

ATTACHMENT VR-2 (REVISED)
EL CASCO SYSTEM PROJECT: VISUAL RESOURCES – SUMMARY OF KEY VIEWPOINT ANALYSES

VIEWPOINT		EXISTING VISUAL SETTING							VISUAL CHANGE					IMPACT SIGNIFICANCE		
Key Viewpoint (KVP)	Description	Visual Quality	Viewer Concern	Viewer Exposure					Overall Visual Sensitivity	Description of Visual Change	Visual Contrast	Project Dominance	View Blockage	Overall Visual Change	Before Mitigation	Mitigation
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<p>KVP 1 San Timoteo Canyon Road</p> <p>Proposed Project</p> <p>Figures D.12-2A / 2B</p>	View to the south toward proposed El Casco Substation, from eastbound San Timoteo Canyon Road, immediately north of the substation site.	<p>Moderate</p> <p>Predominantly rural landscape, much of which is natural in appearance with rolling, grass- and shrub-covered hills with minimal visual variety. Electric transmission facilities with structurally complex forms and lines and substantial industrial character are prominently visible, particularly along the southern ridges. Skylining exacerbates structure prominence. The hills and ridges north of San Timoteo Canyon Road are transitioning to a suburban residential landscape.</p>	<p>High</p> <p>Although energy transmission infrastructure features prominently in the foreground to middleground landscape, particularly in the vicinity of the proposed substation site and along the southern ridges, travelers on San Timoteo Canyon Road would consider any increase in industrial character, structure prominence, or view blockage of higher value landscape features (hills, ridgelines, and background sky) an adverse visual change.</p>	Moderate	Foreground	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate to High	El Casco Substation would be located immediately south of San Timoteo Canyon Road, a Southern Pacific rail line, and a riparian corridor. While much of the low-profile substation components would be screened from view by existing riparian vegetation, some of the taller transmission components most-closely located to the road would be prominently visible, particularly through gaps in the vegetation. The new structures would introduce additional industrial character into the landscape and cause additional view blockage of background hills and sky.	Moderate to High	Co-Dominant	Moderate	Moderate	<p>BEFORE: Significant (Class II)</p> <p>AFTER: Less than Significant</p>	<p>Measure V-3a (Reduce visibility of the El Casco Substation site)</p> <p>Measure V-3b (Reduce Night Lighting Impacts)</p>
<p>KVP 2 Norton Younglove Reserve</p> <p>Proposed Project</p> <p>Figures D.12-3A / 3B</p>	View to the west toward the proposed El Casco Substation site, from the access road within Norton Younglove Reserve, immediately south of San Timoteo Canyon Road.	<p>Moderate</p> <p>Predominantly rural landscape, much of which is natural in appearance with rolling, grass- and shrub-covered hills with minimal visual variety. Electric transmission facilities with structurally complex forms and lines and substantial industrial character are prominently visible, particularly along the southern ridges. Skylining exacerbates structure prominence. Views of the hills and ridges north of San Timoteo Canyon Road encompass a landscape that is rapidly transitioning from a rural to suburban residential character.</p>	<p>High</p> <p>Although energy transmission infrastructure features prominently in the foreground to middleground landscape, particularly in the vicinity of the proposed substation site and along the southern ridges, visitors to the Reserve would consider any increase in industrial character, structure prominence, or view blockage of higher value landscape features (hills, ridgelines, and background sky) an adverse visual change.</p>	High	Foreground	Very Low	Extended	Moderate	Moderate to High	El Casco Substation would be prominently visible on the flats north of the southern ridges. The new facility would appear structurally complex and exhibit considerable industrial character. The co-dominant to dominant structures would introduce additional visual contrast and cause additional view blockage of background hills and sky.	High	Co-Dominant to Dominant	Moderate	Moderate to High	<p>BEFORE: Significant (Class II)</p> <p>AFTER: Less than Significant</p>	<p>Measure V-3a (Reduce visibility of the El Casco Substation site)</p> <p>Measure V-3b (Reduce Night Lighting Impacts)</p>

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KVP 3 and KVP 3 Alt. San Timoteo Canyon Residential Development Proposed Project Figures D.12-4A - 4C	View to the southwest toward the proposed El Casco Substation site, from the new residential development (under construction) to the immediate northeast, on the north side of San Timoteo Canyon Road.	Moderate Predominantly rural landscape, much of which is natural in appearance with rolling, grass- and shrub-covered hills with minimal visual variety. Electric transmission facilities with structurally complex forms and lines and substantial industrial character are prominently visible, particularly along the western edge of the residential development and along the southern ridges. Skylining exacerbates structure prominence. Much of the landscape north of San Timoteo Canyon Road and to the east is rapidly transitioning from a rural to suburban residential character.	High Although energy transmission infrastructure features prominently in the foreground to middleground landscape, future residents north of San Timoteo Canyon Road would consider any increase in industrial character, structure prominence, or view blockage of higher value landscape features (hills, ridgelines, and background sky) an adverse visual change.	Moderate	Foreground	Low	Extended	Moderate	Moderate to High	El Casco Substation would be prominently visible on the flats north of the southern ridges. The new facility would appear structurally complex and exhibit considerable industrial character. The co-dominant structures would introduce additional visual contrast though they would share attributes with the existing transmission infrastructure adjacent to the site. The structures would also cause additional view blockage of background hills and sky.	Moderate	Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Moderate	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	Measure V-3a (Reduce visibility of the El Casco Substation site) Measure V-3b (Reduce Night Lighting Impacts)
KVP 4 Eastbound SR 60 Proposed Project Figures D.12-5A / 5B	View to the east toward the existing 115 kV transmission line to be replaced by the Proposed Project, from eastbound SR 60, just east of the project's convergence on SR 60.	Moderate Foreground to middleground rural landscape with grass- and shrub covered hillsides and rolling to angular ridgelines. An existing wood-pole, H-frame transmission line is a contrasting built feature along the north side of the highway and compromises the otherwise predominately natural appearing landscape. The transmission line along with the linear highway feature reduces landscape coherence and overall visual quality to a moderate level.	High Travelers on SR 60 anticipate a predominantly rural landscape setting. Repeat drivers on the highway would also anticipate the prominent presence of the existing transmission line. However, any addition of developed industrial features to the landscape or blockage of views to higher quality landscape features (hills and background sky) would be perceived as an adverse visual change in the landscape.	High	Foreground	High	Extended	High	Moderate to High	The proposed tubular steel poles (TSPs) would have a more simple structural design compared to the H-frame structures they would replace, but the TSPs would be noticeably taller. Also, the TSPs would have a more industrial metallic gray appearance compared to the more natural, rough-hewn wood-poles to be replaced. The new structures and additional conductors would also result in a slight increase in view blockage of background hills and sky.	Moderate	Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Moderate	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	None

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<p>KVP 5 Faircliff Street, Seneca Springs Development Proposed Project Figures D.12-6A / 6B</p>	<p>View to the west-southwest toward the existing 115 kV transmission line to be replaced by the Proposed Project, from Faircliff Street, just west of Finley Avenue in the Seneca Springs residential development.</p>	<p>Moderate Foreground to middleground rural landscape with grass- and shrub covered hillsides and rolling to angular ridgeline, transitioning to suburban residential development. An existing wood-pole, H-frame transmission line is a contrasting built feature along the south side of the residential development and compromises the otherwise predominately natural appearing landscape visible to the south.</p>	<p>High Although residents of the adjacent residential development anticipate the prominent presence of the existing H-frame transmission line, any increase in industrial character or blockage of views to higher quality landscape features (hills and background sky) to the south would be perceived as an adverse visual change in the landscape.</p>	High	Foreground	Low	Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	<p>The proposed tubular steel poles (TSPs) would have a more simple structural design compared to the H-frame structures they would replace, but the TSPs would be noticeably taller. Also, the TSPs would have a more industrial metallic gray appearance compared to the more natural, rough-hewn wood-poles to be replaced. The new structures and additional conductors would also result in a slight increase in view blockage of background hills and sky.</p>	Moderate	Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Moderate	<p>BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same</p>	None
<p>KVP 6 Pine Valley Road, Sun Lakes Development Proposed Project Figures D.12-7A / 7B</p>	<p>View to the east-northeast toward the existing 115 kV transmission line to be replaced by the Proposed Project, from Pine Valley Road in the Sun Lakes residential and golf development.</p>	<p>Moderate Foreground to middleground residential and golf community landscape characterized by well-maintained grass-covered fairways with strategic placement of trees and sand features, integrated with newer single-family residential structures. Also prominently visible is an existing wood-pole, H-frame transmission line passing through the residential development and reducing the visual quality of the landscape to a moderate level.</p>	<p>High Although residents of the surrounding residential development anticipate the prominent presence of the existing H-frame transmission line, any increase in industrial character, structural prominence, or blockage of views to higher quality landscape features (hills and background sky) would be perceived as an adverse visual change in the landscape.</p>	High	Foreground	Low to Moderate	Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	<p>The proposed tubular steel poles (TSPs) would have a more simple structural design compared to the H-frame structures they would replace, but the TSPs would be noticeably taller. Also, the TSPs would have a more industrial metallic gray appearance compared to the more natural, rough-hewn wood-poles to be replaced. The new structures and additional conductors would also result in a slight increase in view blockage.</p>	Moderate	Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Moderate	<p>BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same</p>	None

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KVP 7 East Lincoln Street Proposed Project Figure D.12-8	View to the northeast, toward Banning Substation, from East Lincoln Street, adjacent to the substation.	Low to Moderate Predominantly suburban commercial and industrial landscape, dominated by the highly industrial-appearing Banning Substation with its structurally complex forms and lines. The substation causes substantial view blockage of the background mountains when viewed from the south. Skylining exacerbates structure prominence of the steel lattice and wood-pole transmission towers that feed into the substation.	Moderate Although energy transmission infrastructure features prominently in the foreground landscape visible from East Lincoln Street, particularly in the vicinity of Banning Substation, some travelers on East Lincoln Street would consider a noticeable increase in industrial character, structure prominence, or view blockage of higher value landscape features (mountains and background sky) an adverse visual change.	High	Foreground	Low to Moderate	Moderate to Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate	Modifications to Banning Substation would include the addition of a new switchrack, two low-profile transformer racks, additional communications equipment, and replacement of a capacitor bank. However, all of the modifications would be accommodated within the existing substation property. In the context of the existing structural complexity and substantial industrial character, the new structures and equipment would be minimally noticeable to the casual observer.	Low	Subordinate to Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Low to Moderate	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	None
KVP 8 North Juniper Avenue Proposed Project Figures D.12-9A – 9C	View to the west toward Zanja Substation, from North Juniper Avenue, immediately east of the substation.	Low to Moderate Predominantly non-descript rural landscape consisting of a flat, grass-covered valley floor and rolling, grass- and shrub-covered bordering hills, with minimal visual variety. The existing Zanja Substation with its structurally complex facilities and substantial industrial character is prominently visible from North Juniper Avenue and the adjacent residential developments.	High Although the existing substation features prominently in the foreground views from North Juniper Avenue and the adjacent residences, residents and travelers on North Juniper Avenue would consider a noticeable increase in industrial character, structure prominence, or view blockage of higher value landscape features (mountains, hills, and background sky) an adverse visual change.	High	Foreground	Low	Moderate to Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	Modifications to Zanja Substation would include the addition of a new switchrack and communications equipment. However, all of the modifications would be accommodated within the existing substation property. In the context of the existing structural complexity and industrial character, the modifications, while visible, would be minimally noticeable to the casual observer.	Low	Subordinate to Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Low to Moderate	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	Measure V-10 (Reduce visibility of the Zanja Substation modifications)

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KVP 9 Carter Street Proposed Project Figures D.12-10A / 10B	View to the north-northeast toward the Mill Creek Communication site, from Carter Street, just west of Fremont Street in the City of Yucaipa.	Moderate Foreground to middleground rural residential to suburban residential landscape, backdropped by the rolling to angular forms of the southern foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains. The foreground rural to suburban residential landscape is relatively non-descript and the existing vertical forms of a wood-pole utility line are prominent features in the landscape. The background landforms are natural appearing with minimal evidence of built structures.	High Residents in the Yucaipa area with views of the San Bernardino Mountains would consider any noticeable built structures or increase in industrial character along the undeveloped mountain ridgelines to the north, an adverse visual change in the landscape.	High	Middle-ground	High	Extended	High	Moderate to High	The proposed lattice-steel antenna tower and attached microwave antennas would appear as a faintly visible, simple vertical structure situated on the ridgeline to the north. The microwave antennas would appear as light-colored circular discs on the neutral gray structure. However, at a viewing distance of approximately 1.5 to 5 miles (depending on location in the immediate Yucaipa area), the structure would be minimally noticeable along the ridgeline though it could be visible.	Low	Subordinate	Low	Low	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	None
KVP 10 Live Oak Canyon Road Proposed Project Figures D.12-11A / 11B	View to the southwest along Live Oak Canyon Road and an existing utility line, from southbound Live Oak Canyon Road, south of I-10.	Moderate Foreground to middleground rural landscape with grass- and shrub covered valley floor and rolling hills. An existing wood-pole utility line with attached cable parallels the west side of the road and is a prominent built feature in the landscape. The vertical form of the utility poles contrasts with the predominantly horizontal forms of the natural features, which reduces landscape coherence and overall visual quality to a moderate level.	High Travelers on Live Oak Canyon Road anticipate a predominantly rural landscape setting. Repeat drivers on this road would also anticipate the prominent presence of the existing utility line. However, any addition of developed industrial features to the landscape or blockage of views to higher quality landscape features (hills and background sky) would be perceived as an adverse visual change in the landscape.	High	Foreground	Moderate	Extended	High	Moderate to High	The proposed fiber optic line would appear very similar to the cable that is already present on the existing wood-pole utility line. While the additional cable would slightly increase the view blockage caused by the existing line, it is unlikely that the additional cable would be noticed by travelers on Live Oak Canyon Road or casual observers along other portions of the fiber optic route.	Low	Subordinate	Low	Low	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	None

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KVP 11 Summit Drive Northerly Alternative Figures D.12-12A / 12B	View to the west along Summit Drive and an existing distribution line, from just east of North Alessandro Street in the City of Banning.	Moderate Foreground established, suburban residential landscape with older homes and mature vegetation. An existing wood-pole utility line with attached cable and electric distribution lines are noticeable overhead features, though not out of place in this typical neighborhood setting. The vertical forms of the utility wood-poles blend relatively well with the vertical forms of the natural features (trees).	High Residents along Summit Drive anticipate a predominantly suburban residential setting. Although residents anticipate the noticeable presence of the existing wood-pole utility line, it is not out of place in a residential landscape and does not exhibit substantial industrial character. Any addition of developed industrial features to the landscape or blockage of views to higher quality landscape features (hills and background sky) would be perceived as an adverse visual change in the landscape.	High	Foreground	Low	Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	The proposed 115 kV transmission line would introduce taller structures with more substantial industrial character into the residential setting. The taller structures would increase view blockage of background sky and hills. The taller structures and additional conductors would exacerbate structure prominence in the landscape and would increase visual contrast.	Moderate	Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Moderate	BEFORE: Significant (Class II) AFTER: Same	Measure V-13 (Relocate alternative route from North Florida Road)
KVP 12 Cedar Hollow Road Northerly Alternative Figures D.12-13A / 13B	View to the west-southwest along Cedar Hollow Road and an existing transmission line corridor, from about mid-block on Cedar Hollow Road, which is located immediately south of Beaumont High School in the City of Beaumont.	Low to Moderate Foreground suburban residential landscape of one and two-story single-family homes, dominated by an adjacent energy transmission infrastructure corridor (towers and conductors). Generally lacking distinctive features or elements of visual interest.	High Although energy transmission infrastructure features prominently in the foreground of views from the adjacent neighborhood, residents would consider any increase in industrial character, structure prominence, or view blockage of higher value landscape features (background sky) an adverse visual change.	High	Foreground	Low	Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	The proposed 115 kV transmission line would introduce additional vertical (tubular steel poles) and curvilinear (conductors) elements into the already dominant and structurally complex electric transmission line corridor. The new facility would increase visual contrast, project dominance, and view blockage of background sky. However, in the visual context of the existing facilities, the degree of visual change would not be substantial.	Low	Subordinate to Co-Dominant	Low to Moderate	Low to Moderate	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	None

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KVP 13 San Timoteo Canyon Road Northerly Alternative Figures D.12-14A / 14B	View to the southeast along eastbound San Timoteo Canyon Road and the potential span of San Timoteo Canyon Road, from just west of the span location.	Moderate Predominantly rural landscape, much of which is natural in appearance with rolling, grass- and shrub-covered hills with minimal visual variety. Electric transmission facilities with structurally complex forms and lines and substantial industrial character are prominently visible, particularly along the ridges and at the span of San Timoteo Canyon Road. Skylining exacerbates structure prominence. The hills and ridges north of San Timoteo Canyon Road are transitioning to a suburban residential landscape.	High Although energy transmission infrastructure features prominently in the foreground of views from San Timoteo Canyon Road, travelers would consider any increase in industrial character, structure prominence, or view blockage of higher value landscape features (background sky and hills) an adverse visual change.	High	Foreground	Moderate	Moderate to Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	The proposed 115 kV transmission line would introduce additional vertical (tubular steel poles) and curvilinear (conductors) elements into the already dominant and structurally complex electric transmission line corridor. The new facility would increase visual contrast, project dominance, and view blockage of background sky. However, in the visual context of the existing facilities, the degree of visual change would not be substantial.	Low to Moderate	Subordinate to Co-Dominant	Moderate	Low to Moderate	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	None
KVP 14 South Highland Home Road Partial Underground Alternative Figures D.12-15A / 15B 15C	View to the northwest toward the proposed transition structure location at the eastern end of the Sun Lakes Golf Resort and residential development, from northbound South Highland Home Road, just south of the span of South Highland Home Road.	Moderate Predominantly rural landscape in transition to a suburban landscape, much of which is natural in appearance with rolling, grass- and shrub-covered hills. The rooflines of the Sun Lakes development are slightly visible above the rise to the west. An existing wood-pole electric transmission line with simple, structural forms and lines and exhibiting minimal industrial character is prominently visible, particularly along the hilltops to the west and at the span of South Highland Home Road. Skylining exacerbates structure prominence.	High Local residents and travelers on South Highland Home Road anticipate a predominantly transitional rural landscape setting and the noticeable presence of the existing utility line. However, any addition of developed industrial features to the landscape or blockage of views to higher quality landscape features (hills and background sky) would be perceived as an adverse visual change in the landscape.	High	Foreground	Low	Moderate to Extended	Moderate to High	Moderate to High	The proposed transition structures would introduce considerable structural complexity and industrial character into a predominantly suburban and rural residential landscape lacking similar characteristics. However, the structures would also result in the removal of the existing dual wood-pole "box-frame" transmission structure. The two transition structures would introduce additional visual contrast, structural prominence, and view blockage.	Moderate to High	Co-Dominant	Moderate	Moderate	BEFORE: Adverse but Less Than Significant (Class III) AFTER: Same	None