

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

October 14, 2013

**VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL AND EMAIL**

Nichole Yeto  
Southern California Edison  
Environmental Coordinator Power Delivery Projects  
Corporate Environment, Health & Safety

Dear Ms. Yeto:

On August 26, 2013, Southern California Edison Company (SCE) submitted a Notice to Proceed Request (NTPR #5) to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) seeking the authority to proceed with construction of the Cross Valley Line portion of the project as well as removal of towers at M69-T1 in the north-south ROW. The Cross Valley Line is requested to be constructed in two work packages identified as work packages 3a and 3b. Work Package 3a includes construction of new access roads and structure pads in the east-west ROW as well as the preparation of temporary work areas such as pulling and structure work sites. Work Package 3b includes installation of 90 tubular steel poles and 16 new lattice steel towers and their associated foundations, and installation of associated conductor and optical ground wire for the Cross Valley Line.

On September 23, 2013, SCE informed the CPUC that it will likely receive its federal Incidental Take Permit (ITP) for the Cross Valley Line prior to its State ITP, and requested that work be allowed to proceed west of Friant Kern Canal prior to issuance of the State ITP. The CPUC has confirmed with California Department of Wildlife (CDFW) that this would be acceptable from CDFW's perspective given that the State ITP will only cover California Tiger Salamander (CTS) and the only areas of the Cross Valley Line found to support this species are east of Friant Kern Canal. In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has yet to issue the 404 permit for work in St. John's River as well as for work at three other jurisdictional features along the Cross Valley Line east of Friant Kern Canal. Therefore, this Notice to Proceed (NTP 5) restricts SCE to conduct construction activities associated with the Cross Valley Line that are west of Friant Kern Canal, and does not allow work to proceed in St. John's River.

A Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH # 2008081090) for the project was published in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act by the CPUC in February 2010. On July 29, 2010, a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity was issued to SCE by the CPUC under Decision 10-07-043.

SCE is authorized to proceed with the proposed undertaking, with the exceptions of work east of Friant Kern Canal and work in St. John's River, provided that all components of the Cross Valley Line portion of the project are carried out in accordance with the methods and conditions described in NTPR #5 and the CPUC's Mitigation Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Program, and subject to completion of the following implementing actions by SCE prior to the start of construction:

Mitigation Measure/Permit	Approval Condition
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service consultation	SCE shall provide the CPUC with the federal Incidental Take Permit prior to conducting construction activities associated with the Cross Valley Line.
MMs 4.7-2 and 4.10-1	SCE shall provide the Blasting Safety Plan and proof of Tulare County Fire Department approval of the plan to the CPUC prior to conducting any blasting activities.
MM 4.12-2	SCE shall submit verification of consultation with emergency service providers to the CPUC prior to conducting work that would require a lane closure.

Sincerely,



Jensen Uchida  
CPUC Project Manager

CC. Matt Fagundes, ESA