

Southern California Edison
A.23-04-009 – TLRR EPL

DATA REQUEST SET E D - S C E - E P L - 0 0 7

To: Energy Division
Prepared by: Danielle Ferralez
Job Title: Environmental Project Manager
Received Date: 2/9/2026

Response Date: 2/27/2026

Question DR7-1:

Issue: The GIS data provided for project impacts (proj_AccessRoad_Line, const_Construction_Area, const_CMY_Area) miscategorized project features as permanent impacts.

How to Address: Please provide clean, updated versions of the GIS datasets mentioned above, which correctly portray the new permanent and temporary impacts associated with the project.

Response to Question DR7-1:

Updated GIS and GIS Change Log provided under separate cover:

- See Attachments:
 - “DR7 – Q1 – Attachment A”
 - “DR7 – Q1 – Attachment B”

Note: At the request of the National Park Service, SCE will be conducting an access and spur road verification/validation exercise in mid-March along a portion of the EPL Project alignment located in the Mojave National Preserve. The EPL Project GIS data will be updated as necessary and then finalized following that exercise. A revised and final EPL Project GIS dataset will be provided to the CPUC, BLM, and NPS at that time.

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Question DR7-2:

Issue: Swainson's Hawk

1. PTO discrepancy between NBMP and Sensitive Species and Habitat Report: NBMP states "Low potential to forage but unlikely due to lack of suitable nesting habitat". Sensitive Species and Habitat Report, states "likely to forage within the EPL alignment on an occasional basis during spring and summer months and may nest in isolated locations; based on documented nesting records, the one location where the Swainson's hawk may nest occurs near the Cima Substation and the area to the east within the Mojave National Preserve. It is unlikely to nest elsewhere within the EPL alignment, based on the lack of nesting records within 5 miles (8 kilometers) of the alignment"
2. Swainson's hawk is not included in Table 2 – Nesting Bird Buffers for Horizontal and Vertical Ground and Helicopter Construction. Where it is noted in Appendix B (Birds of Prey – Category 4), the horizontal buffer distance (0.25 to 0.5-mile) does not match 2010 CDFW monitoring and mitigation plan recommendations, which state "During nesting season, ensure no new disturbances, habitat conversions, or other project-related activities that may cause nest abandonment or forced fledging occur within 0.5 mile of an active nest between March 1 and September 15."

How to Address: Please update NBMP to reflect the likelihood of Swainson's hawk potential to occur from the occurrence data in the Sensitive Species and Habitat Report. Also update the NBMP to include Birds of Prey (Category 4), which should include Swainson's hawk as well as prairie falcons and peregrine falcons, which are currently in Category 2. This category should include a 0.5-mile disturbance buffer as described in "California Energy Commission and Department of Fish and Game. 2010. Swainson's Hawk Survey Protocols, Impact Avoidance, and Minimization Measures for Renewable Energy Projects in the Antelope Valley of Los Angeles and Kern Counties, California"

Response to Question DR7-2:

Response to 1: SCE has updated the NBMP to reflect the likelihood of Swainson's hawk potential to occur from the occurrence data in the Sensitive Species and Habitat Report. SCE also updated the NBMP to include the Birds of Prey Category.

Response to 2: SCE updated the Nesting Bird Management Plan (NBMP) and appendices A and B which are provided under separate cover. As stated in Section 2.1 of the NBMP, “Nest buffers for avian species listed under CESA and FESA are not addressed in this Plan.” Therefore SCE did not add Swainson’s hawk to Table 2 of the NBMP. The burrowing owl was erroneously included in Table 2; this mention has been deleted. Erroneous inclusions of burrowing owl and Swainson’s hawk in Appendix B have also been deleted. Table otherwise modified as directed

- See Attachments included in DR7-Q2:
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment A” with redlines that reflect updates.
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment B” with redlines that reflect updates.
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment C”. Edits were made, the file is MS excel which does not accept redlines.

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Question DR7-3:

Issue: Section 2.1 – Management Summary notes “Only one avian species listed under CESA and/or FESA has a potential to occur within or near the EPL Project alignment, the gilded flicker”.

Burrowing owl has an updated status under CESA (Candidate Threatened), and Swainson’s hawk is CA Threatened (see above), but are not in this section.

How to Address: Please include both burrowing owl and Swainson’s hawk in the Section 2.1 language.

Response to Question DR7-3:

Burrowing owl and Swainson’s hawk added in Section 2.1. Updated plans provided under separate cover:

- See Attachments included in DR7-Q2
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment A” with redlines that reflect updates.
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment B” with redlines that reflect updates.
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment C”. Edits were made, the file is MS Excel which does not accept redlines.

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Question DR7-4:

Issue: The NBMP does not include updates to observations and associated occurrence potential based on the 2024 revisit survey results in the TLRR Sensitive Species and Habitat Report – Botanical Addendum.

How to Address: Please revise the NBMP to add bird species observed during 2024 surveys, and update potential to occur for species with additional observations during that survey period that now have a greater potential to occur.

Response to Question DR7-4:

Updated plans provided under separate cover:

- See Attachments included in DR7-Q2
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment A” with redlines that reflect updates.
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment B” with redlines that reflect updates.
 - “DR7 Q2_Q3_Q4 – Attachment C”. Edits were made, the file is MS excel which does not accept redlines.

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Question DR7-5:

Issue: The HRP was written prior to development of the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act and doesn't include Western Joshua Tree-specific avoidance, minimization and mitigation strategies that align with the WJTCA.

How to Address: Please revise the HRP to include restoration and mitigation specifications from the WJTCA. Much of this language is already included in the WJT Census Report and Appendices prepared for the project in 2024.

Response to Question DR7-5:

Updated plan provided under separate cover:

- See Attachment "DR7 Q5 – Attachment A"