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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM**  
**DOWN'S SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

**To:** Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** January 18, 2016  
**Subject:** Monitoring Report #54 – January 04, 2016 to January 17, 2016

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the Southern California Edison (SCE) Downs Substation Expansion Project.

A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for construction and Minor Project Change (MPC) activities are provided in Tables 1 and 2, respectively (below).

**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** David DuBois was on site January 7, 2016 and January 15, 2016.

**Work Schedule:** No work occurred the week of January 4<sup>th</sup> through January 10<sup>th</sup>. Work occurred Monday through Friday during the week of January 11<sup>th</sup> through January 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **CPUC NTPs**

### **#1 Downs Substation Expansion Site**

NTP #1 was issued on October 22, 2014 for the site preparation, grading, and construction of the Downs Substation expansion, adjacent to the existing Downs Substation on the corner of South Downs Street and West Ridgecrest Boulevard in Ridgecrest. NTP #1 included conditions that had to be satisfied prior to the start of construction.

#### **Summary of Activity:**

1. A storm water channel was complete during the subject period (see Figure 1).
2. Landscaping and planting work was complete during the subject period (see Figures 2&3).
3. Materials continue to be stored onsite. The substation expansion area is approximately 97% complete, with some limited work remaining.
4. Removal and modification work began with components of the original Downs Substation (see Figure 4). This work will continue over the coming months.
5. The expanded Downs Substation became operational December 3, 2015.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. Landscaping was reviewed by the CPUC EM to confirm conformance with the approved Landscape Plan for the Downs Substation 115 kV Expansion; three Mexican fan palms still need to be planted in the northwest corner of the expansion area outside the fence.
2. Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Best Management Practices (SWPPP BMPs) were followed appropriately during the subject period.
3. Work areas were clean and free of trash
4. No track-out was observed during the subject period.

- No dust issues were observed during the subject period.
- Desert tortoise fencing was appropriately installed during fence installation work. No desert tortoises have been observed at the substation site since the start of construction.

## #2 Linear Portion

NTP #2 was issued on February 20, 2015 for the linear portion of the Project which includes 115 kV and fiber optic installations, and substation upgrades. NTP #2 included conditions that had to be satisfied prior to the start of construction.

### Summary of Activity:

- Overhead fiber optic work was completed on September 29, 2016.

### Environmental Compliance:

- On October 8<sup>th</sup>, SCE requested that the deadline for submitting the final technical report, concerning paleontological monitoring for the project, be extended to December 21, 2015 to allow for the inclusion of radiocarbon dating results. The extension request was approved. On December 17<sup>th</sup> the Paleontological Resources Monitoring Final Report was submitted to the CPUC. The CPUC provided a detailed review of the report, with recommended corrections, to SCE on January 13, 2016.

## Notices to Proceed

Table 1 summarizes the Notices to Proceed (NTP) for the Downs Substation Expansion Project.

**Table 1**  
**Notices to Proceed (NTPs)**  
(Updated 01/18/16)

NTP	Date Requested	Date Issued	Phase	Description
NTP #1	09/04/14	10/22/14	Downs Substation Expansion	Site preparation/grading, installation of substation components in the expanded Down's Substation footprint.
NTP #2	01/27/15	02/20/15	Remainder of the Project	115 kV and fiber optic installations, and substation upgrades.

## Minor Project Changes

Table 2 summarizes the Minor Project Changes for the Downs Substation Expansion Project.

**Table 2**  
**Minor Project Changes (MPCs)**  
(Updated 01/18/16)

MPC	Date Requested	Date Issued	Phase	Description
MPC #1	12/05/14	12/15/14	Downs Substation Expansion	Requests the use of an existing dirt roadway that connects the southwest corner of the work area to Church Avenue.
MPC #2	05/20/15	05/26/15	Downs Substation Expansion	Installation of privacy slats on all chain link fencing encompassing the perimeter of the Downs Substation, including the expansion area.

## PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1 – A storm water channel was complete during the subject period. View southeast, 12/23/15 above, 12/29/15 middle, 01/07/16 below.



Figure 2 – Landscaping was complete during the subject period. View east 01/07/16.



Figure 3 – Landscaping was complete during the subject period. View northwest 01/07/16.



Figure 4 – Removal and modification work began with components of the original Downs Substation. View north 01/15/16.