

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

505 VAN NESS AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102-3298



January 8, 2016

Ms. Rebecca W. Giles
San Diego Gas and Electric Company
8326 Century Park Court
San Diego, CA 92123-4150

RE: Request for Additional Data #20 – Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the Sycamore-Peñasquitos 230-Kilovolt Transmission Line Project – Application No. A. 14-04-011

Dear Ms. Giles:

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) Energy Division CEQA Unit has reviewed San Diego Gas and Electric Company's (SDG&E) comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Sycamore-Peñasquitos 230-Kilovolt Transmission Line Project (Proposed Project), and SDG&E's responses submitted to date for Data Requests #1 through #19.

The CPUC requests additional data to verify the feasibility of the Proposed Project, evaluate additional staging yards proposed in SDG&E comments on the Draft EIR, evaluate the feasibility of alternatives proposed by the public in comments on the Draft EIR, and address changes in Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidance.

Information provided by SDG&E in response to this Request for Additional Data should be filed as supplements to Application A. 14-04-011. One set of responses should be sent to the Energy Division and one to our consultant, Panorama Environmental, in both hardcopy and electronic format. We request that SDG&E respond to this request no later than January 22, 2016. Please let us know if you cannot provide the information by this date. Delays in responding to these data needs will continue to result in associated delays in preparation of the Final EIR. If a conference call to clarify any of our questions is helpful, please let us know.

The Energy Division reserves the right to request additional information at any point in the application proceeding and during subsequent construction of the Proposed Project should SDG&E's CPCN be approved.

Please direct questions related to this application to me at (415) 703-2068 or Billie.Blanchard@cpuc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Billie Blanchard".

Billie Blanchard
Project Manager
Energy Division, CEQA Unit

cc: Mary Jo Borak, Supervisor
Molly Sterkel, Program Manager

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Marcelo Poirier, CPUC Attorney
Jeff Thomas, Project Manager, Panorama Environmental
Susanne Heim, Deputy Project Manager, Panorama Environmental
Darryl Gruen, Attorney for ORA
Chris Myers, ORA
Alan Colton, SDG&E Director - Major Projects

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL DATA: DATA NEEDS #20 FOR THE SYCAMORE-PEÑASQUITOS 230-KILOVOLT TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT APPLICATION (A. 14-04-011)

REPORT OVERVIEW

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) has identified additional areas where more information is needed to adequately respond to SDG&E's comments on the Draft EIR in accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Data needs are identified in bold. Clarifying information is provided below the data need.

Table 1: Application No. 14-04-011 Data Needs #20

#	Reference Source, Page #	Data Need
1	N/A	<p>Provide records of correspondence with the City of San Diego regarding installation of the 230-kV transmission line in Carmel Valley Road bridge. Such correspondence should verify the feasibility of using the Carmel Valley Road bridge for underground installation of the 230-kV transmission line.</p> <p>The City of San Diego indicated during a phone call with the CPUC that they have concerns about installation of power lines with voltages higher than 69-kV in City-owned road bridges. If the Proposed Project cannot be installed in the Carmel Valley Road bridge as currently proposed, SDG&E will need to provide the CPUC with an alternative design for the crossing, as well as for EIR Alternatives 3 and 4 where attachment to bridges was anticipated.</p>
2	FAA Advisory Circular	<p>Provide results of SDG&E's investigation into potential need for lighted marker balls along the Proposed Project alignment as described in the recently revised FAA Advisory Circular on Obstruction Marking and Lighting.</p> <p>In December 2015, the FAA revised their Advisory Circular on Obstruction Marking and Lighting pertaining to lighting and marking of structures including transmission and power lines. The new guidance recommends the use of lighted markers for high voltage lines (69-kV or higher). The CPUC is uncertain whether lighted marker balls will be required for the Proposed Project. Please coordinate with FAA and provide information regarding the type of marker balls that you expect FAA will require for the Proposed Project.</p>
3	Public Comments on Draft EIR	<p>What is the feasibility of locating the two 69-kV power lines and the Proposed Project 230-kV transmission line underground in the Alternative 4 alignment along Carmel Mountain Road? Please evaluate space constraints due to presence of existing utilities and factors such as</p>

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#	Reference Source, Page #	Data Need
		potential heat loss. As part of the feasibility analysis, identify any component modifications that would be needed to accomplish this scenario (if feasible).
4	Public Comments on Draft EIR	What is the feasibility of locating the Proposed Project 230-kV transmission line underground in the Alternative 4 alignment in lieu of the two 69-kV power lines?
5	SDG&E Comments on Draft EIR	<p>The following information is needed for the four new staging yard locations identified for Alternative 5:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Records of correspondence with staging yard owners stating that the staging yard may be potentially used for construction. 2. Specific acreages that would be used within each staging yard location. If feasible, locate within the general areas where the staging yards could be situated. 3. Maximum daily truck/vehicle trips into and out of each staging yard and the type of uses that may occur at each staging yard. 4. Potential routes between the staging yards to the Alternative 5 construction areas. 5. Existing traffic counts and LOS data for roadway intersections along the preferred routes from the staging yards to the Alternative 5 alignment.