

Southern California Edison
Presidential Substation Project A.08-12-023

DATA REQUEST SET Presidential ED-03 (Part 3)

To: CPUC

Prepared by: Kristin Kelly

Title: Project Manager, Transmission Licensing

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Question 40:

Operation and Maintenance

Describe the minimum vegetation clearing requirements around poles and under the lines.

Response to Question 40:

The minimum vegetation clearing requirement around the base of a 66 kV pole is an approximate 10 foot radial area.

SCE has developed the standard vegetation management (tree trimming) guideline of twelve feet plus one year's growth, as the minimum clearance distance a tree should be maintained from an energized 66 kV conductor. SCE's standards provide that adequate clearance between vegetation and energized conductors is maintained at all times, during all conditions (heat, wind, icing, sag, & loading), for a minimum period of one year for the fastest known growing tree species in the electric system. When developing these standards, SCE considered worse case conditions to determine the distances that must be maintained at all times during the year to ensure compliance, provide for the safety of the general public, and minimize fire potential to tree line contacts. When implemented, these clearance standards establish tree height at base levels and result in tree trimming one or more times a year (as needed) to control the annual growth and maintain the required clearances.

For example, the typical one year's growth for a Peruvian Pepper Tree (which exists near the proposed 66 kV pole line) is approximately 4-6 feet. Therefore, based on the SCE vegetation clearance guideline, an 18 foot clearance would have to be maintained from the top of the tree to the bottom of the 66 kV conductor.