Power Santa Clara Valley Project

CEQA Scoping Meeting

Meeting Information	Scoping Meeting	
Day and Date	Wednesday, September 18, 2024	
Time	6:00 pm	
Location	Santa Teresa Branch Library Community Room 290 International Circle San Jose, CA 95119	
Attend virtually by	Zoom Link: https://bit.ly/PSCVPScopingMtg or by phone: (888) 788-0099 Webinar ID: 893 0273 0565	

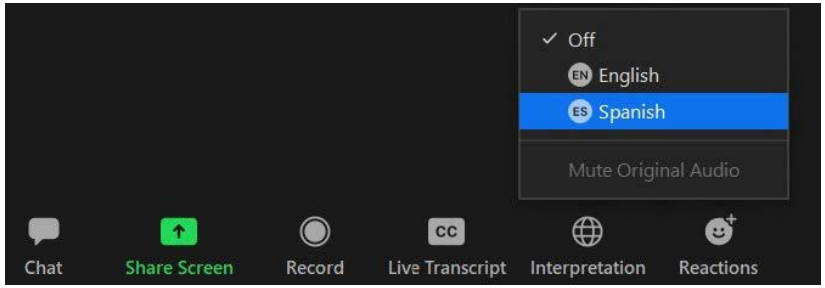
CPUC Power Santa Clara Valley Project Webpage:
LS Power Grid California, LLC (LSPGC) Power Santa Clara Valley Project

Select Your Preferred Language / *Seleccione su idioma*

For Spanish / Para Espanol

1. Click the "**Interpretation**" button and select your preferred language */ Haga clic en el botón "**Interpretation**" y seleccione Español"*

2. Click the Interpretation button again and then click "Mute Original Audio" */ Haga clic en el botón "**Interpretation**" nuevamente y luego haga clic en "Silenciar audio original"*



Scoping Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Purpose of the Meeting
- Application and Permitting Process
- Environmental Review Process (CEQA)
- Project Overview
- Scoping: Environmental Impacts and Alternatives
- Public Comments
- Next Steps

Introductions

State Lead Agency (CEQA):

California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)

- Tharon Wright, CPUC Project Manager
- Roxanne Henriquez, CPUC

Consultant: Environmental Science Associates (ESA)

- Valisa Nez, ESA Project Manager
- Selena Whitney, ESA
- Marisol Guzman, ESA
- Nicole Lobodzinski, ESA

Project Applicant: LS Power Grid California (LSPGC)

Purpose of this Meeting

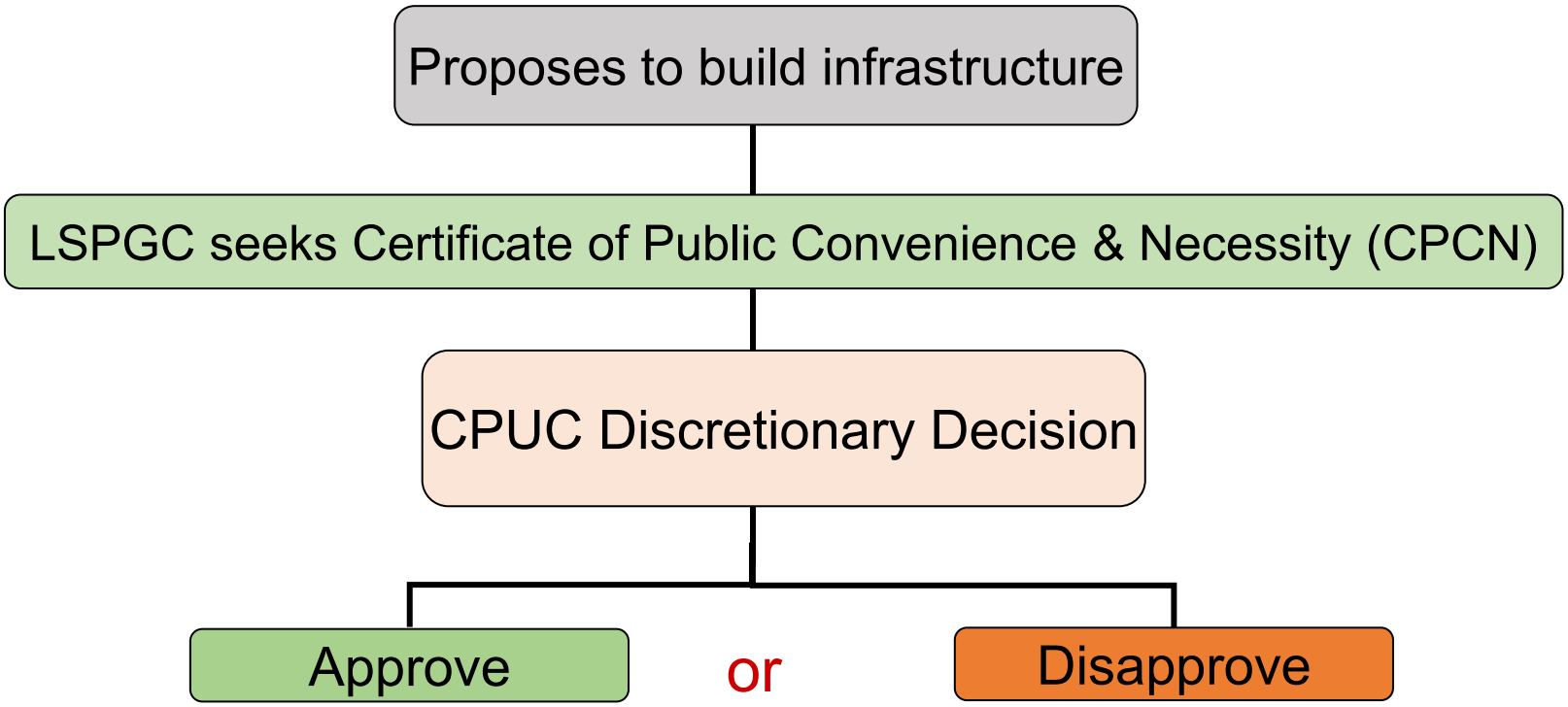
To receive input from the public, agencies, and interested parties to inform the scope and content of the environmental review.
Your ideas are welcome and invited.

What is Scoping?

- Scoping is the process of soliciting public and agency input regarding the scope and content of an EIR, in advance of its preparation.
- CPUC is requesting comments to inform the scope and content of the EIR and help identify the project actions, alternatives, environmental effects, and mitigation measures to be analyzed.

Application Process

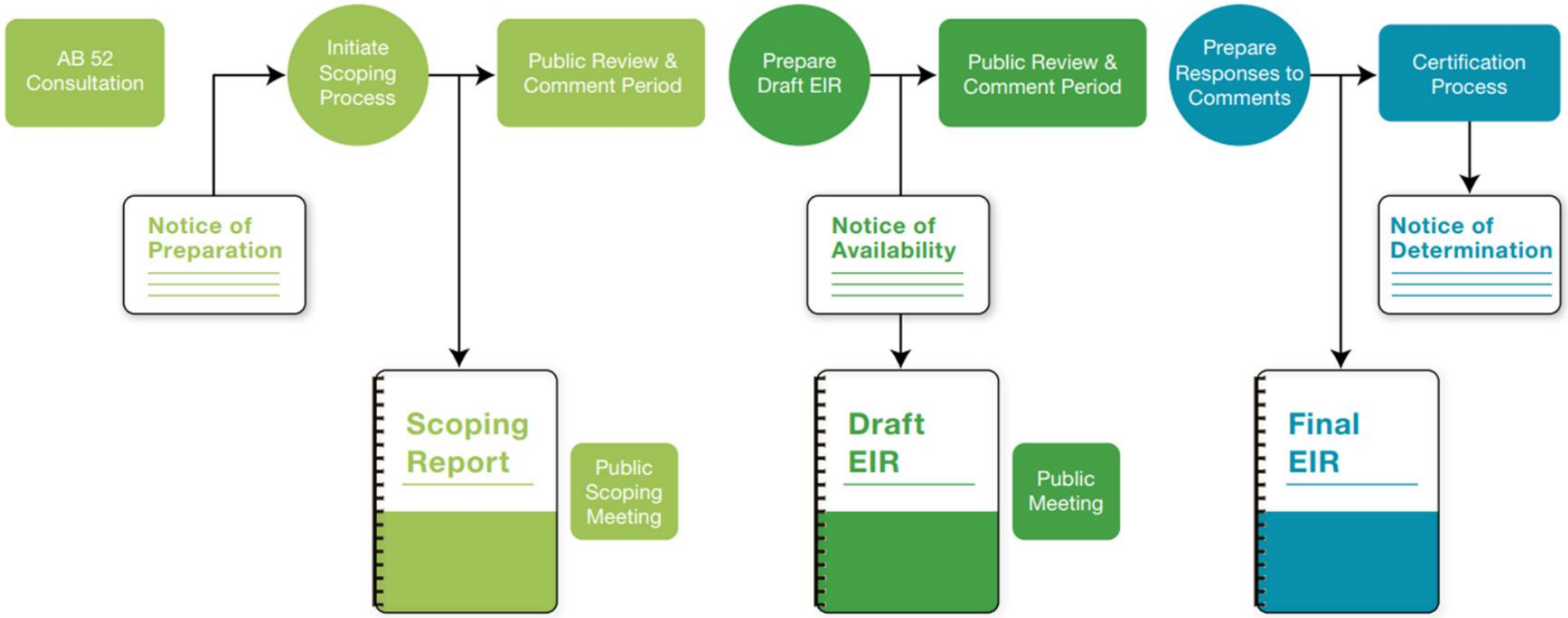
LS Power Grid California (LSPGC)



CEQA Overview

- The California Environmental Quality Act
  - Inform decision makers and the public about the potential significant environmental effects of a proposed project
  - Identify ways that environmental damage can be avoided or significantly reduced
  - Prevent significant, avoidable damage to the environment through the use of alternatives or mitigation measures
  - Disclose to the public the reasons why a governmental agency approved the project if significant environmental effects are involved
- Focus on physical impacts to the environment

CEQA EIR Process



CEQA: Project Description

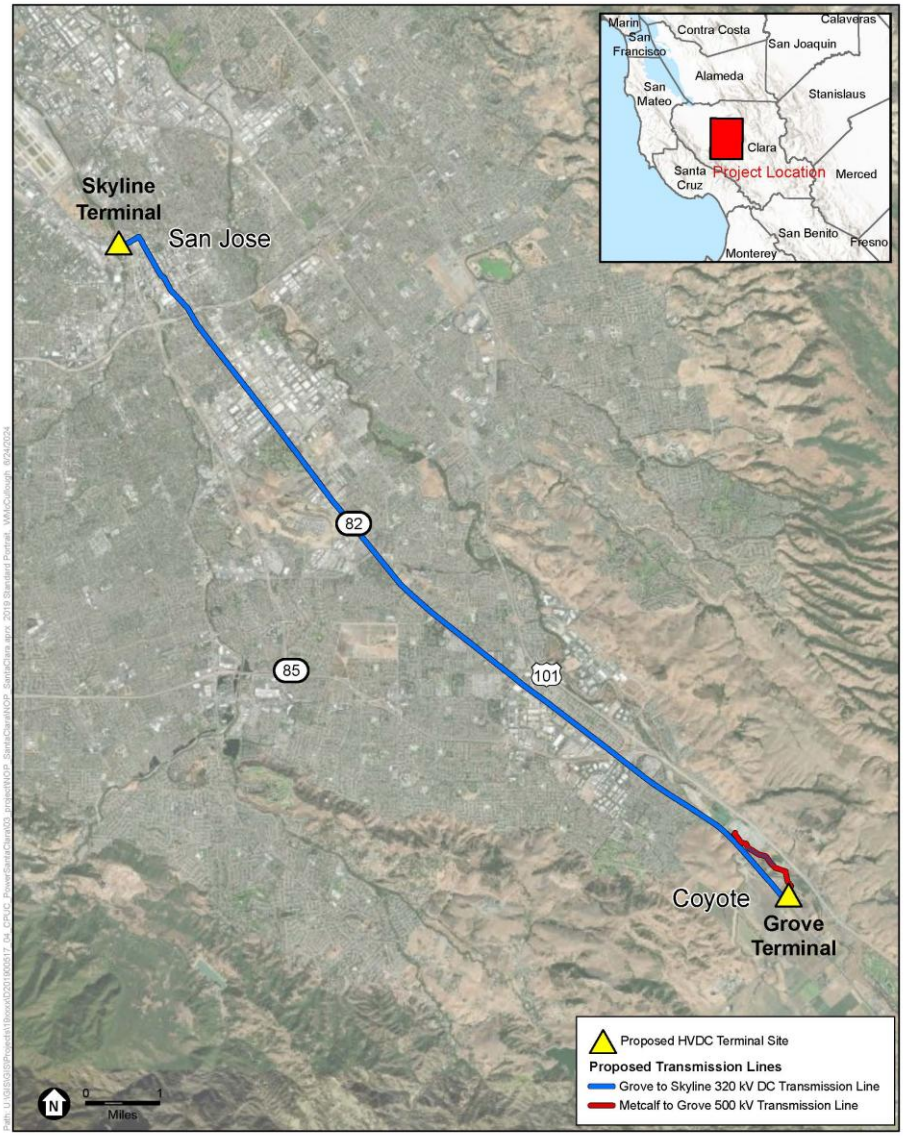
- **Construction**
  - What would be built
  - How would the project be built
    - Construction methodology
    - Equipment required
    - Workers required
  - Project schedule- duration/phases

- **Operations**
  - How would the project be operated
  - Operational personnel required

- **Maintenance**
  - How is the project maintained
  - When is maintenance performed
  - Maintenance personnel required

Project Location

- <u>Santa Clara County</u>
- San Jose
- Unincorporated Santa Clara County



SOURCE: LS Power, 2024

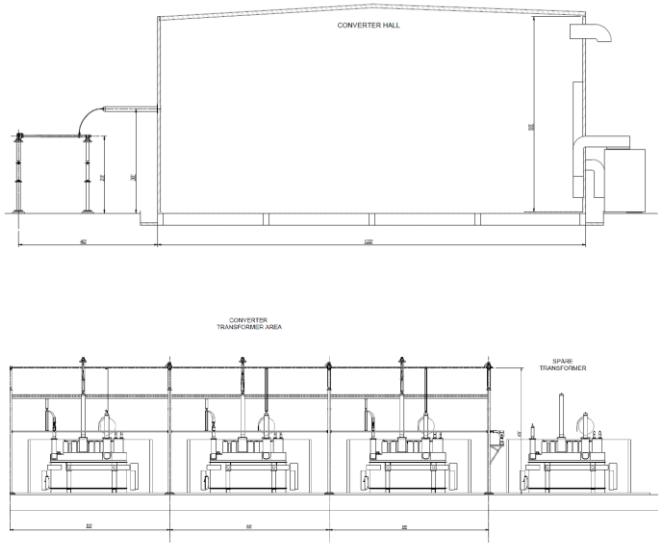
CPUC Power Santa Clara Valley

Figure 1
Project Location

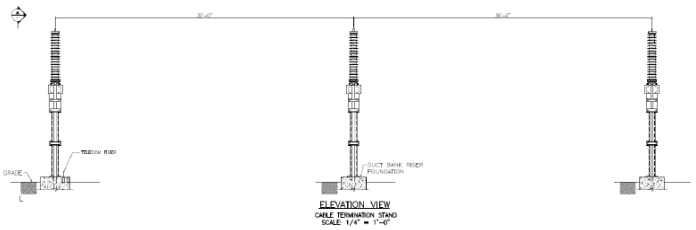
ESA

Project Components

- 2 high-voltage direct current (HVDC) terminals w/ associated transmission lines
- New transmission lines include:
  - 13-mile 320 kV direct current underground transmission line connecting the Grove terminal to Skyline terminal
  - 100-ft overhead 115 kV alternating current station tie line connecting the new Skyline terminal to the existing PG&E San Jose B substation
  - 1.2-mile 500 kV underground transmission line connecting the new Grove terminal to the existing PG&E Metcalf substation



HVDC Terminal Site Profile



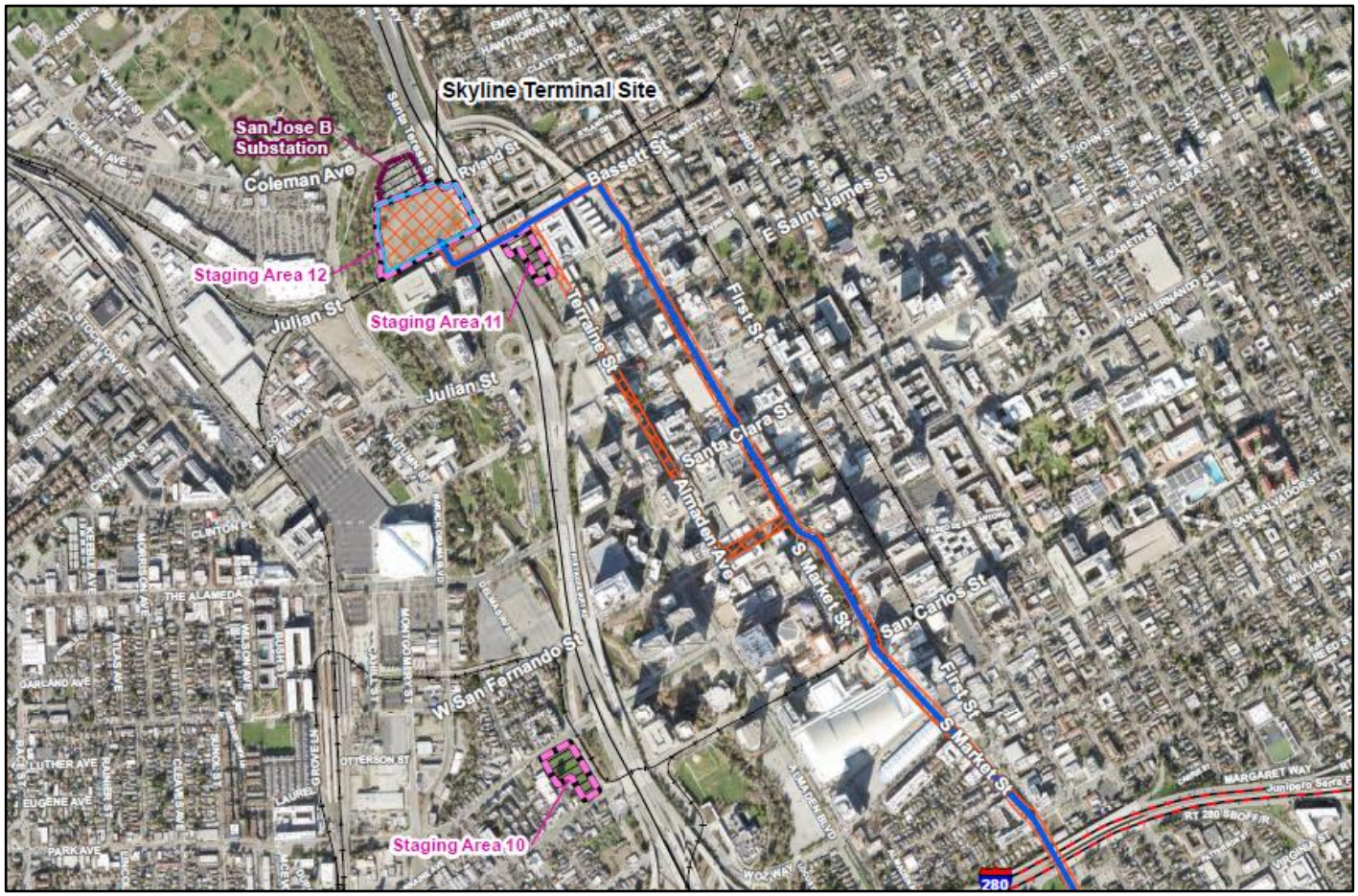
Typical 500 kV AC Terminator and Riser Structures

Existing - Skyline Terminal Site

Looking southeast

Looking south

Proposed – Skyline Terminal General Arrangement



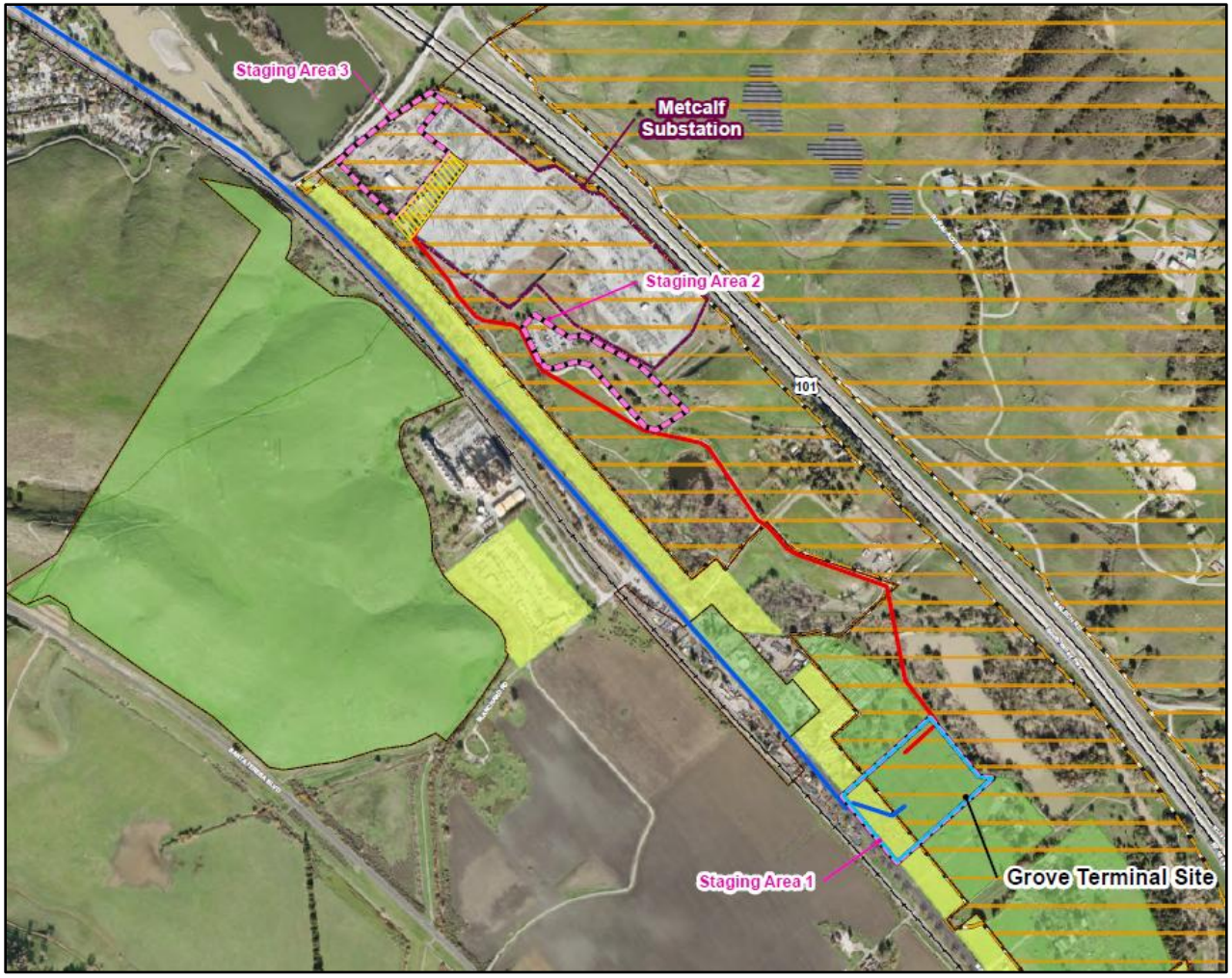
Proposed – Skyline Terminal General Arrangement

Existing - Grove Terminal Site

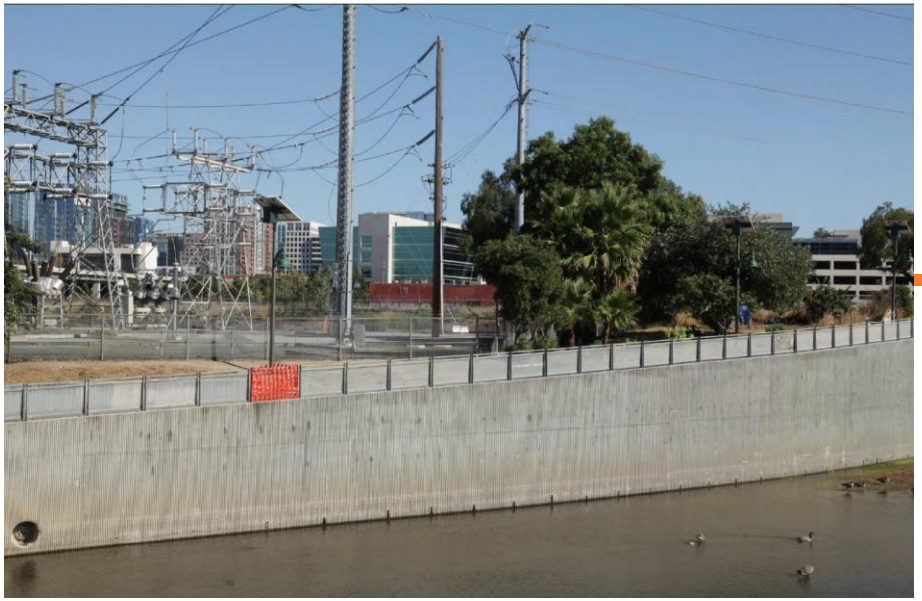
Looking west

Looking north

Proposed – Grove Terminal General Arrangement



Proposed – Grove Terminal General Arrangement



Adjacent to San Jose B Substation

SE

Adjacent to Skyline Terminal Site

NE

Adjacent to Metcalf Substation

N

Adjacent to Grove Terminal

N

CEQA: Environmental Resource Areas

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and Service Systems
- Wildfire

For Each Resource Area . . .

- Define and Describe Existing Setting
  - Environmental setting
  - Regulatory setting
- Establish Thresholds of Significance
  - What defines a “significant” impact
- Identify Project Impacts and Mitigation
  - CPUC Mitigations
  - Significance after mitigation
- Evaluate Cumulative Impacts
- Impacts of Alternatives

CEQA: Project Alternatives

- Identify a range of reasonable alternatives to avoid or substantially lessen significant effects of the project
- Feasible
  - Legal, regulatory, technical
- Meet most basic project objectives

Project Objectives

LSPGC has identified the following objectives for the Project:

- **Meet the CAISO's reliability-driven need** by addressing multiple near-, mid-, and long-term reliability issues in the existing San José 115 kV system;
- **Meet the technical specifications set forth by CAISO for a Voltage-Sourced Converter (VSC)-HVDC link in the San José area** located near or adjacent to the existing PG&E San Jose B substation and Metcalf substation. Proximity to the existing PG&E San Jose B and Metcalf substations will reduce the length of the interconnection (115 kV and 500 kV) transmission lines, thereby reducing right-of-way requirements and the potential for significant environmental impacts;
- **Improve and maintain the reliability of the transmission grid** by providing dynamic reactive-power support and increase deliverability of renewable power, by building and operating a facility that will help keep transmission voltages within specified parameters, reduce transmission losses, increase reactive margin for the system bus, increase transmission capacity, provide a higher transient stability limit, increase damping of minor disturbances, and provide greater voltage control and stability;
- **Facilitate deliverability of energy from existing and proposed renewable generation projects** to the Greater Bay Area and corresponding progress toward achieving California's Renewables Portfolio Standard goals in a timely and cost-effective manner by California utilities;
- **Comply with and assist CAISO in meeting applicable Reliability Standards and Criteria** developed by North American Electric Reliability Corporation, Western Electricity Coordinating Council, and CAISO; and,
- **Design and construct the Proposed Project in conformance** with LS Power's standards, the National Electric Safety Code, and other applicable national and state codes and regulations.

Alternatives may include . . .

- Those considered or suggested by the
  - LS Power Grid California
  - Public/agencies
  - Developed by CEQA team
- Project Alternatives:
  - Locations
  - Routes
  - Technology (e.g., underground lines)
  - Others?
- “No Project” alternative

To Get Involved in the CEQA Process

- You're on the right track!
  - Please stay on and provide your scoping input
- Scoping Process
  - Notice of Preparation sent on September 6, 2024
  - Scoping Period closes on October 7, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.
  - How to comment:
    - Verbally at this Scoping Meeting and/or by submitting a Comment Letter via Mail, or via Email
- Draft EIR
  - Anticipated release is February 2025

CPUC Project Webpage:
https://ia.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/esa/pscv/index.html

How to Submit a Scoping Comment

Public Comment Mailing Address:

Tharon Wright, CPUC Project Manager

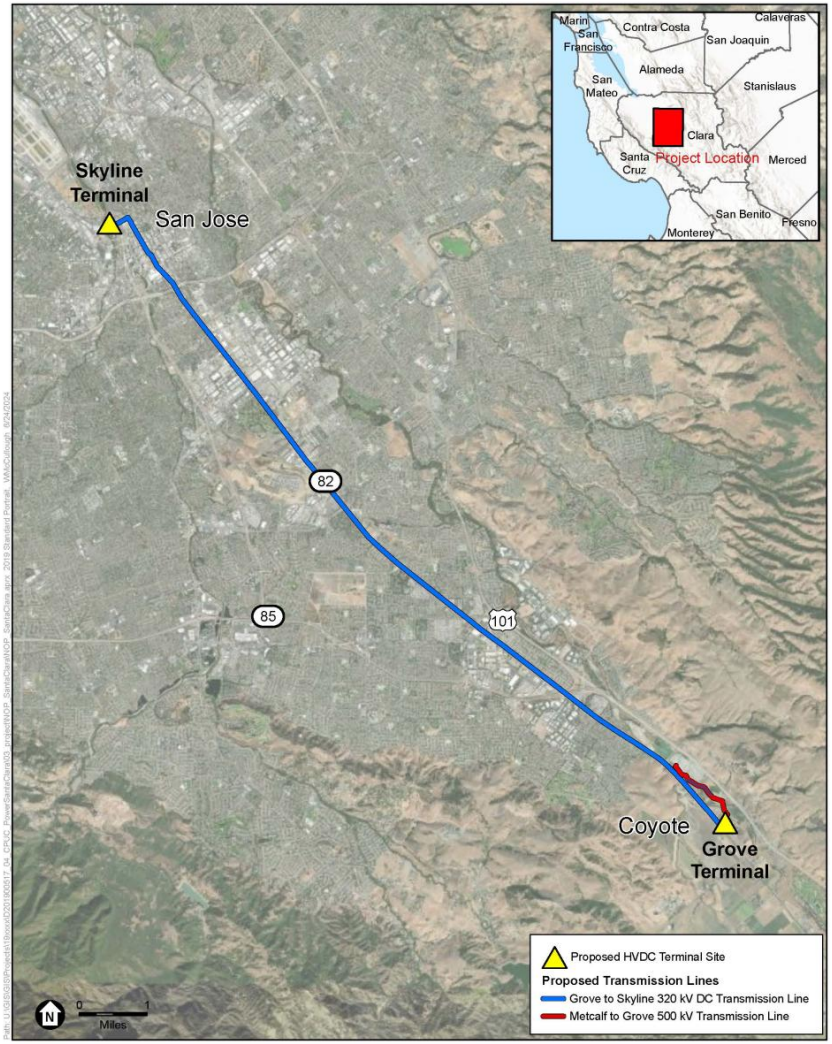
C/O Environmental Science Associates, Attn. V. Nez

180 Grand Avenue, Suite 1050, Oakland, CA 94612;

E-mail: PowerSCV@esassoc.com

Scoping Comment Deadline: (5 p.m.) October 7, 2024

Public Comments



SOURCE: LS Power, 2024

CPUC Power Santa Clara Valley

Figure 1
Project Location

ESA

Discussion Guidelines

- Be concise
- Stay on topic
- Respect others' opinions
- Comments will be recorded
- Written comments are encouraged

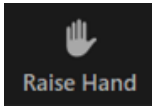
Public Comments

In Person

- Raise your hand to be called on

Via the Zoom Platform

- Click the Raise Hand icon to be called on



By Telephone

- Dial *9 to request to raise hand

Thank you for joining!

Mailing Address:

Tharon Wright, CPUC Project Manager

C/O Environmental Science Associates, Attn. V. Nez

180 Grand Avenue, Suite 1050, Oakland, CA 94612;

E-mail: PowerSCV@esassoc.com

Scoping comments will be accepted through October 7, 2024

Webpage: https://ia.cpuc.ca.gov/environment/info/esa/pscv/index.html