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**PROJECT MEMORANDUM**  
**DOWN'S SUBSTATION EXPANSION PROJECT**

**To:** Eric Chiang, Project Manager, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** July 13, 2015  
**Subject:** Monitoring Report #30 – June 29 to July 5, 2015

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the Southern California Edison (SCE) Downs Substation Expansion Project.

A summary of the Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for construction and Minor Project Change (MPC) activities are provided in Tables 1 and 2, respectively (below).

**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** David DuBois was on site July 1, 2015.

**Work Schedule:** Work continued Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday during the subject period. No work occurred Tuesday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

## CPUC NTPs

### #1 Downs Substation Expansion Site

NTP #1 was issued on October 22, 2014 for the site preparation, grading, and construction of the Downs Substation expansion, adjacent to the existing Downs Substation on the corner of South Downs Street and West Ridgecrest Boulevard in Ridgecrest. NTP #1 included conditions that had to be satisfied prior to the start of construction.

#### Summary of Activity:

1. Gravel and materials continue to be stored onsite. The substation expansion pad is approximately 95% complete.
2. Interior fence installation was completed at the substation expansion area during the subject period (see Figure 1).
3. Installation of an entry gate occurred during the subject period (see Figure 2).

#### Environmental Compliance:

1. Cultural monitoring has been suspended and did not occur during the subject period. The majority of grading is complete and the ground surface is 100% disturbed.
2. Biological monitoring was conducted during the subject period. No sensitive biological resources were observed.
3. Desert tortoise fencing continued to function along the property boundary fencing. No desert tortoises have been observed at the substation site since the start of construction.
4. Following the approval of MPC #1 (see Table 2 below), an alternate route to access the Project work-area, that avoids public traffic, is available for use. However, during the subject period, construction traffic was minimal and accessed the site from West Ridgecrest Boulevard.

5. Track out was minimal during the subject period.
6. Trash containers were observed to be securely covered during the subject period.
7. No dust issues were observed.

## #2 Linear Portion

NTP #2 was issued on February 20, 2015 for the linear portion of the Project which includes 115 kV and fiber optic installations, and substation upgrades. NTP #2 included conditions that had to be satisfied prior to the start of construction.

### Summary of Activity:

1. Overhead telecom installation work was suspended during report period #22 due to a spike in desert tortoise activity. This work will resume on July 6th, 2015.
2. Linear work is approximately 60% complete.

### Environmental Compliance:

1. Four desert tortoises were observed by biological monitors near linear work areas during report period #21. On May 1, SCE ceased all construction activity within NTP #2 work areas. Work will resume July 6, 2015.
2. Biologists conducted preconstruction surveys during the subject period in anticipation of linear work resuming on July 6th. On July 2nd, Biologists observed a desert tortoise near a known burrow location along the telecom route. Apart from inactive/historic den locations, this is the only sensitive biological resource affecting work areas as of the subject period.
3. During the subject period, the CPUC EM and a project Biologist inspected NTP #2 work areas and verified survey results along sections of the telecom route.

## Notices to Proceed

Table 1 summarizes the Notices to Proceed (NTP) for the Downs Substation Expansion Project.

**Table 1**  
**Notice to Proceeds (NTPs)**  
(Updated 07/13/15)

| <b>NTP #1</b> | <b>Date Requested</b> | <b>Date Issued</b> | <b>Phase</b>               | <b>Description</b>   |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|--|
| NTP #1        | 09/04/14              | 10/22/14           | Downs Substation Expansion | Site preparation/grading, installation of substation components in the expanded Down's Substation footprint. |
| NTP #2        | 01/27/15              | 02/20/15           | Remainder of the Project   | 115 kV and fiber optic installations, and substation upgrades.   |

## Minor Project Changes

Table 2 summarizes the Minor Project Changes for the Downs Substation Expansion Project.

**Table 2**  
**Minor Project Changes (MPCs)**  
(Updated 07/13/15)

| <b>MPC</b> | <b>Date Requested</b> | <b>Date Issued</b> | <b>Phase</b>               | <b>Description</b>  |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|---|
| MPC #1     | 12/05/14              | 12/15/14           | Downs Substation Expansion | Requests the use of an existing dirt roadway that connects the southwest corner of the work area to Church Avenue.                        |
| MPC #2     | 05/20/15              | 5/26/15            | Downs Substation Expansion | Installation of privacy slats on all chain link fencing encompassing the perimeter of the Downs Substation, including the expansion area. |

## PROJECT PHOTOGRAPH



Figure 1 – Installation of interior fencing occurred during the subject period. View south,

6/11/15 above, 7/1/15 below.



Figure 2 – Installation of a gate was completed during the subject period. View southeast, 6/24/15 above 7/1/15 below.