

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



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

From: Jensen Uchida, Environmental Project Manager

**Subject: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT
(DRAFT EIR) AND PUBLIC MEETING:
San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop Transmission Project (A.08-05-039)
SCH No. 2008081090**

Date: June 16, 2009

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for consideration of Southern California Edison's (SCE) application to construct, operate and maintain the San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop Transmission Project (A.08-05-039). The Draft EIR details the Proposed Project, evaluates and describes the potential environmental impacts associated with the construction, operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project, identifies those impacts that could be significant, and presents mitigation measures which, if adopted by the CPUC or other responsible agencies, could avoid or minimize these impacts. The Draft EIR also evaluates alternatives to the Proposed Project, including the No Project Alternative, as required by CEQA.

Description of the Proposed Project.

The Proposed Project is located in Tulare County including portions of the cities of Visalia and Farmersville, the community of Lemon Cove, and unincorporated areas of Tulare County. SCE requests authorization to:

- Replace approximately 1.1 miles of two sets of single circuit 220 kV transmission line with a single double circuit transmission line to be constructed on the western side of SCE's existing right of way (ROW) immediately north of the Rector substation;
- Construct an approximately 18.5 mile-long, double circuit transmission line that would loop the existing Big Creek 3-Springville 220 kV transmission line into the Rector Substation. The first 1.1 miles of the new transmission line would be constructed on the eastern side of SCE's existing ROW adjacent to the new 1.1 miles of double circuit line described above;
- Install electrical equipment and substation supporting structures for the transmission lines, protective relays, and a mechanical and electrical equipment room (MEER) at the Rector Substation to accommodate the transmission lines; and
- Remove wave traps and line tuners and installation of additional protective relays at Rector Substation, Springville Substation, Vestal Substation, and Big Creek 3 Substation.

The objective of the Proposed Project is to build electrical facilities necessary to maintain safe and reliable electric service to customers, and serve the forecasted electrical demand in the southeastern portion of the San Joaquin Valley.

Public Comment on the Draft EIR.

The Draft EIR is available for a 45-day public comment period June 16, 2009 through July 31, 2009. The public may present comments and concerns regarding the Proposed Project and the adequacy of the Draft EIR. Written comments on the Draft EIR must be postmarked or received by fax or e-mail no later than **July 31, 2009**. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number in your correspondence.

Written comments on the Draft EIR should be sent to:

Mr. Jensen Uchida
San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop Transmission Project
c/o Environmental Science Associates
225 Bush Street, Suite 1700
San Francisco, CA 94104-4207
Fax: (415) 896-0332
E-mail: sjxvl@esassoc.com

The CPUC will also hold a public comment meeting to receive oral and written comments from interested parties. Following the end of the public comment period, responses to all comments received on the Draft EIR and submitted within the specified 45-day review period will be prepared by the CPUC and included in a response to comments document, which together with the Draft EIR, will constitute the Final EIR for the Proposed Project. The public meeting will be held:

Thursday July 23, 2009
6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Visalia Convention Center
303 E. Acequia Avenue
Visalia, CA

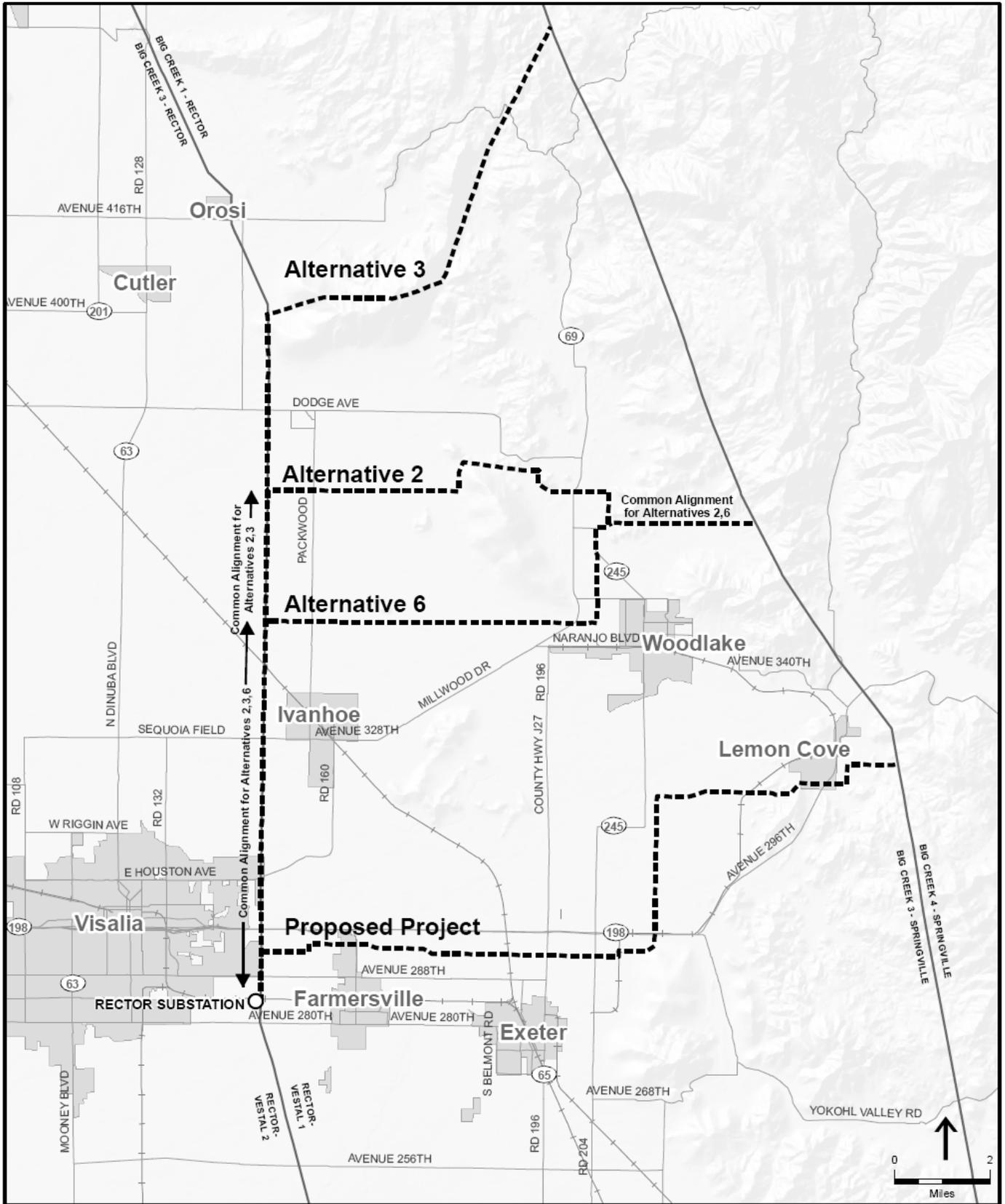
Availability of Draft EIR.

Copies of the Draft EIR will be available for public review at the Visalia and Woodlake Branches of the Tulare County Library, and on the project website: <http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/Environment/info/esa/sjxvl/index.html>. This website will be used to post all public documents during the environmental review process and to announce any upcoming public meetings. Hard copies or CD copies of the Draft EIR may be requested by telephone at (415) 962-8409 or by e-mail at sjxvl@esassoc.com.

Project information repositories include the following branches of the Tulare County Library:

<p>Visalia Branch 200 West Oak Avenue Visalia, CA 93291-4993 Phone : (559) 713-2700</p>	<p>Woodlake Branch 400 West Whitney Woodlake, CA 93286-1298 Phone : (559) 564-8424</p>
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REMINDER: Draft EIR comments will be accepted by fax, e-mail, or postmark through July 31, 2009. Please be sure to include your name, address, and telephone number.



SOURCE: ESRI, 2008; SCE, 2008; Thomas Bros. Maps, 2008

San Joaquin Cross Valley Loop Transmission Project. 207584.01

Proposed Project Overview