

May 14, 2026

Thomas Alexander  
CEQA Project Manager  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102

**Re: Power the South Bay Project (Application 24-05-014)  
Request for Minor Project Refinement No. 2**

Mr. Alexander:

LS Power Grid California, LLC (LSPGC) is hereby requesting approval of Minor Project Refinement No. 2 (MPR-2) from the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for the Power the South Bay Project (Project). Approval of MPR-2 would authorize the relocation of an underground transmission line vault (Vault 13) adjacent to the previously approved Project limits of construction. The new location of Vault 13 is immediately adjacent to Los Esteros Road, on developed land owned by the City of San Jose (San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility), in the City of San Jose, California. See additional details in **Attachment A, MPR-2 Form** and **Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure**.

The Project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) identified approximately 20-30 transmission line vaults which would be located along the proposed 230 kilovolt (kV) underground transmission line alignment, typically located within existing paved public roadways. MPR-2 will not change the quantity of transmission line vaults to be constructed for the Project. Due to recently identified existing buried utilities within Los Esteros Road where Vault 13 would have been located, LSPGC is requesting to relocate Vault 13 out of Los Esteros Road to avoid conflicts with those buried utilities. Please refer to **Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure** and **Attachment C, MPR-2 Photograph Log** to view the proposed MPR-2 construction work area and Vault 13 location.

Attachment A: MPR-2 Form  
Attachment B: MPR-2 Figure  
Attachment C: MPR-2 Photograph Log  
Attachment D: MPR-2 Cultural Resources Survey Report

## **Preconstruction Requirements and Permit/Approvals**

Approval of MPR-2 will not change the conditions set forth in the FEIR, nor will it change the type of equipment, number of construction personnel, or the status of any pre-construction or construction requirements set forth in the Project's Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Plan. LSPGC will obtain an encroachment permit from the City of San Jose to place Vault 13 on City-owned property.

### **MPR-2 Request for Approval**

LSPGC respectfully requests approval of MPR-2, as described herein, by May 22, 2026. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at [djoseph@lspower.com](mailto:djoseph@lspower.com).

Sincerely,



Dustin Joseph  
Director of Environmental Permitting

cc:

Lucy Marton (LSPGC)  
Casey Carroll (LSPGC)  
Jacob Diermann (LSPGC)  
David Wilson (LSPGC)  
Michelle Wilson (CPUC)  
Vince Molina (ESA)  
Phillip Peters (ESA)  
Emily Critchfield (KPE)

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**MPR-2 Form**



## Power the South Bay 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 EIR, create a new significant impact, are located within the geographic boundary of the study area of the EIR, and that do not conflict with any mitigation measure or applicable law or policy.

**Date Requested:** May 14, 2026

**Report No.:**

**Date Approved:**

**Approval Agency:** California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC).

**Property Owner(s):** The proposed Minor Project Refinement No. 2 (MPR-2) area (Vault 13) is located within property owned by the City of San Jose.

**Location/Milepost:** The proposed location of Vault 13 is would be adjacent to Los Esteros Road, across from the GreenWaste Renewable Energy Digestions Facility and the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility, in San Jose, California.

**Land Use/Vegetative Cover:** The Vault 13 construction work area is approximately 1.0 acre in disturbed land. This work area consists of bare ground, maintained grass, and street trees.

**Sensitive Resources:** There is potential to occur (PTO) for one sensitive wildlife species within the vicinity of the Vault 13 area, and soils classified as having high paleontological potential 7 or more feet below ground surface. See resource discussions below.

**Modification From:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan/Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Specification	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Measure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:		

LS Power Grid California, LLC (LSPGC) is requesting approval of MPR-2 for the relocation of Vault 13 adjacent to the limits of construction approved within the Project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR). It is necessary to relocate Vault 13 outside of the Los Esteros Road right-of-way (ROW) due to conflict with existing underground utilities. Vault 13 will be located approximately 20 feet south of the Los Esteros Road shoulder, on City property that contains the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (RWF), although a portion of the MPR-2 work area and associated transmission line will remain within the Los Esteros Road ROW as described below and shown in **Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure**. Temporary use of the remaining 0.75-acre MPR-2 work area will be required as a temporary work area for temporary equipment and materials laydown and overland travel access during vault and transmission line installation activities. The MPR-2 work area within the RWF treatment facility appears to be

subject to routine discing, mowing, or other types of vegetation management activities. No ground disturbance is proposed outside of trenching for the transmission line and vault installation as shown in **Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure**. Construction of Vault 13 will require the removal of approximately four street trees from within the MPR-2 work area (i.e., City property), but would be limited to the extent practicable. All removal of street trees would be coordinated with the City of San Jose. The portion of chain-link fencing that runs along the RWF property line within the MPR-2 work area will be removed in order to install Vault 13 and associated transmission line, but will be replaced following completion of MPR-2 construction activities.

Implementation of MPR-2 would expand the Project's limit of disturbance by approximately 1.0 acre. Vault 13 would be constructed of prefabricated (precast) or cast-in-place, steel-reinforced concrete. The vault will have two manhole covers measuring approximately 39 inches in diameter. The vault would be delivered to the construction site utilizing a large flatbed semi-truck/trailer. Installation of the vault will entail excavation, shoring, and leveling of the splice vault pit using crushed gravel or flowable fill; followed by delivery and installation of the vault using a crane; filling, grouting, and compacting the backfill; and repaving the excavated area. Backfill for splice vaults would consist of flowable concrete backfill.

Trenching will be conducted for installation of transmission line duct banks within the MPR-2 work area. As needed, pavement will be cut with a wet saw or asphalt zipper and excavated with an excavator. Jackhammers may be used to break up sections of concrete that the saw-cutting and pavement-breaking machines cannot reach. Excavators will be used to remove all spoils, with the spoils being loaded into dump trucks to be hauled off-site and disposed of in compliance with applicable regulations. The trenches will measure approximately three to six feet wide and eight feet deep on average, including any additional width needed for shoring to meet California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) safety requirements. Trench depths may vary depending on soil stability and existing underground structures. Upon reaching the final trench excavation depth, the trench walls will be secured via shoring. Underground cables will be installed into the duct banks once the duct bank and splice vaults are constructed. Two telecommunications fiber optic cables will be co-located within the transmission line duct bank.

The MPR-2 work area would be accessed via Los Esteros Road as well as a paved access road within the RWF treatment facility. Ornamental vegetation would be removed, as needed, within the MPR-2 work area. See **Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure** for the location of the MPR-2 components.

Stormwater best management practices (BMPs) such as silt fence and straw wattle would be installed within and surrounding the MPR-2 work area in accordance with the Project's Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP).

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

Original Condition: Vault 13 was originally planned to be located entirely within the Los Esteros Road ROW. This portion of Los Esteros Road is paved with one lane of travel in each direction. Conditions within the MPR-2 work area were documented with the FEIR. The MPR-2 area consists of maintained landscape covered by bare ground, non-native grasses, and street trees. Supplemental resource surveys were conducted to verify current conditions as described in the Resources section below. The MPR-2 work area is located within a disturbed, mostly flat area with no native habitat or sensitive aquatic features. Although the MPR-2 work area was not identified for Project use within the Project's FEIR, it is in close proximity to approved Project components and is therefore within the geographic study area analyzed within the FEIR. Further description of current conditions within the MPR-2 work area is provided in the resource discussions herein.

Justification for Change: It is stated in Section 2.8.6.1 of the FEIR that approximately 20 to 30 vaults would be required. Vaults are located along the segments of underground transmission line, generally directly in line with the transmission line alignment. Vault 13 was originally intended to be located within the Los Esteros Road ROW. However, it is necessary to relocate Vault 13 outside of the Los Esteros Road ROW due to conflict with existing underground utilities.

Maps & Figures: Refer to **Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure**, for a map of the proposed relocated Vault 13 and work area. Refer to **Attachment C, MPR-2 Photograph Log**, for pictures of the current conditions within the MPR-2 work area.

Environmental Impact: Relocation of Vault 13 adjacent to Los Esteros Road and use of the RWF facility parcel for equipment storage and access would not change the nature or substantially increase the severity of any impacts disclosed within the FEIR; would not require alteration to Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) or existing Mitigation Measures (MMs); would not require new mitigation measures; and would not require new regulatory approval. The MPR-2 work area is within disturbed land containing non-native, ornamental vegetation located on the RWF facility parcel owned by the City of San Jose. Specific discussions for each resource area are provided below.

Concurrence (if appropriate): LSPGC will acquire ROW approval via encroachment permit from the City of San Jose for the construction of Vault 13 on City owned property. MPR-2 would not require approval from any agencies not disclosed within the FEIR.

<b>Resources:</b>				
<b>Biological</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A, Change would not affect resources	
<p><b>Previous Biological Survey Report Reference:</b>            As the proposed new Vault 13 location is adjacent to the disturbance area analyzed in the FEIR, the biological and aquatic resource surveys described in the FEIR covered the MPR-2 area (refer to FEIR Section 3.4, Figure 3.4-1E). The MPR-2 work area is maintained landscape that appears to be subject to routine discing, mowing, or other vegetation management activities. There were no special-status plant or wildlife species identified during the surveys, and no aquatic features (e.g., wetlands or waters) are present within MPR-2 work area. Based on the analysis within the FEIR, one special-status species has the potential to occur within the vicinity of the MPR-2 area. Refer to FEIR Table 3.4-3 and <b>Table 1</b> below. PTO for all other plant and wildlife special-status species listed in FEIR Tables 3.4-2 and 3.4-3 is considered Low or None, and there was no PTO for special-status species not disclosed within the FEIR.</p>				
<b>Table 1: Special-Status Species PTO for Vault 13</b>				
Common Name <i>Scientific Name</i>	Status (State/ Federal)	Identification Period	Potential to Occur	Survey Requirements
<b>Birds</b>				
Golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	--/FP	Year-round	<b>Moderate.</b> Suitable foraging and nesting habitat for this species occurs in the vicinity of Los Esteros Road and the MPR-2 area. One known nest site is located approximately 0.5 mile south of the MPR-2 area, on the opposite side of the RWF facility.	APM BIO-11, APM BIO-14: Protocol surveys for golden eagle are in progress for this area, and will be completed prior to construction.
<p><i>Status Code:</i>  <i>Federal: FP = Federally Proposed</i></p>				

<b>Cultural</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> No Resources Present	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resources Present	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A, changes would not affect resources
<b>Previous Cultural Survey Report Reference:</b> As the MPR-2 work area is not located with the cultural resources area of potential effect (APE) examined in the Project's FEIR, a supplemental cultural resources survey, including a records review and pedestrian survey, was performed for the MPR-2 work area, consistent with APM CUL-4 (see <b>Attachment D, MPR-2 Cultural Resources Survey Report</b> ). The records search determined a portion of the MPR-2 work area is within 100 feet (30 meters) of site P-43-003879, the RWF Historic District Pump and Engine Building. However, there is no ground disturbance planned within 100 feet of this area, therefore monitoring is not required per the Archaeological Monitoring Plan (AMP). The pedestrian field survey for this area was performed on December 9, 2025. No cultural resources were discovered during the survey.			
<b>Paleontological</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 Paleontological Survey Report Reference:</b> Paleontological resources within one mile of the Project's limits of construction (which includes the MPR-2 work area) were studied, reviewed, and documented as part of the Proponent's Environmental Assessment. These resources were also discussed within the CPUC-conducted CEQA review process (see the Project's FEIR, Section 3.7). No records of paleontological resources were identified within the MPR-2 area in the records search performed by the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) and the University of California Museum of Paleontology (UCMP). At the MPR-2 work area, the soil strata between the ground surface and a depth of 7 feet below ground surface (bgs) is classified as low paleontological potential, and high paleontological potential at depths greater than 7 feet bgs. Excavation to depths up to 10 feet bgs will be required for construction of Vault 13 and associated transmission line installation activities. Excavation below 7 feet bgs will be monitored in accordance with the Project's Paleontological Mitigation Monitoring Plan.			
<b>Disturbance Acreage Changes:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
The additional disturbance resulting from the proposed relocation of Vault 13 is approximately 1.0 acre of previously disturbed land. Except for the footprint of the two manholes at Vault 13 (8± square feet per manhole cover), the surface disturbance will be temporary during construction and the work area will be restored to maintained landscape following construction.			

The following table includes environmental analysis representative of CEQA Appendix G Checklist Sections addressed in the FEIR as it relates to MPR-2.

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, Seismicity, Paleontological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-2 does not propose any new construction activities. The Vault 13 location included in MPR-2 would involve the same construction techniques and equipment as were included in the FEIR for vault and transmission line construction. Accordingly, approval of MPR-2 would not create any new geological related hazard not previously disclosed in the Project's FEIR, Section 3.7.  The Project SWPPP includes underground construction along Los Esteros Road, including the relocated Vault 13 work area. All construction activities will adhere to requirements in the SWPPP, including the implementation of
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	

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.
		<p>erosion control BMPs. In compliance with APM GEO-1 and the Project SWPPP, temporary impact areas included in MPR-2 will be stabilized and returned to approximate pre-construction conditions following use.</p> <p>There are no records of paleontological resources within the MPR-2 area. The potential for discovery of paleontological resources for the relocated Vault 13 would be the same as for the approved Vault 13 location. At the MPR-2 work area, the soil strata between the ground surface and a depth of 7 feet bgs is classified as low paleontological potential, and classified as high paleontological potential at depths greater than 7 feet bgs. Excavation to depths up to 10 feet bgs will be required for construction of Vault 13. Excavation below 7 feet bgs will be monitored in accordance with the Project's Paleontological Resources Mitigation Monitoring Plan (PRMMP) (APM PALEO-1). Any unanticipated discovery of paleontological resources would be addressed according to the Project's PRMMP and APM PALEO-2.</p> <p>For these reasons, impacts to geology, soils, seismicity and paleontological resources would remain similar to those addressed within the Project's FEIR, Section 3.7. No new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-2 activities would not require agency consultation relating to geology, soils, or paleontological resources.
Hazardous Materials and Waste	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<p>USPGC and its contractors would comply with applicable rules and regulations pertaining to hazardous materials during MPR-2 activities to minimize the risk of a significant hazard from material transport, use, storage, and disposal. MPR-2 activities would not result in the performance of any new construction activities, an increase or change in the anticipated amounts or type of hazardous materials, nor create any new hazardous waste that could expose the public to hazards.</p> <p>There are no known soil contaminants within the MPR-2 work area. Hazardous materials such as diesel fuel would be utilized within construction equipment during the installation of the relocated Vault 13. Construction activities at the MPR-2 work area would adhere to requirements within the Project's Hazardous Materials Management Plan (HMMP) (APM HAZ-2), MM 3.9-1b, MM 3.9-1c, and APM WQ-1, as applicable. Therefore, impacts related to hazards and hazardous materials would remain similar to those analyzed within the Project's FEIR, Section 3.9. No new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	No additional agency consultation is required for MPR-2.
Hydrology/ Water Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	There are no aquatic features within the MPR-2 work area. While MPR-2 will involve the installation of permanent facilities, these would not be different from those included with the approved Project's FEIR. The Project SWPPP

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.
		<p>includes the MPR-2 work area, and all MPR-2 construction activities would adhere to requirements and BMPs within the SWPPP. Although impacts to hydrology and water quality are not anticipated, any indirect impacts that might occur would be mitigated with the implementation of APM WQ-1, APM HAZ-2, MM 3.9-1b, MM 3.9-1c, and the Project SWPPP, which contains measures to reduce or eliminate pollutants in storm water discharges from the site during construction that may otherwise violate water quality standards.</p> <p>MPR-2 activities would therefore not impede or redirect flood flow, alter the existing drainage pattern of the area, or otherwise result in hydrology and water quality impacts that would be different from the impacts addressed in the Project's FEIR, Section 3.10. No new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-2 activities would not require agency consultation relating to hydrology or water quality.
Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<p>There is no ground disturbance proposed outside of the "Underground Work Area" portion of the MPR-2 work area as shown in <b>Attachment B, MPR-2 Figure</b>. As discussed in the resources section in this MPR-2 request, a portion of the MPR-2 work area is within 100 feet (30 meters) of site P-43-003879, the RWF Historic District Pump and Engine Building. However, there is no ground disturbance planned within 100 feet of this area. The pedestrian field survey for this area was performed on December 9, 2025, and no cultural resources were discovered during the survey. As such, cultural and tribal monitoring is not anticipated to be required for MPR-2 activities. Although no direct impacts to cultural or tribal cultural resources are anticipated as a result of the installation of the relocated Vault 13, any indirect impacts that may occur as a result of an unanticipated discovery of cultural resources would be mitigated through implementation of APM CUL-1, APM CUL-2, APM CUL-3, APM CUL-4, APM CUL-5, and MM 3.5-1 as needed. Therefore, there would be no change in impacts compared to those addressed within the Project's FEIR, Sections 3.5 and 3.18. No new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	MPR-2 activities would not require agency consultation relating to cultural or tribal cultural resources.

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.
Traffic and Circulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>The MPR-2 work area will be accessed from Los Esteros Road and from a paved road from the RWF treatment facility. LSPGC is not proposing any new activities or change in the volume of workers or construction-related vehicle trips disclosed in the FEIR, Section 3.17. The relocated Vault 13 is positioned immediately adjacent to the Project limits of construction analyzed within the FEIR. The temporary use of the RWF treatment facility's paved access road to access the MPR-2 work area will not result in new significant impacts, as it is a private road that is not used by the public. Although use of the private road and overland access were not anticipated in the FEIR, access through the private road within the RWF facility would alleviate potential congestion along Los Esteros Road.</p> <p>MPR-2 is not anticipated to require any closure of any sidewalks or trails. Emergency access will be maintained throughout all construction for MPR-2. Any damage to roads or other infrastructure would be repaired per MM 3.17-2b. In addition, there are no bus stops that would be impacted by the construction of Vault 13, and the site is located within an industrial area not frequented by residential motorists. Accordingly, impacts resulting from the relocation of Vault 13 would remain similar to those analyzed within the Project's FEIR, Section 3.17, and no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-2 activities would not require new agency consultation related to traffic and circulation.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Air Quality	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>The relocation of Vault 13 and use of the RWF facility parcel for equipment storage and access would not result in new construction activities that have not been previously analyzed and disclosed within the Project's FEIR. There is no change to the overall construction schedule or equipment used that will result from the relocation of Vault 13.</p> <p>All MPR-2 activities would take place in accordance with MM 3.3-2a, ensuring that at least 75 percent of equipment horsepower hours related to off-road construction equipment includes Tier 4 Final emission controls, and equipment documentation and tracking is performed as needed. In addition, fugitive dust control measures defined in MM 3.3-2b would be followed.</p> <p>Therefore, the relocation of Vault 13 as proposed herein would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of impacts analyzed and disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 3.3, and no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-2 would not require agency consultation relating to air quality.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	There are no sensitive noise receptors within 1,000 feet of the MPR-2 work area, and the Vault 13 site is located in an industrial area. MPR-2 also does not propose the performance of any new activities not disclosed within Section 3.13 of the Project's FEIR. As such, there would be no change to impacts analyzed in the FEIR, Section 3.13, and no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-2 activities would not require agency consultation relating to noise and vibration.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Aesthetics/ Visual Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>The relocated Vault 13 is located immediately adjacent to the limits of construction analyzed in the FEIR. In addition, installation and operation and maintenance would not result in any visible aboveground structures. Four street trees within the MPR-2 work area will be removed in order to install Vault 13, but will be limited to the extent practicable. In compliance with MM 3.4-5, removal of street trees will be coordinated with the City of San Jose and a street tree removal permit would be obtained.</p> <p>Relocation of Vault 13 and use of the RWF facility parcel for equipment storage and access would not affect any scenic resources identified in the Project's FEIR, and it is located in an industrial area adjacent to Project components analyzed in the FEIR, Section 3.1. Nighttime lighting, if needed, would be used in accordance with APM BIO-10 and MM 3.1-2. Therefore, impacts to aesthetics and visual resources would remain similar to those analyzed within the FEIR, Section 3.1, and no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-2 activities would not require agency consultation relating to aesthetics or visual resources.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

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.
Vegetation and Wildlife	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>MPR-2 would result in a total of approximately 1.0 acre of temporary disturbance to developed land. There are no aquatic features or native vegetation present within the work area. Although there were no sensitive wildlife species observed during biological surveys, the MPR-2 area has a moderate PTO for golden eagle. It is important to note that, due to the documented presence of a golden eagle nest within 1 mile of the Project, the approved Project Vault 13 location (i.e., within the right-of-way of Los Esteros Road) would have the same potential for indirect impacts to golden eagle. Pre-construction surveys for special-status species will take place in accordance with MM 3.4-1d, APM BIO-3, APM BIO-11, and APM BIO-14 prior to the start of construction within the MPR-2 work area, and pre-construction nesting bird surveys will take place prior to the removal of street trees within the MPR-2 work area in accordance with APM BIO-15.</p> <p>Direct impacts to biological resources are not anticipated, but to the extent that any indirect impacts may occur to sensitive species in the vicinity of the MPR-2 work area, those impacts would be mitigated through the implementation of the following APMs and MMs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM BIO-3: Preconstruction Sweeps</li> <li>• APM BIO-6: Vehicle Speed Limits</li> <li>• APM BIO-8: Excavation Wildlife Safety Best Management Practices</li> <li>• APM BIO-9: Worker Environmental Awareness Program (WEAP) Training</li> <li>• APM BIO-10: Outdoor Lighting Measures</li> <li>• APM BIO-11: Special-Status Bird Surveys</li> <li>• APM BIO-12: Nesting Bird Protection Measures</li> <li>• APM BIO-13: Raptor Surveys</li> <li>• APM BIO-14: Golden Eagle Protection</li> <li>• APM BIO-15: Nesting Bird Surveys</li> <li>• MM 3.1-2: Minimize Fugitive Light from Temporary Sources Used for Construction</li> <li>• MM 3.4-1d: Protection of Special-Status Wildlife</li> <li>• MM 3.4-1e: Construction WEAP</li> </ul> <p>As such, impacts to biological resources would remain similar to those addressed in the Project's FEIR, Section 3.4. No new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-2 activities would not require agency consultation relating to biological resources.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

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.
Wildfire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	<p>The relocated Vault 13 and RWF facility parcel are not located in a high-fire severity zone as determined by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), nor are they located in an area of elevated or extreme fire-threat as determined by CPUC.</p> <p>The Project's Workers' Environmental Awareness Program training will be provided prior to and throughout construction to educate Project personnel regarding fire safety, prevention, and response procedures. Therefore, potential impacts related to wildfire resulting from MPR-2 would be similar to those disclosed in the FEIR, Section 3.20. No new or altered APMs or MMs would be required.</p>
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-2 activities would not require agency consultation related to wildfire.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

Approvals	Date	Name (print)	Signature	
LSPGC Project Manager		Lucy Marton		<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
LSPGC Environmental Project Manager		Dustin Joseph		<input type="checkbox"/> Reviewed
CPUC Project Manager				<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved with conditions (see below) <input type="checkbox"/> Denied

For CPUC Compliance Manager Use Only		
<input type="checkbox"/> Refinement Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Refinement Denied	<input type="checkbox"/> Beyond Authority

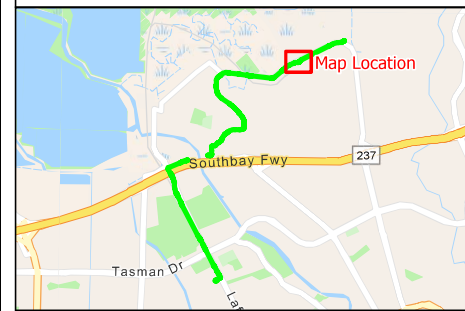
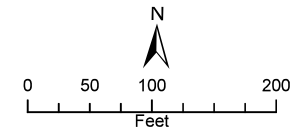
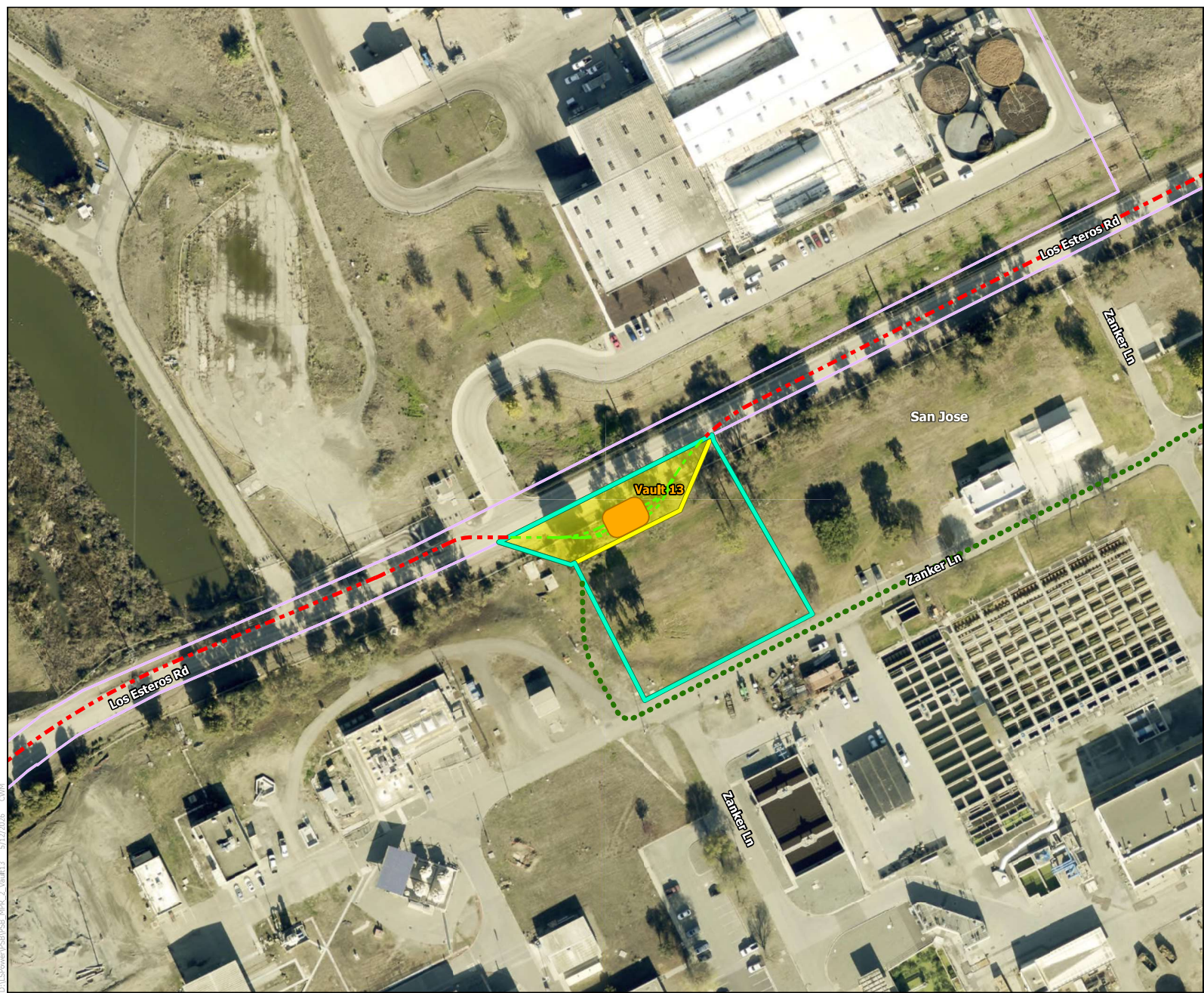
<b>Conditions of Approval or Reason for Denial:</b>	
Prepared by:	Date:

**ATTACHMENT B**  
**MPR-2 Figure**

**POWER THE SOUTH BAY PROJECT**  
**MPR-2 Vault 13**  
**City of San Jose, CA**

**LEGEND**

- MPR-2 Components**
- 230 kV AC Transmission Line (Underground)
  - MPR-2 Access
  - Vault Location
  - Underground Work Area
  - MPR-2 Work Area
- Project area not included MPR-2**
- 230 kV AC Transmission Line (Underground)
  - Limits of Construction
- General Features**
- Municipal Boundary



Sources: LSPGC, 2023; Source: Esri, Vector, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community, National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp.

D:\LSPower\PSD\056\_MPR\_2\_Vault13\_5/12/2025\_CVM

**ATTACHMENT C**  
**MPR-2 Photograph Log**

**Power the South Bay  
MPR-2 Vault 13 Site Photographs**



**Photograph 1:**

View northeast of the MPR-2 work area.



**Photograph 2:**

View southwest of the MPR-2 area from Los Esteros Road shoulder.

**ATTACHMENT D**  
**MPR-2 Cultural Resources Survey Report**



May 13, 2026

Dustin Joseph  
LS Power Grid California, LLC  
6701 Kroll Center Parkway, Suite 250  
Pleasanton, CA 94566

RE: Cultural Resources Survey of Vault 13 survey area, a 0.96-acre underground transmission line location and staging area for LS Power Grid California's Power the South Bay Project, Santa Clara County, California

Dear Mr. Joseph:

## Introduction

This report documents the results of a cultural resources inventory and pedestrian survey conducted for Vault 13 survey area, a proposed underground transmission line vault and staging area location, added to the Power the South Bay (PSB) Project for LS Power Grid California, LLC (LS Power) in Santa Clara County, California. This report extends the PSB Area of Potential Effect (APE) to include the footprint of this additional underground transmission line location, which will parallel Los Esteros Road approximately 15 meters (m) to the east and include four vault locations, and staging area location east of the transmission line, for a total of 0.96 acres (Figure 1). A cultural resources inventory for the Project was previously conducted (see Mengers, Harvey, Eckhardt and Lambert 2025). The new Project area is located within the one-mile buffer of the original cultural resources inventory, but outside the original survey area. Therefore, a records review pertaining to the project area, as well as an intensive pedestrian survey, was required. This records review and survey report will complement the current PSB Archaeological Monitoring Plan (Zinser 2026). In summary, no new cultural resources were identified.

The underground transmission line location documented in this report is located at 700 Los Esteros Rd, San Jose, within the San José-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility (RWF), and owned by the City of San José (APN 015-30-109). The parcel is located west of the main RWF facilities and is bound by Los Esteros Road on the northwest, RWF structures on the southwest and southeast, and a grassy area to the northeast. Approximately 0.96 acres of land were surveyed for this inventory. The surveyed area can be seen on the Milpitas 7.5-minute United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle (Figure 2).

*2038 Corte Del Nogal, Suite 110*

*Carlsbad, California 92011*

*Phone: 760.683.8335 Fax: 760.884.3763*

## Previous Cultural Resource Studies

Surface surveys conducted between September 2023 and January 2025 were confined to those portions of the Proposed Project area where access was available. A detailed project description along with background research and surface survey methods and results are included in *Cultural Resources Technical Report for the Power the South Bay Project, Alameda and Santa Clara Counties, California* (Mengers, Harvey, Eckhardt and Lambert 2025), the *Final Environmental Impact Report: LS Power Grid California's Power the South Bay Project (SCH # 2024071095)* (California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) 2025). The current Project area falls within the bounds of the original records search done for these reports.

The records search identified two studies conducted within the past twelve years that intersects the survey area described in this report and had a field component (pedestrian survey, archaeological monitoring, or data recovery), covering all of the survey area (Archaeo-Tech, Inc. 2015; Brennan et al. 2016).

The records search identified no previously recorded resources that intersect the survey area described in this report. One previously recorded site, P-43-003879, is located adjacent to the survey area (See Figure 2). Site P-43-003879, the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility (RWF) Streamline Moderne Industrial Historic District Pump and Engine Building, was originally recorded in 2016, and has not been evaluated for listing on the CRHR (Brennan et al. 2016).

PanGIS consulted historical maps and documents of the survey area, including historical topographic maps from 1889 to 1973 (USGS 2025) and aerial imagery from 1948, 1956 to 1968, and 1980 to 1982 (NETROnline 2025). Historic map and aerial review agrees with the development history presented in the documents cited above regarding the survey area. From the 1890s until the 1950s, the survey area was located on undeveloped land along Mud Slough, which feeds into Coyote Creek. Los Esteros Rd appears on the 1948 aerial, while the survey area becomes part of the RWF by 1956 but remains undeveloped. Railroad tracks appear to the south of the survey area on the 1973 Topographic map, connecting the RWF to the South Pacific Coast Railroad.

## Methods and Results

An intensive pedestrian survey of the proposed underground transmission line and staging area location footprint which constituted the APE was conducted by PanGIS archaeologist Max Haber on December 9, 2025. The full APE was intensively surveyed in 10 m intervals. A GPS device running ArcGIS Collector software was used to ensure that accurate project boundaries were recognized and that the entire APE was completely surveyed.

The survey area is located along Los Esteros Rd, separated by a fence and accessible via gate. The area is unpaved and mostly undeveloped, with the exception of some power boxes and a fence (Plate 1). A small portion of the survey area sits on the outside of the fence along the road (Plate 2). Visibility was 70%, with low ground coverage including maintained lawn, as well as landscaped bushes and eucalyptus trees (plate 3). No cultural resources were discovered during the survey of the vault and staging area location APE.

Mr. Dustin Joseph Correspondence

LS Power Grid California, LLC

May 13, 2026

Page 3

## Summary

In summary, no existing cultural resources are located within or near the proposed Power the South Bay underground transmission line and staging area location and no new cultural resources were observed during the intensive pedestrian survey. The staging area portion of this APE is within 100 feet (30 meters) of site P-43-003879, the RWF Historic District Pump and Engine Building, but no ground disturbance is planned for this area; therefore, in accordance with Section 5.3.2 of the Archaeological Monitoring Plan for the Power the South Bay Project, no monitoring is necessary (Zinser 2026). No further cultural resources work is required in this area, unless project parameters change.

If you have any questions or require further clarification of any of the above information in this letter report, please do not hesitate to contact me at (760) 683-8335 or at rzinser@pangis.com.

Regards,



Rebekah Zinser, M.A., RPA

Senior Archaeologist

PanGIS, Inc.

## Attachments:

Figure 1: Survey location map

Figure 2: Survey area map

Plate 1: Overview of surveyed area showing disturbances, facing east

## References

Archaeo-Tech

2015 *Phase I Cultural Resources Evaluation for the Digester and Thickener Facilities Upgrade Project, San Jose, Santa Clara County, California*. NWIC Report S-050028.

Brennan, Eryn, Brad Brewster, and Heidi Koenig

2016 *San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility Capital Improvement Program, Cultural Resources Survey Report (Combined Archaeological Survey Report and Historic Resources Evaluation Report)*. Environmental Science Associates Report S-049327.

Mr. Dustin Joseph Correspondence

LS Power Grid California, LLC

May 13, 2026

Page 4

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

2025 *Final Environmental Impact Report: LS Power Grid California's Power the South Bay Project* by Environmental Science Associates. SCH #2024071095.

Mengers, Douglas W., Stephen Harvey, William Eckhardt, and Christine Lambert

2025 *Cultural Resource Technical Report for the Power the South Bay Project, Alameda and Santa Clara Counties, California*. Prepared for LS Power Grid California and CPUC. PanGIS, Inc.: Carlsbad, CA.

NETROnline

2025 *Historic Aerials*. Accessed at: <https://www.historicaerials.com/viewer>.

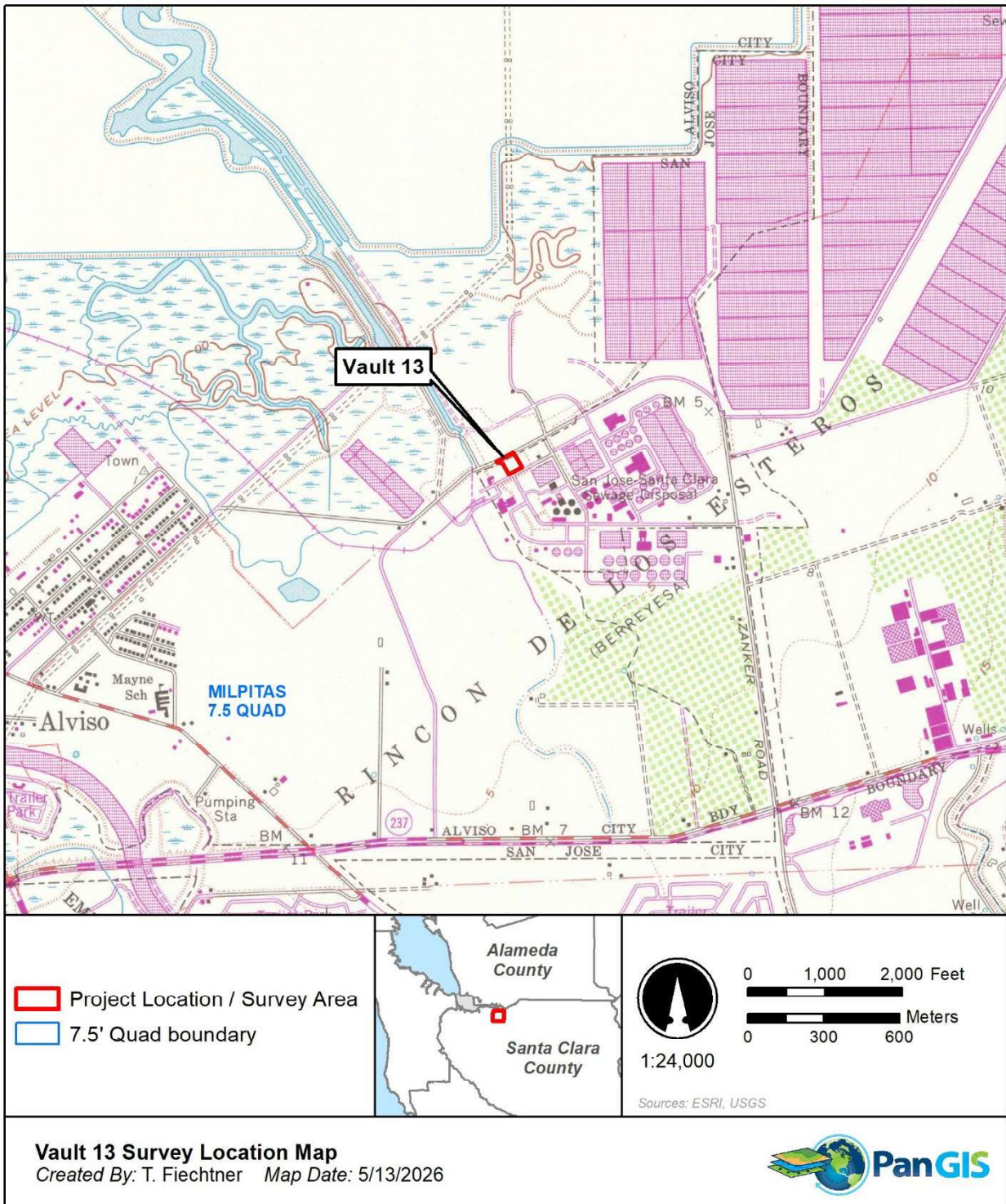
United States Geological Survey (USGS)

2026 USGS Historical Topographic Map Explorer. Accessed at:

<https://livingatlas.arcgis.com/topoexplorer/index.html>.

Zinser, Rebekah A.

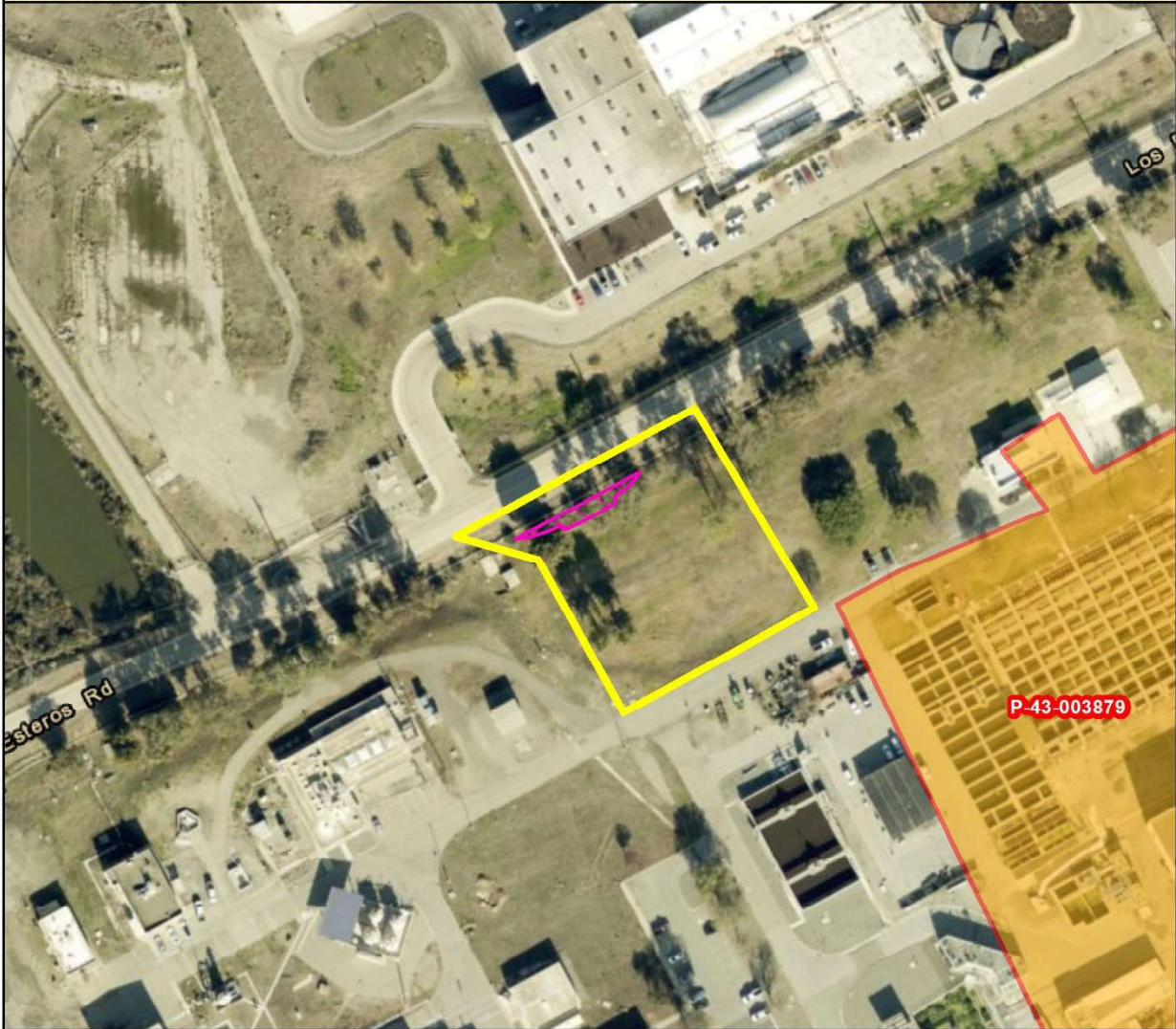
2026 *Archaeological Monitoring Plan for the Power the South Bay Project, Alamed and Santa Clara Counties, California*. Prepared for LS Power Grid California and CPUC. PanGIS, Inc.: Carlsbad, CA.






P:\PROJECTS\KP Environmental\2023\Newark LS Power\MXD\Report Maps\Vault 13 Survey Location.mxd

Figure 1: Survey Location Map

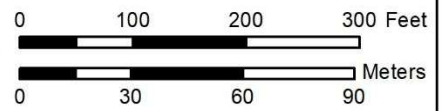
**CONFIDENTIAL.** This document is confidential under California Government Code 6254.10 and the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 304, and other applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations prohibiting public and unauthorized disclosure of records related to cultural resources.



-  Vault 13 APE / Survey Area
-  Vault 13 APE
-  Previously Recorded Resources



1:2,000



Sources: ESRI, USGS, SDG&E

**Vault 13 Survey Area Map**  
Created By: T. Fiechtner Map Date: 5/13/2026



Figure 2: Survey Area Map

Mr. Dustin Joseph Correspondence

LS Power Grid California, LLC

May 13, 2026

Page 7



Plate 1. Overview of surveyed area, facing northeast (12/9/25)



Plate 2. Survey area outside of fence, facing southwest (12/9/25)

Mr. Dustin Joseph Correspondence

LS Power Grid California, LLC

May 13, 2026

Page 8



Plate 3. Overview of survey area, facing southwest (12/9/25)