
**Southern California Edison Company
Devers-Mirage 115 kV Subtransmission
System Split Project**

**California Public Utilities Commission
Public Comment Meeting
for the
Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)**

**January 29, 2010
Palm Desert, California**

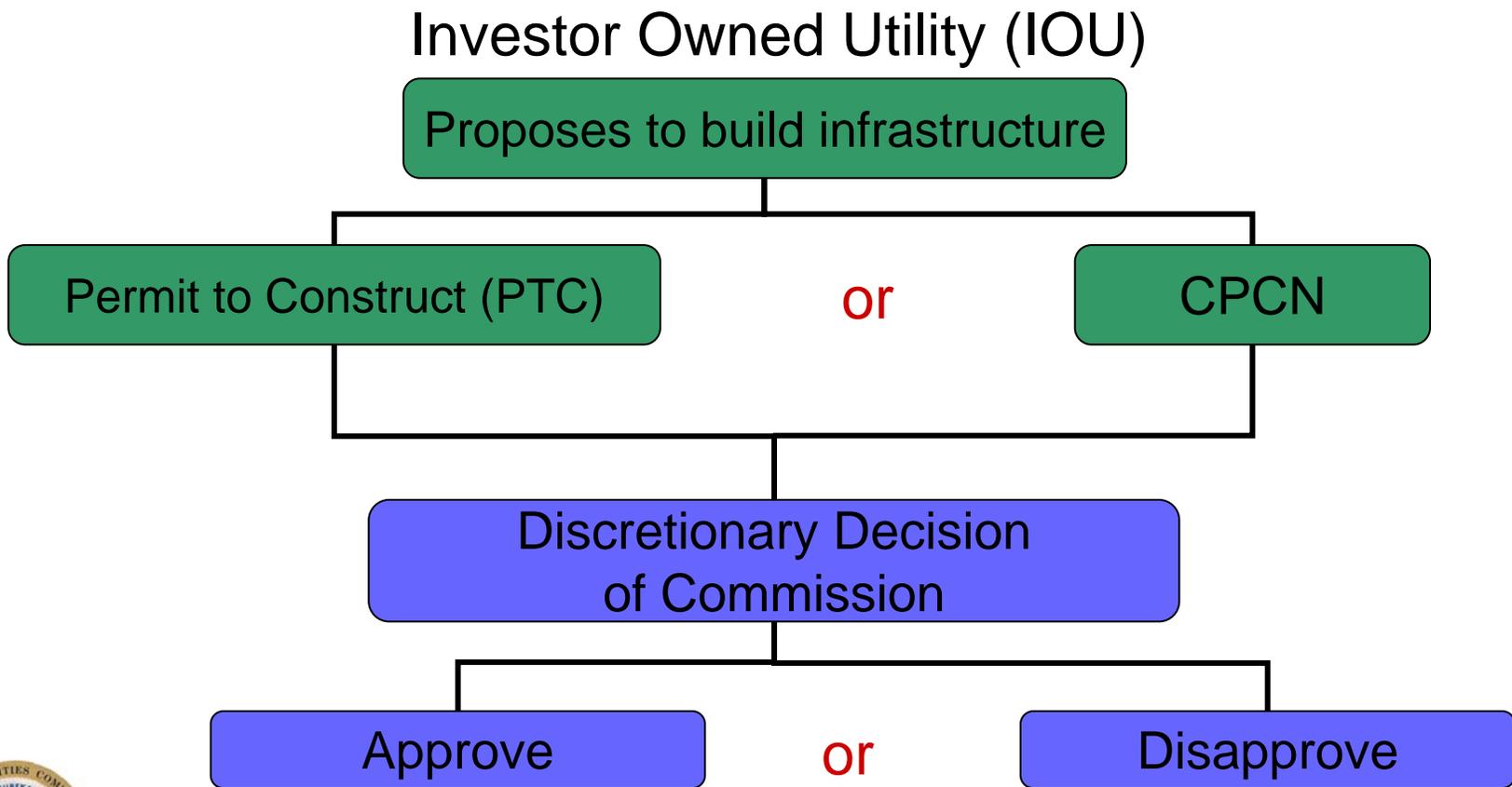
Participants and their Roles

- Eric Chiang, CPUC
 - Lead Agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- Doug Cover and Matt Fagundes, Environmental Science Associates (ESA)
 - Environmental Consultant for the CPUC
- Southern California Edison: Applicant

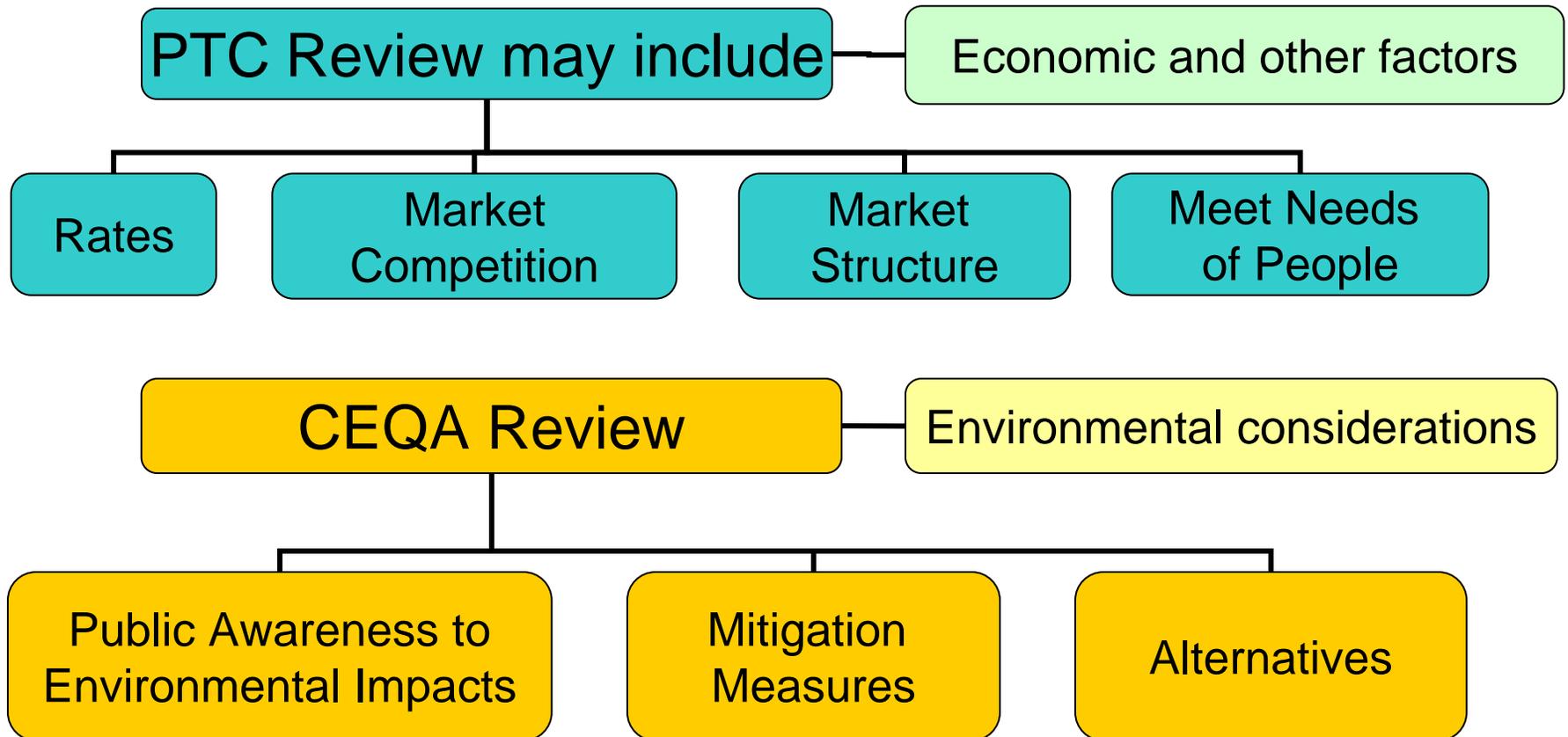
Meeting Agenda

- CPUC Review and CEQA Process
- Project Overview
- Alternatives Considered
- Summary of Environmental Impacts
- Next Steps
- Public Comment
 - Speaker cards
 - Comment forms

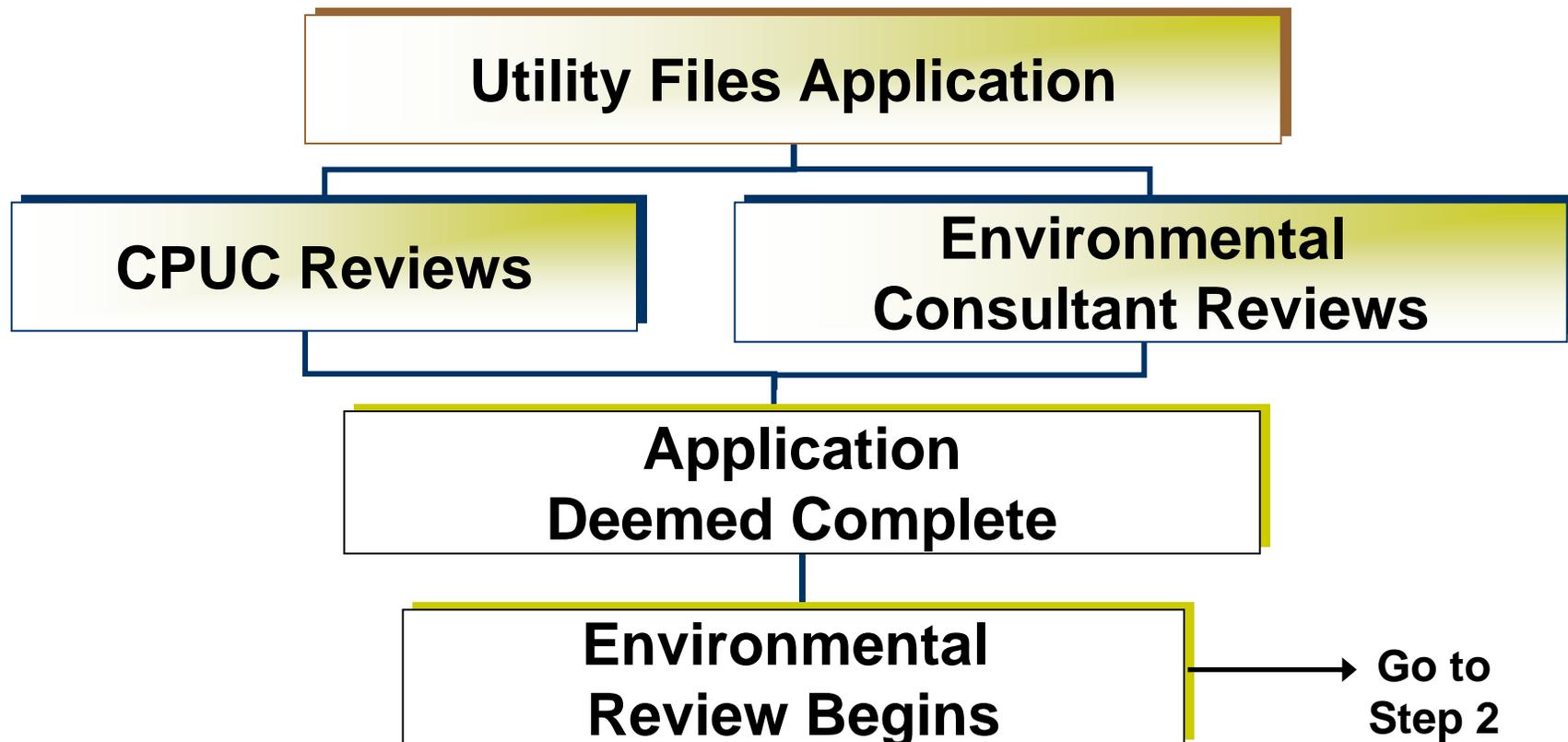
Permit to Construct (PTC)



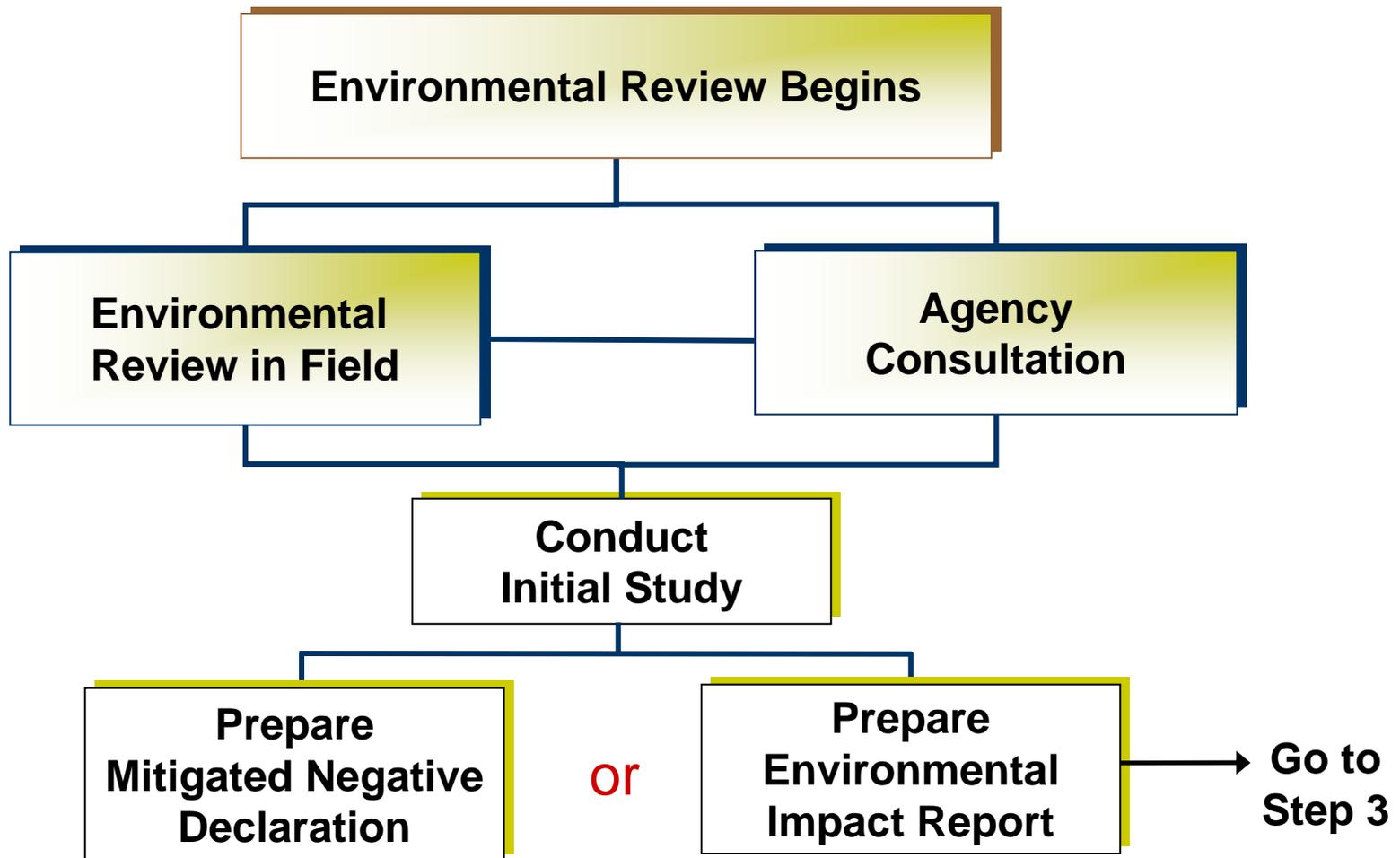
CPUC Review Process



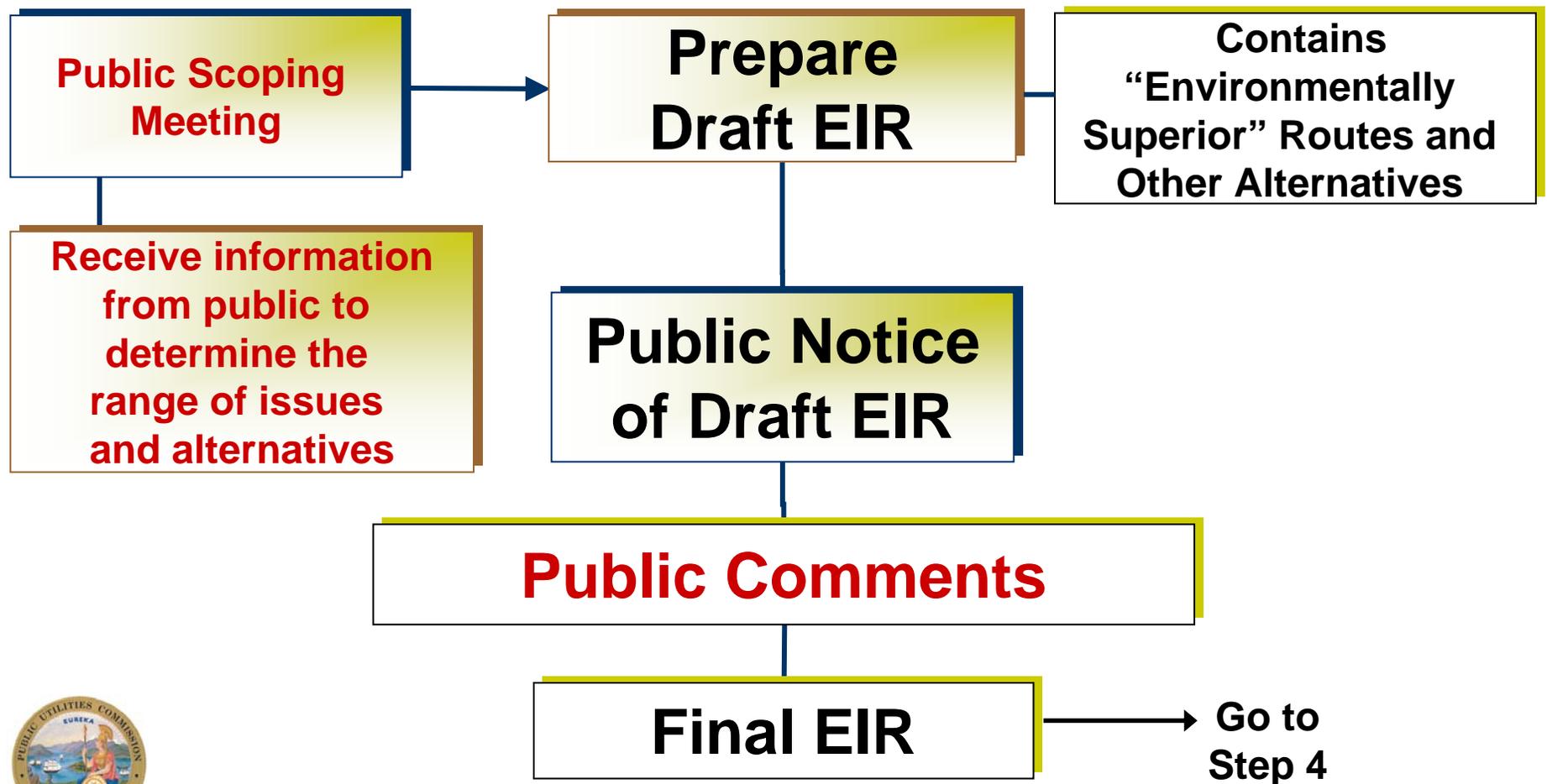
Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 1)



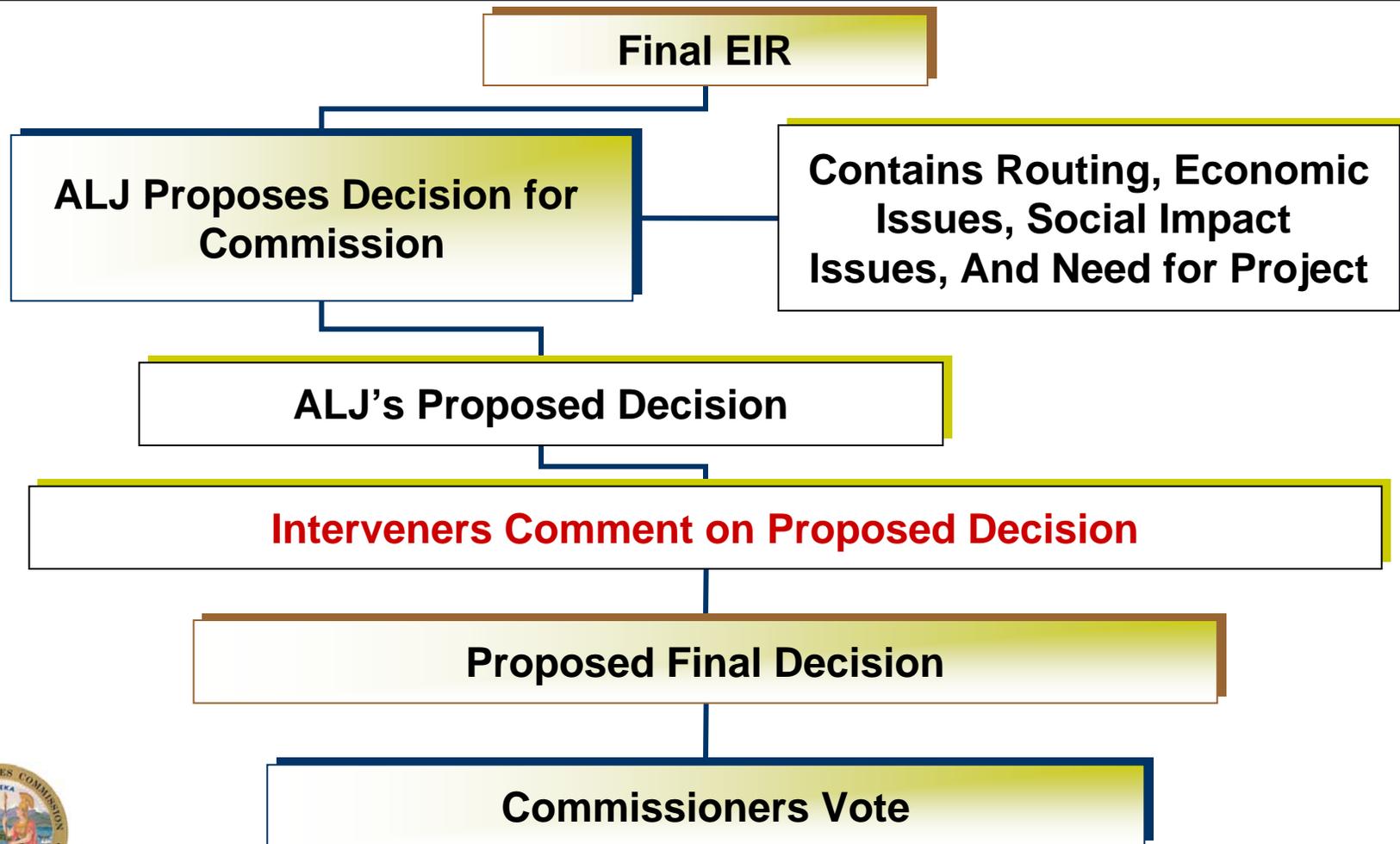
Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 2)



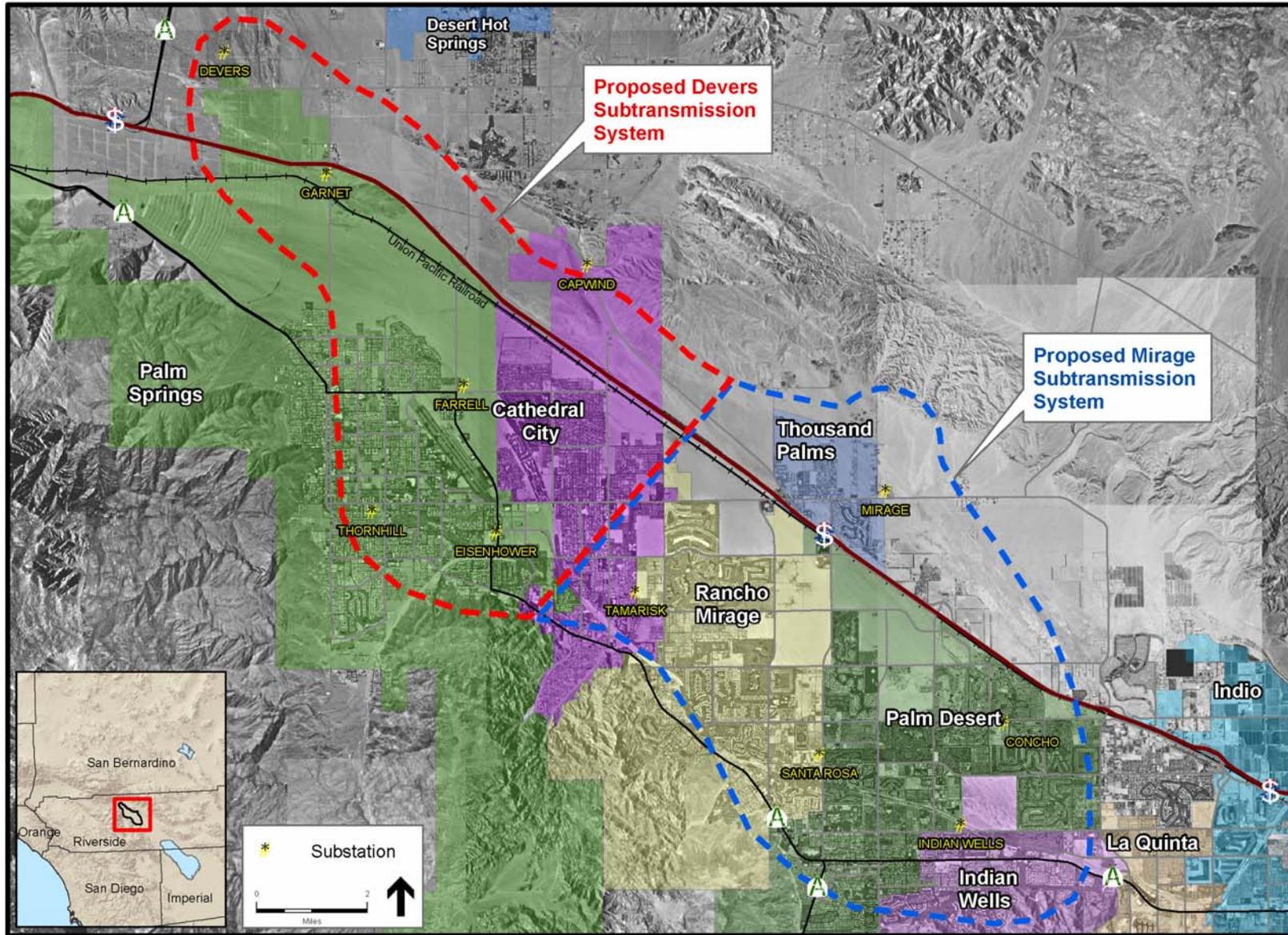
Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 3)



Basic Application and Environmental Review Processes (Step 4)



Project Location



SCE's Project Purpose and Need

- ❑ Relieve existing thermal overload conditions on two 115 kV subtransmission lines
- ❑ Resolve a forecasted voltage problem on the 220 kV transmission system
- ❑ Serve projected electrical demand in the cities of Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, Cathedral City, Palm Desert, Indian Wells, and unincorporated areas of Riverside County, including the Thousand Palms community
- ❑ Be operational by mid-2011

Project Description Overview

- Farrell-Garnet 115 kV Proposed Route
- Mirage-Santa Rosa 115 kV Proposed Route
- Devers-Coachella Valley 220 kV Loop-In
- 115 kV Line Reconfigurations
- Substations

Project Description

□ **Farrell-Garnet 115 kV Proposed Route**

- Replace approximately 5.3 miles of existing single-circuit lines and structures with double-circuit
- Within existing SCE right-of-ways (ROWs), public ROWs, and private property
- General alignment:
 - From Farrell Sub north along the east side of Gene Autry Trail to a point south of the RR
 - Cross to west of Gene Autry Trail
 - Cross the RR, proceed in a new 0.8-mile SCE ROW to a location south of the I-10 ROW
 - Continue NW and W along I-10 to Garnet Substation

Project Description (cont'd)

□ **Mirage-Santa Rosa 115 kV Proposed Route**

- Replace approximately 1.5 miles of existing single-circuit lines and structures with double-circuit
- Within existing SCE and public road ROWs
- General alignment:
 - From Mirage Sub south adjacent to the east side of Tri-Palm Estates
 - Through the Tri-Palm Estates golf course
 - South of the golf course, cross I-10 to join the existing subtransmission system

Project Description (cont'd)

□ **Devers-Coachella Valley 220 kV Loop-In**

- Loop existing Devers-Coachella 220 kV line to Mirage Substation
- From Devers-Coachella ROW, south approximately 0.8 mile on double-circuit lattice steel towers to Mirage Substation

□ **115 kV Line Reconfigurations**

- Line reconfigurations at three intersections:
 - Portola Avenue and Gerald Ford Drive
 - Dinah Shore Drive and Bob Hope Drive
 - near Varner Road and Date Palm Drive

Project Description (cont'd)

□ **Substations**

- Installation of additional equipment and relays at Mirage, Concho, Indian Wells, Santa Rosa, Eisenhower, Farrell, Garnet, Thornhill, and Tamarisk Substations

Alternative Alignments

□ Alternative 2

- Underground single-circuit along Gene Autry Trail, Vista Chino Rd, and Sunrise Way to Four Seasons Blvd
- Overhead from Four Seasons Blvd north to the Proposed Route and on to Garnet Sub
- 3.0 miles underground; 3.0 miles overhead

Alternative Alignments (cont'd)

□ Alternative 3

- Underground single-circuit along Gene Autry Trail, Vista Chino Rd, Sunrise Way, San Rafael Rd, and 50 feet of Indian Canyon Dr
- From riser pole, north along Indian Canyon Drive to Garnet Sub
- 3.6 miles underground; 2.9 miles overhead

□ Alternative 5

- Underground in Ramon Road to Monterey Ave south to Varner Rd
- Transition to overhead before crossing I-10
- 1.9 miles underground; 500 feet overhead

Alternative Alignments (cont'd)

□ Alternative 6

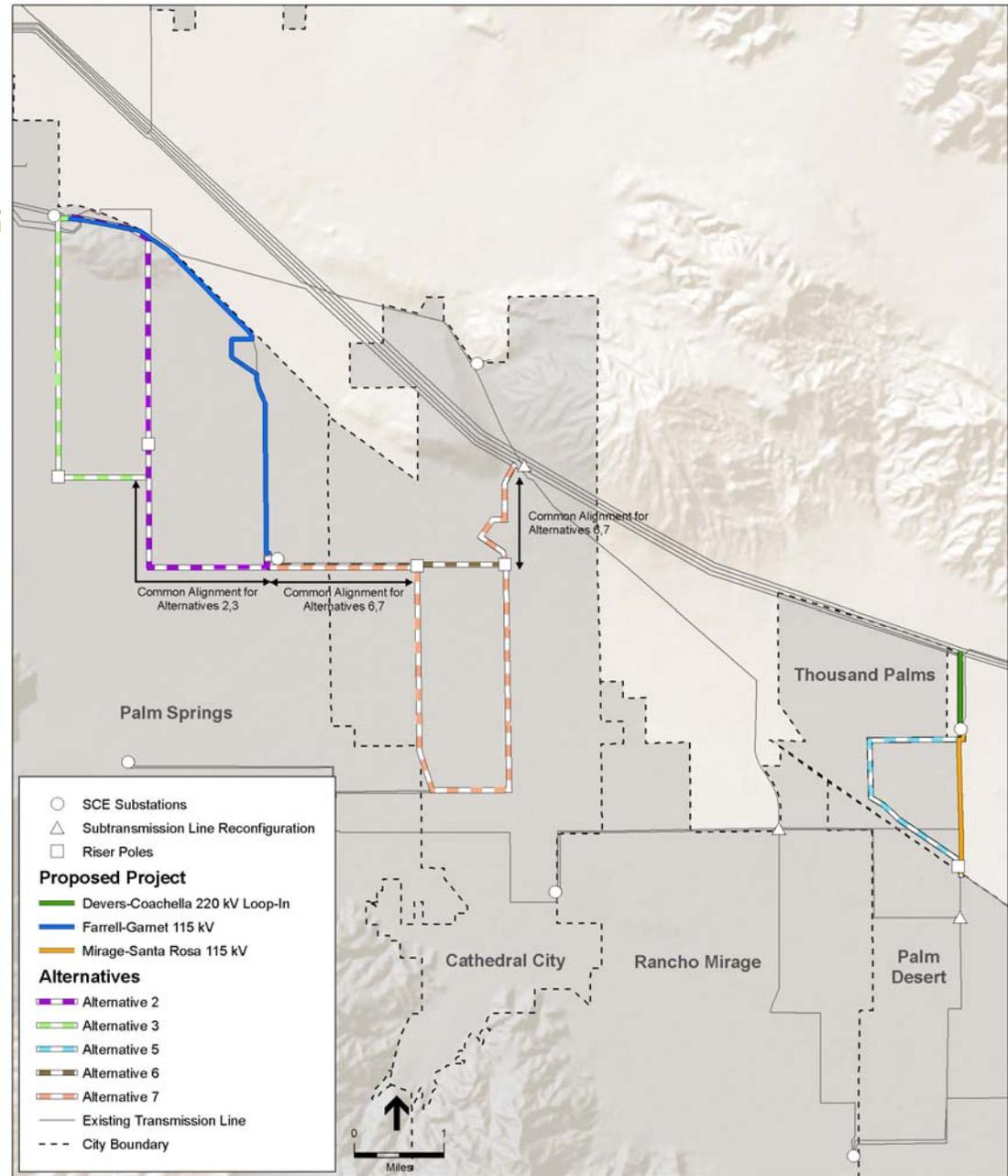
- Overhead line along Gene Autry Trail and Vista Chino to Landau Boulevard
- Underground line along Vista Chino from Landau Boulevard to Date Palm Drive
- Overhead line from Landau Boulevard along Date Palm Drive and existing SCE ROW to the existing Devers-Eisenhower ROW
- 1.0 mile underground; 3.2 miles overhead

Alternative Alignments (cont'd)

□ Alternative 7

- Overhead line along Gene Autry Trail, Vista Chino, Landau Boulevard, 33rd Street, Date Palm Drive, and existing SCE ROW to the existing Devers-Eisenhower ROW
- 9.1 miles overhead

Alternative Alignments



Summary of Impacts

- No or Less than Significant Impacts:
 - Agricultural Resources; Geology and Soils; Mineral Resources; Population and Housing; Recreation; Utilities and Service Systems
- Impacts Less than Significant with Mitigation:
 - Aesthetics; Biological Resources; Cultural Resources; Hazards/Hazardous Materials; Hydrology/Water Quality; Land Use; Noise; Public Services; and Traffic and Transportation
- Significant Unmitigable Impacts:
 - Air Quality (temporary during construction)

Environmentally Superior Alternative – Farrell-Garnet Study Area

- Alternative 3
 - Least overall long-term impacts to Aesthetics and Biological Resources due to underground line
 - Most overall short-term impacts to Traffic and Transportation due to construction of the underground line
 - Significant unavoidable short-term impacts to Air Quality
- Alternative 7
 - Least overall impacts to Cultural Resources
 - Significant unavoidable short-term impacts to Air Quality
- Proposed Project
 - Least overall short-term impacts to Transportation and Traffic due to overhead route and overall route length
 - Significant unavoidable short-term impacts to Air Quality
- **Conclusion:** Alternative 3
 - CPUC Statement of Overriding Consideration

Environmentally Superior Alternative – Mirage-Santa Rosa Study Area

- Alternative 5
 - Least overall long-term impacts to Aesthetics and Biological Resources due to underground line
 - Most overall short-term impacts to Traffic and Transportation due to construction of the underground line
 - Significant unavoidable short-term impacts to Air Quality
- Proposed Project
 - Least overall short-term impacts to Transportation and Traffic due to overhead route
 - Significant unavoidable short-term impacts to Air Quality
- **Conclusion:** Alternative 5
 - CPUC Statement of Overriding Consideration

Next Steps

- ❑ Notice of Availability was circulated to solicit input from agencies and the public
- ❑ This meeting is part of the comment process
- ❑ Comments will be considered and addressed in a Final EIR
- ❑ CPUC considers EIR / other factors and issues a draft decision for the Proposed Project
- ❑ CPUC considers comments on draft and alternate decisions and votes on the Project

How to Comment

- Please submit comments no later than Monday, February 22, 2010:

Mr. Eric Chiang

Devers-Mirage 115kV Subtransmission
System Split Project

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Public Comment

Public Comment Guidelines

- ❑ One person to speak at a time
- ❑ Be concise
- ❑ Stay on topic
- ❑ Support everyone's participation
- ❑ Respect others' opinions
- ❑ Written comments are encouraged