

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
505 VAN NESS AVENUE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298**



**To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Property Owners,  
& Interested Parties**

**From: Juralynne Mosley, Environmental Project Manager**

**Subject: NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT  
(EIR) AND NOTICE OF AN EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP AND SCOPING  
MEETING:  
Permit to construct electrical facilities with voltages between 50 kV and 200 kV:  
Presidential Substation Project (A.08-12-023)**

**Date: February 17, 2009**

### **Description of Proposed Project**

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State of California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is preparing an EIR for the Proposed Project identified below, and is requesting comments on the scope and content of the EIR. Southern California Edison (SCE), in its CPUC application (A.08-12-023), filed on December 22, 2008, seeks a permit to construct (PTC) the Presidential Substation Project (Proposed Project), which includes the following major elements:

- A new 66/16 kilovolt (kV) distribution substation on an approximate four acre site;
- Removal of approximately 79 distribution poles and 5 subtransmission poles located within existing rights-of-way, and replacement with approximately 83 subtransmission poles to accommodate a new 66 kV subtransmission line that would feed the proposed substation from two existing 66 kV subtransmission lines. Construction of the new subtransmission line would occur within approximately 3.5 miles of existing right-of-way;
- Four new underground 16 kV distribution getaways; and
- Facilities to connect the substation to SCE's existing telecommunications system.

The purpose of the Proposed Project is to meet forecasted electrical demands in the Cities of Simi Valley and Thousand Oaks, as well as adjacent areas of unincorporated Ventura County.

### **Location of the Proposed Project**

The Proposed Project is located in portions of unincorporated Ventura County and the City of Thousand Oaks. The substation site would be located in the City of Thousand Oaks, and the subtransmission source lines would be located in both unincorporated Ventura County and the City of Thousand Oaks. See attached, Figure 1.

### **Issues To Be Addressed In The EIR**

It has been determined that a full EIR is required because the Proposed Project could result in potentially significant environmental impacts. The EIR will address impacts of the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Proposed Project. Additionally, the EIR will also discuss and analyze alternatives to the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project and alternatives considered two potential substation sites and three potential subtransmission source routes that would connect the substation to two existing transmission lines in the area (see Figure 1, Project Location). Substation sites to be analyzed include: (A) an approximate four acre portion of a 40 acre parcel in the City of Thousand Oaks, that is vacant and privately owned, and (B) an approximate 2.3 acre parcel in the City of Simi Valley that is owned by the City and contains several abandoned buildings and structures that previously housed the Ventura County Sheriff's Department.

Subtransmission source lines to be analyzed may include: (1) installation of approximately 4.5 miles of new subtransmission line through land presently used for open space and rural residential purposes; (2) installation of approximately five miles of new subtransmission line through land presently used for residential, commercial, public space, and open space purposes; and (3) installation of approximately 3.5 miles of subtransmission line in existing rights-of-way, and adjacent to land presently used for agriculture, open space, and residential purposes. Other alternatives may be added based on input received during this NOP review period or by the EIR team in response to potentially significant environmental impacts identified during the EIR process.

Specific areas of analysis to be addressed in the EIR include: aesthetics, agriculture resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use and planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems. Where feasible, mitigation measures will be recommended to avoid or reduce potentially significant impacts. Additionally, potential cumulative impacts of the Proposed Project, when considered in context with other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future projects in the area, will also be addressed in the EIR.

Information to be included in the EIR will also be based on input and comments received during the NOP review period. Decision-makers, responsible and trustee agencies under CEQA, property owners, and interested persons and parties will also have an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIR after it is published and circulated for public review. For additional information about the CEQA review of the Proposed Project, go to:

<http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/esa/presidentialsubstation/index.html>.

#### **Public Scoping Period for this Notice of Preparation**

Due to the time limits mandated by State law, please send your response at the earliest possible date, but no later than 30 days after the date of this notice. The public scoping period begins on February 17, 2009 and will close at 5:00 p.m. on March 19, 2009. Please include a name, organization (if applicable), address, and email address of a contact person for all future notification related to this process. Public comments will become part of the public record and will be published in a Scoping Report.

Please send your comments to:

**Ms. Juralynne Mosley  
Presidential Substation Project  
c/o Environmental Science Associates  
1425 N. McDowell Blvd, Suite 105  
Petaluma, CA 94954  
Fax: (707) 795-0902  
presidentialsub@esassoc.com**

#### **Educational Workshop and Scoping Meeting**

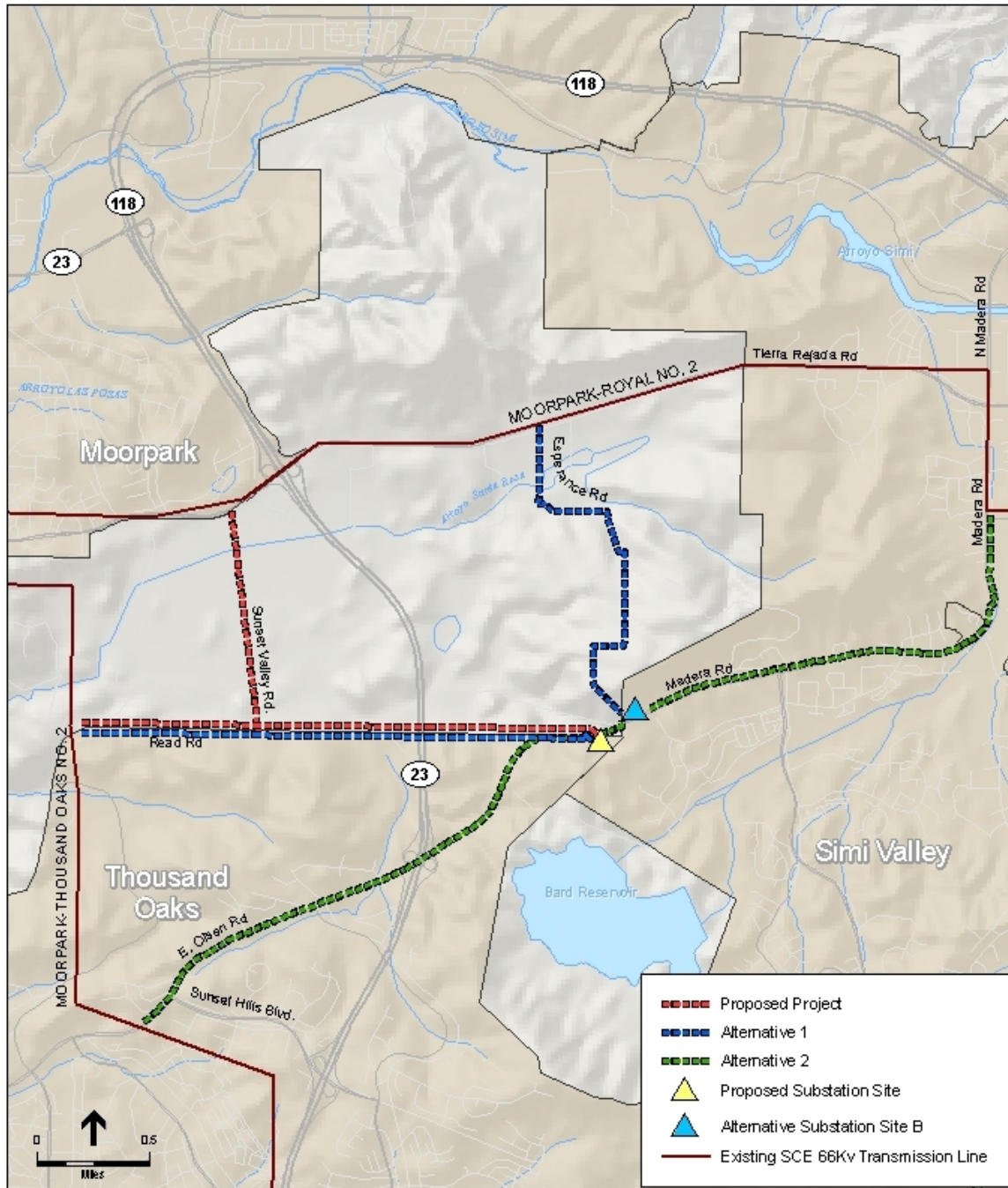
In order for the public and regulatory agencies to have an opportunity to submit comments on the scope of the EIR, a meeting will be held during the NOP scoping period. The meeting will be held:

**Tuesday, March 3, 2009  
6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Park Oak Elementary School  
1335 Calle Bouganvilla  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360**

From 6:30 to 7:00, the CPUC will hold an educational workshop. This workshop will address: a) CPUC's process for reviewing the Proposed Project application; b) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process for construction, operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project; and c) details on where the public can become involved with both planning processes.

From 7:00 to 9:00 the CPUC will hold the official scoping meeting. The scoping meeting will start with a brief presentation providing an overview of the Proposed Project and alternatives identified to date. Following the presentation, interested parties will be provided an opportunity to provide comments about the project. Comment forms will be supplied for those who wish to submit written comments at the scoping meetings. Written comments may also be submitted anytime during the NOP scoping period to the address, fax, or e-mail listed above.

**REMINDER:** All comments will be accepted by fax, e-mail, or postmark through March 19, 2009. Please be sure to include your name, organization (if applicable), address, and email.



**Figure 1: Project Location**



1425 N. McDowell Blvd  
Suite 150  
Petaluma, CA 94954