

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298**



To: State Clearinghouse, Responsible and Trustee Agencies, Property Owners, & Interested Parties

From: Michael Rosauer, CPUC Environmental Project Manager

Subject: NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP) OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) AND NOTICE OF AN INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP AND SCOPING MEETING: **Permit to Construct the Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line Project (A.13-10-021)**

Date: March 25, 2014

Description of Proposed Project

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State of California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is preparing an EIR for the Project identified below, and is requesting comments on the scope and content of the EIR. Southern California Edison (SCE), in its CPUC application (A.13-10-021), filed on October 28, 2013, seeks a permit to construct (PTC) the remaining portions of the Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line Project (Project) that have yet to be constructed. The majority of the Project had already been constructed prior to November 2011, when the CPUC issued Decision 11-11-019, which ordered SCE to halt all construction activity, provide certain specified information, and to file a PTC Application in order to complete the Project. SCE has determined that the Project is still needed, and has submitted its PTC Application and Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA). Once completed, the Project would include operation and maintenance of the following major elements:

- Approximately 1,200 feet of new underground 66 kV subtransmission line within Moorpark Substation.
- Approximately 5 miles of the new Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line on the south and east sides of SCE's existing Moorpark-Ormond Beach 220 kV Right-of-Way (ROW).
- Approximately 3 miles of the new Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line within the existing Moorpark-Newbury-Pharmacy 66 kV Subtransmission Line ROW. New double-circuited tubular steel poles (TSPs) would carry both the existing Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line and the new Moorpark-Newbury-Pharmacy 66 kV Subtransmission Line.
- Approximately 1 mile of the new Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line within the existing Moorpark-Newbury-Pharmacy 66 kV Subtransmission Line ROW into Newbury Substation. The new lightweight steel (LWS) poles and TSPs would accommodate the new Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line as well as the existing Moorpark-Newbury-Pharmacy 66 kV Subtransmission Line a double circuit configuration.
- New 66 kV subtransmission line positions and associated infrastructure within Moorpark Substation and Newbury Substation to facilitate the termination of the new Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line.
- Existing distribution circuitry and telecommunication facilities would operate on the new subtransmission poles as necessary.

The purpose of the Project is to ensure the availability of safe and reliable electric service to meet customer demand in the Electrical Needs Area (ENA) defined for the Project. SCE has indicated that the Project is needed to address: (1) a projected voltage drop that would exceed the acceptable 5% limit on the 66 kV bus at Newbury Substation under abnormal system conditions; and (2) a projected overload on

the Moorpark-Newbury tap of the Moorpark-Newbury-Pharmacy 66 kV Subtransmission Line under a normal system configuration.

Location of the Project

The subtransmission line would pass through unincorporated Ventura County, the City of Moorpark, and the City of Thousand Oaks. See **Figure 1**.

Issues To Be Addressed In The EIR

It has been determined that an EIR is required because the Project could result in potentially significant impacts to environmental resources. The EIR will address all of the issues identified in the CEQA Environmental Checklist Form (see CEQA Guidelines Appendix G). The EIR will identify the potentially significant environmental effects of the Project, including those resulting from construction of the portions of the Project that have yet to be developed, and operation and maintenance of the entire Project. The EIR will also discuss and analyze a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project, including two No Project alternative scenarios, and alternatives to the Project that could attain most of its basic objectives while avoiding or reducing any of its significant environmental effects.

In its PEA, SCE identified a number of alternatives that will be analyzed by the CPUC's EIR team and potentially carried forward for full analysis in the EIR, including System Alternatives 2 and 3, Subtransmission Line Route Alternatives 2 and 3, and two No Project alternative scenarios. Other alternatives may be added to the analysis based on input received during the 30-day scoping period following issuance of this NOP or by the EIR team in response to potentially significant environmental impacts identified during the EIR process.

Specific areas of analysis to be addressed in the EIR include: aesthetics; agriculture and forestry resources; air quality; biological resources; cultural resources; 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; utilities and service systems; and energy conservation. Where feasible, mitigation measures will be recommended to avoid or reduce potentially significant impacts. The EIR will also address potential cumulative impacts of the Project, considered together with past, other current, and reasonably foreseeable future projects in the area.

Information to be included in the EIR will be based, in part, on input and comments received during the scoping period. Decision-makers, responsible and trustee agencies under CEQA, property owners, and members of the public will also have an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIR once it is issued. Additional information about the environmental review process for the Project as well as electronic copies of SCE's PTC Application and PEA can be found on the CPUC's website:

http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/esa/Moorpark_Newbury/index.html

Public Scoping Period for this Notice of Preparation

State law mandates a 30-day time limit after the date of the NOP for the scoping period. The scoping period for this Project begins on March 26, 2014, and closes at 5:00 p.m. on April 25, 2014. Please include a name, organization (if applicable), address, and e-mail address of a contact person for all future notification related to this process. Public comments will become part of the public record and will be published in a Scoping Report.

Please send your comments to:

Mr. Michael Rosauer
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550 Kearny Street, Suite 800
San Francisco, CA 94108
E-mail: Moorpark-Newbury@esassoc.com
Fax: (415) 896-0332

Educational Workshop and Scoping Meeting

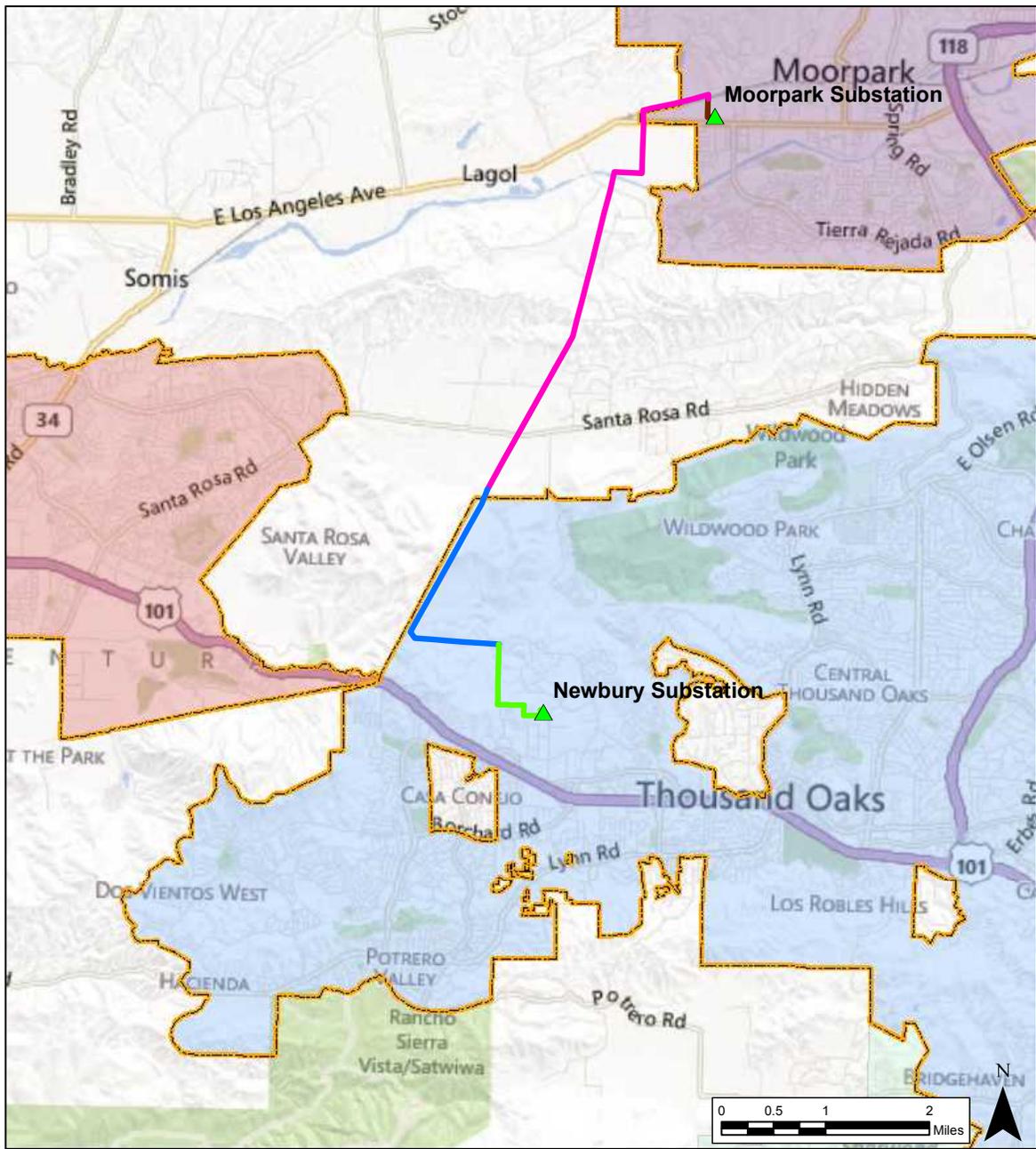
In order for the public and regulatory agencies to have an opportunity to submit comments on the scope of the EIR for the Project, a meeting will be held during the NOP scoping period. The meeting will be held:

Thursday, April 10, 2014
6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Santa Rosa Technology Magnet School
13282 Santa Rosa Road
Camarillo, CA

From 6:30 to 7:00, the CPUC will hold an educational workshop. This workshop will address: (a) CPUC's process for reviewing the Project application; (b) the environmental review process; and (c) details on how members of the public can become involved with each of these processes.

From 7:00 to 8:30 the CPUC will hold the official scoping meeting. The scoping meeting will start with a brief presentation providing an overview of the Project and alternatives identified to date. Following the presentation, interested parties will be provided an opportunity to provide comments about the Project. Comment forms will be supplied for those who wish to submit written comments at the scoping meeting. Written comments also may be submitted anytime during the NOP scoping period to the address, e-mail, or facsimile number provided above.

REMINDER: All comments will be accepted by postmark, e-mail, or facsimile through 5 p.m. Friday, April 25, 2014. Please be sure to include your name, organization (if applicable), address, and e-mail address.



- ▲ SCE Substations
- Project Sections
- Project Section 1
- Project Section 2
- Project Section 3
- Project Section 4
- ▭ City Boundaries

SOURCE: SCE PEA, 2013

Moorpark-Newbury 66 kV Subtransmission Line Project . 207584.15

Figure 1
Site Location Map