

California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 4
OFFICE OF REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PLANNING
P.O. BOX 23660, MS-10D | OAKLAND, CA 94623-0660
www.dot.ca.gov



August 25, 2025

SCH #: 2024090200
GTS #: 04-SCL-2024-01430
GTS ID: 33927
Co/Rt/Pm: Various

Tharon Wright, Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst
Public Utilities Commission
180 Grand Avenue, Suite 1050
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Power Santa Clara Valley Project — Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR)

Dear Tharon Wright:

Thank you for including the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in the environmental review process for the Power Santa Clara Valley Project. The Local Development Review (LDR) Program reviews land use projects and plans to ensure consistency with our mission and state planning priorities. The following comments are based on our review of the July 2025 DEIR.

Please note this correspondence does not indicate an official position or approval by Caltrans on this project and is for informational purposes only.

Project Understanding

The proposed project would include two new high-voltage direct current terminals and associated new transmission lines that would cover thirteen miles from Grove terminal to Skyline terminal. The project would be located in San Jose and would cross State Right-of-Way (ROW) in multiple locations.

Construction-Related Impacts

Project work that requires movement of oversized or excessive load vehicles on State roadways requires a transportation permit that is issued by Caltrans. To apply, please visit Caltrans Transportation Permits ([link](#)).

Prior to construction, coordination may be required with Caltrans to develop a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) to reduce construction traffic impacts to the State Transportation Network (STN).

Equitable Access

If any Caltrans facilities are impacted by the project, those facilities must meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Standards after project completion. As well, the project must maintain bicycle and pedestrian access during construction. These access considerations support Caltrans' equity mission to provide a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation network for all users.

Encroachment Permit

Several portions of Caltrans' operating ROW have been identified as staging areas for this project that are under or adjacent to structures. The project sponsor should be advised that construction staging for non-Caltrans projects will likely not be allowed due to recent Airspace Program policy changes. The project sponsor should be aware that reliance on operation right of way may not be prudent considering the new restrictions on staging.

Please be advised that any temporary or permanent work including traffic control that encroaches in, under, or over any portion of the State ROW requires a Caltrans-issued encroachment permit.

The Office of Encroachment Permits requires 100% complete design plans and supporting documents to review and circulate the permit application package. The review and approval of encroachment projects is managed through the Encroachment Permits Office Process (EPOP) or the Project Delivery Quality Management Assessment Process (QMAP), depending on project scope, complexity, and completeness of the application. Please use the following resources to determine the appropriate review process:

- TR-0416 Applicant's Checklist ([link](#))
- Caltrans Encroachment Projects Processes – Information Video ([link](#))
- Flowchart, Figure 1.2 in Section 108, Overview of the Encroachment Review Process, of Chapter 100 – The Permit Function, Caltrans Encroachment Permit Manual ([link](#))

The permit approval typically takes less than 60 days, but may take longer depending on the project scope, size, complexity, completeness, compliance with applicable laws, standards, policies, and quality of the permit package submitted. Projects requiring exceptions to design standards, exceptions to encroachment policies, or external agency approvals may need more time to process.

To obtain more information and download the permit application, please visit Caltrans Encroachment Permits ([link](#)).

Tharon Wright, Public Utilities Regulatory Analyst
August 25, 2025
Page 3

Thank you again for including Caltrans in the environmental review process. Should you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Marley Mathews, Associate Transportation Planner, via LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov. For future early coordination opportunities or project referrals, please visit Caltrans LDR website ([link](#)) or contact LDR-D4@dot.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luo Yunsheng". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Luo" and last name "Yunsheng" clearly distinguishable.

YUNSHENG LUO
Branch Chief, Local Development Review
Office of Regional and Community Planning

c: State Clearinghouse