation is not required for use of the MPR-7 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-7 area but does not change the nature or intensity of construction activities. Therefore, MPR-7 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-7.
Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<p>The proposed work requires a temporary work area of up to approximately 298 sq. ft. Of this total, approximately 150 sq. ft. would be within bare ground, approximately 74 sq. ft. would be within landscape/ornamental vegetation, and approximately 74 sq. ft. would be within disturbed habitat. The proposed work requires a permanent work area of approximately 16 sq. ft. Of this total, approximately 8 sq. ft. would be within bare ground, and approximately 8 sq. ft. would be within disturbed habitat. Access for the work will be via the existing approved access route for this location, which consists of a dirt access road off of a commercial parking lot.</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). Biological monitoring would be required during construction in compliance with APM BIO-7. This would not cause an increase in significance of impacts with implementation of existing mitigation measures.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	Recommendations for the MPR-7 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.



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

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 10:55 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 biological monitor conduct a site visit.

Prepared by: M. Hensel

Date: November 18, 2020

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**Site Photographs**



# Artesian 230kV Substation Expansion Project

## Minor Project Refinement (MPR) 07: Site Photographs



Photo 1. Overview of access road and Location 45 (E21). View northeast.

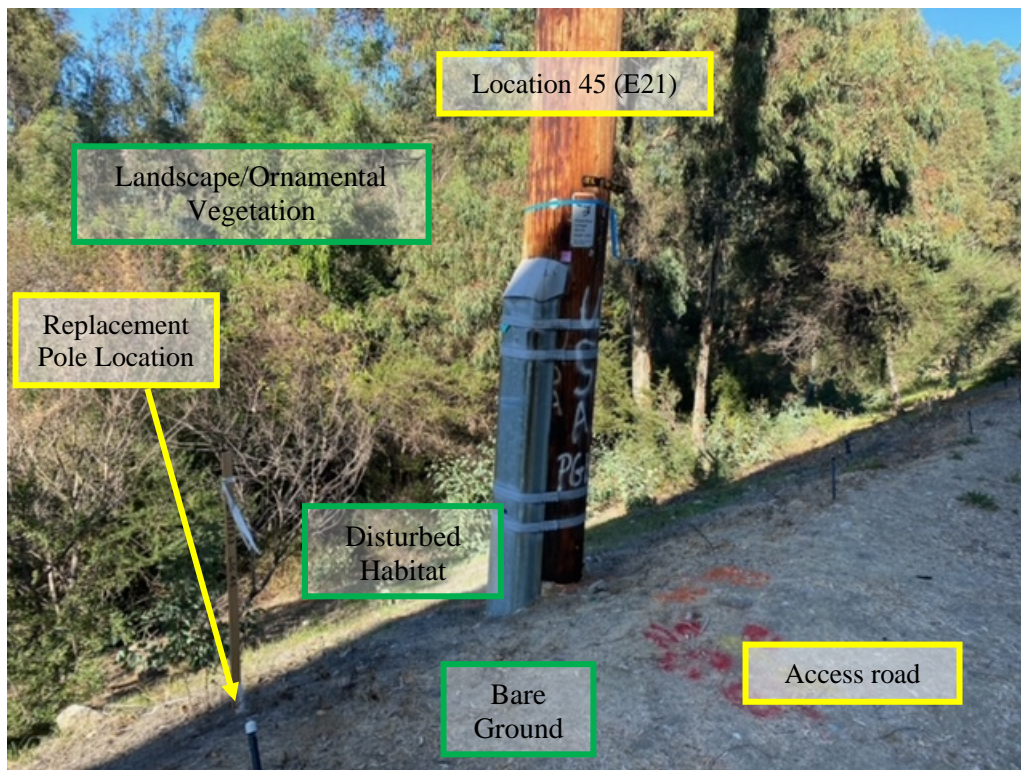


Photo 2. Closer view of Location 45 (E21) within bare ground, disturbed habitat, and landscape/ornamental vegetation. View north.

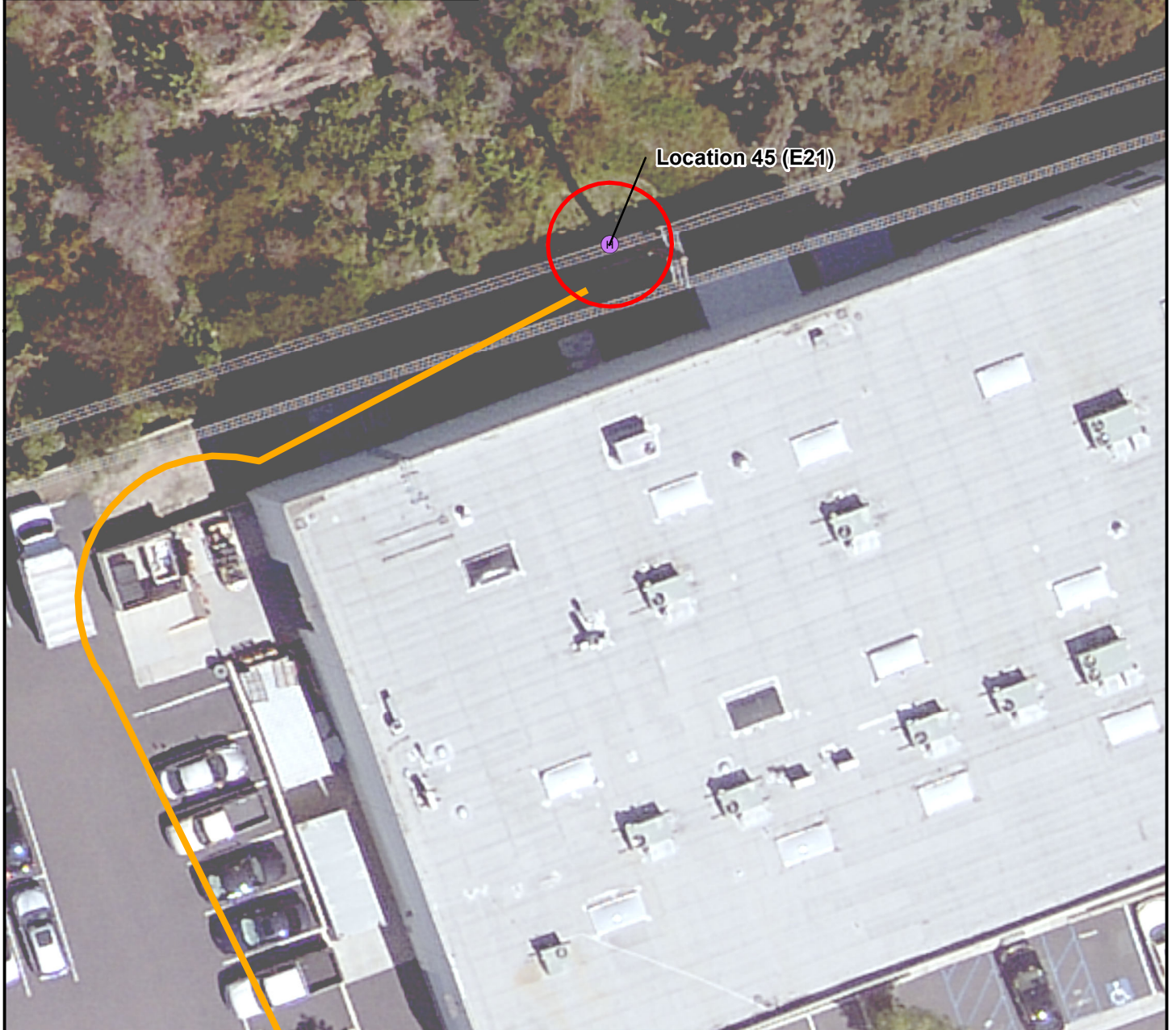




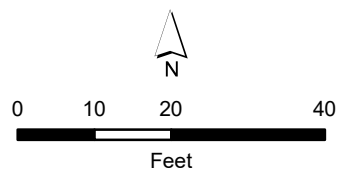
Photo 3. Another view of Location 45 (E21). View north.

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**Figure**





- Work Area
- Existing Access



**Figure 1**  
Work Area for Location 45 (E21)