

Southern California Edison Valley-Ivyglen Subtransmission Project and Alberhill System Project

# Public Scoping Meeting

May 18, 2015 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. Cesar Chavez Library Perris, California

6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Lake Elsinore Cultural Arts Center Lake Elsinore, California

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**California Public Utilities Commission** 



### Introductions

#### California Public Utilities Commission, Energy Division

• Jensen Uchida, Project Manager

#### **Ecology and Environment, Inc.**

- Bonny O'Connor, Project Manager
- Caitlin Barns, Deputy Project Manager/Biologist
- Kristi Black, Planner





### **Presentation Overview**

- Roles
- Purpose of Today's Meeting
- Description of Proposed Projects
- CPUC and CEQA process
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- How to submit comments and get further information





#### Roles

- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
  - California regulator of public utilities
  - Lead Agency under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for both projects

#### • Ecology and Environment, Inc.

- Subconsultant to the CPUC, hired to conduct the environmental review in accordance with CEQA for both projects.
- Southern California Edison
  - Applicant for both projects





# The Purpose of Today's Scoping Meeting

- The purpose of today's meeting is to:
  - Inform the public about the proposed projects
  - Solicit input regarding potential alternatives to the proposed projects and the appropriate scope of issues to be studied in the Environmental Impact Report (EIR)



 Identify issues of concern and areas of potential controversy regarding the proposed projects



### Valley-lvyglen and Alberhill Projects Combined Scoping Meeting

- CPUC determined it was in the public's best interest to consolidate the environmental reviews of the Valley–Ivyglen Subtransmission Line Project and Alberhill System Project into one EIR.
  - Close proximity
  - Overlapping impacts
  - Similar construction timing





# Valley–lvyglen Subtransmission Line Project





### Valley-Ivyglen Project: Project Background

2007	<ul> <li>SCE filed two applications and Proponent's Environmental Assessments (one for each project) for: <ul> <li>Valley–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line</li> <li>Fogarty Substation</li> </ul> </li> <li>CPUC determined that the applications would be consolidated into a single project for the CEQA analysis</li> </ul>
2009	<ul> <li>CPUC released a Draft EIR for the Valley–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line and Fogarty Substation Project</li> </ul>
2010	<ul> <li>CPUC released a Final EIR and issued a Permit to Construct for the Valley–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line and Fogarty Substation Project</li> </ul>
2011– 2012	SCE substantially constructed Fogarty Substation





### Valley-Ivyglen Project: Project Background

2013	<ul> <li>SCE filed a Petition for Modification (PFM) for the Valley – Ivyglen Subtransmission and Fogarty Substation Project</li> </ul>
2014	<ul> <li>CPUC approved SCE's motion to bifurcate consideration of modifications to complete the Fogarty Substation from modifications proposed to start construction of the Valley–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line</li> <li>SCE filed an amended PFM for the Valley–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line</li> </ul>
2015	<ul> <li>CPUC deemed the amended PFM complete.</li> <li>CPUC issued an NOP for the proposed Alberhill Project and Valley–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line Project that covers the changes to the Valley–Ivyglen 115-kV Subtransmission Line in the PFM</li> </ul>



#### Valley-lvyglen Project: Project Overview

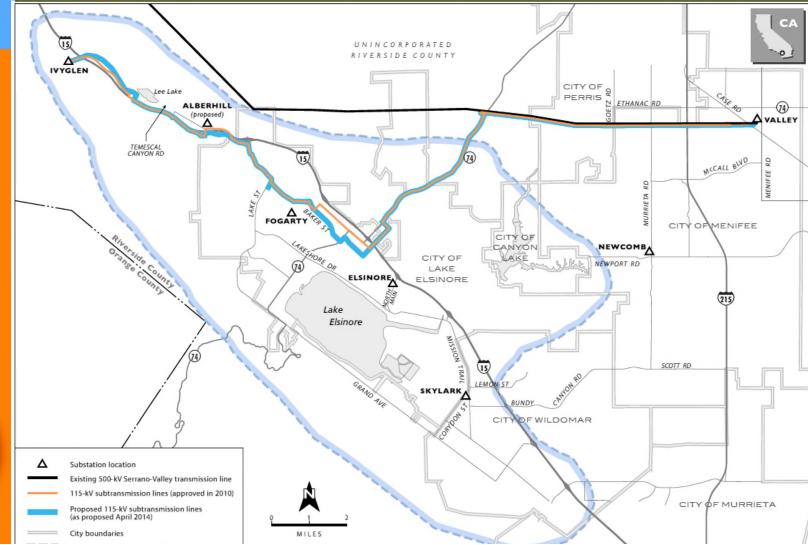
- New single circuit 115-kV subtransmission line
  - Route would generally follow the route approved by the CPUC in 2010
  - Subtransmission line would be approximately 27 miles long and constructed within approximately 23 miles of new right-of-way
- New fiber optic line



 Fiber optic line would be installed overhead on proposed transmission structures and underground in new and existing conduit



#### Valley-lvyglen Project: Project Overview





### Valley-lvyglen Project: Project Modifications

In addition to the route realignment, the proposed Valley– Ivyglen Subtransmission project would include modifications w compared to the project approved in 2010:

- Additional disturbance areas and access road changes
- Alternate construction methods (e.g., helicopter use, blasting, guard structures, shoofly poles, and retaining walls)
- Additional underground installations
- Additional transmission structures and types of transmission structures
- Increased span lengths and depths of borings
- Modifications to work areas, staging areas, and helicopter operation yards
- Modifications to the telecommunications system, including overhead and underground installation





#### Valley-lvyglen Project: Objectives

- 1. Serve projected electrical demand requirements in the Electrical Needs Area
- 2. Provide a direct connection between SCE's Valley Substation and Ivyglen Substation
- 3. Increase system reliability by locating a second 115-kV subtransmission line within the Electrical Needs Area
- 4. Improve operational and maintenance flexibility on subtransmission lines without interruption of service
- 5. Meet project need while minimizing environmental impacts
- 6. Meet project need in a cost-effective manner





# Alberhill System Project





# Alberhill Project: Project Background

2009	<ul> <li>SCE filed an application and Proponent's Environmental Assessment for the Alberhill System Project</li> </ul>
2010	<ul> <li>SCE filed an amendment to the application</li> <li>CPUC issued a Notice of Preparation of an EIR for the project</li> </ul>
2011	<ul> <li>SCE filed amended portions of its Proponent's Environmental Assessment</li> <li>CPUC issued a second Notice of Preparation of an EIR for the project as modified</li> </ul>
2015	<ul> <li>CPUC issued a third Notice of Preparation of an EIR, given combination of environmental review with the Valley– lvyglen Subtransmission Project</li> </ul>

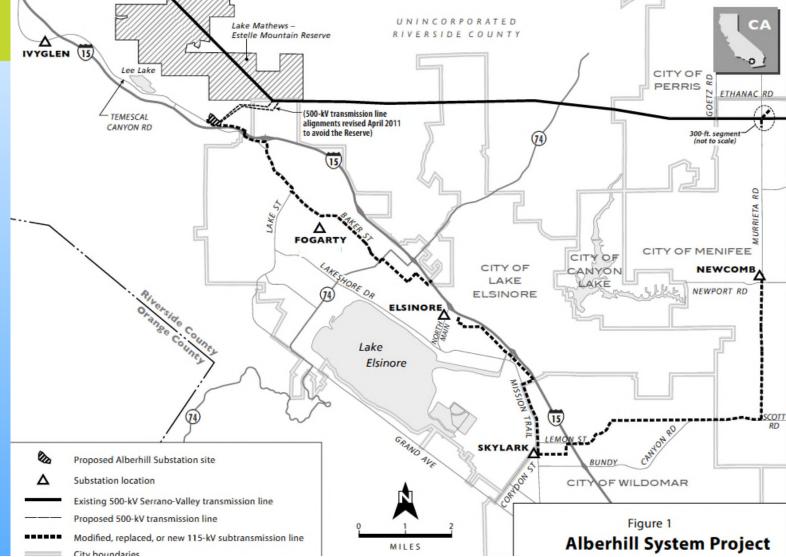


#### Alberhill Project: Project Overview

- Construct the Alberhill Substation—a new 1,120 megavolt ampere (MVA) 500/115-kilovolt (kV) electrical substation
- Construct two 500-kV transmission line segments, each about 1.7-miles long, to connect Alberhill Substation to the existing Valley–Serrano 500-kV transmission line
- Construct one new and modify four existing 115-kV transmission lines (about 20 miles total) to transfer five existing substations to be service from the Alberhill Substation
- Installation of telecommunications improvements



#### Alberhill System Project: Project Overview





## Alberhill Project: 2011 Revision to the Proposed Project

- The 500-kV transmission line alignments that would extend from the proposed Alberhill Substation to the existing Valley–Serrano 500kV transmission line were revised to avoid the Lake Mathews / Estelle Mountain Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Core Reserve
- This Reserve and several others have been established in the vicinity of Lake Elsinore
- They are managed by the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency





#### Alberhill System Project: Objectives

- Relieve projected electrical demand that would exceed the operating limit of the two load-serving Valley South 115-kV System 500/115-kV transformers;
- Construct a new 500/115-kV substation within the Electrical Needs Area that provides safe and reliable electrical service pursuant to NERC and WECC standards; and
- Maintain system ties between a new 115-kV System and the Valley South 115-kV System that enable either of these systems to provide electricity in place of the other during maintenance, during emergency events, or to relieve other operational issues on one of the systems.





# CPUC and CEQA Process





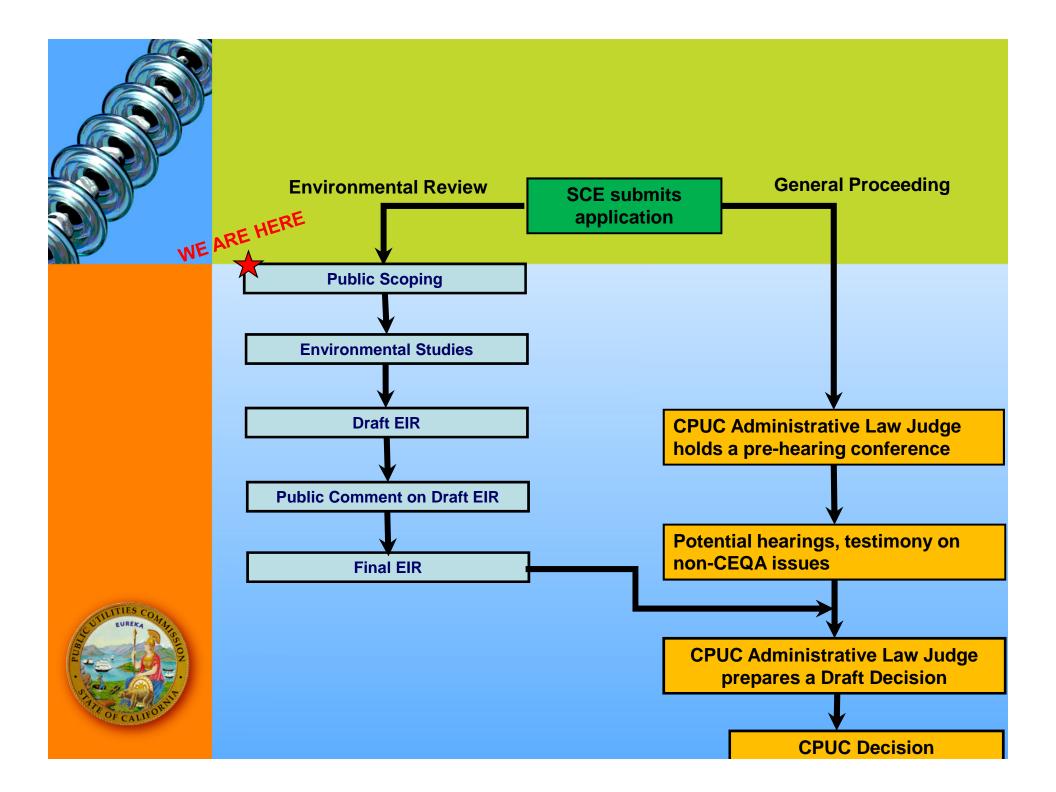
#### **CPUC Review Process**

# The CPUC has two parallel review processes for applications:

#### **1. General Proceeding**

- Alberhill Project: Application No. 07-01-031
- Valley–Ivyglen Project: Application No. A.09-09-022
- 2. Environmental Review (CEQA process)







#### **Environmental Review**

#### CPUC is the "Lead Agency" under CEQA for conducting the environmental review and preparing the EIR.

- Public agency disclosure of significant effects and measures to avoid, reduce, and compensate for those effects
- Present discussion of alternatives
- Ensure that decision makers have a solid basis for making a decision





# What Will Be In the EIR

- Description of the proposed projects
- Environmental and Regulatory Setting
- Environmental Impacts (separate for each project
- Mitigation Measures (for significant impacts)
- Description of alternatives and comparison of alternatives
- Discussion of "other CEQA considerations," including cumulative impacts and growthinducing impacts
- Mitigation Monitoring Plan





# **EIR Resource Topics**

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology, Soils and Minerals
- Greenhouse Gas
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials

- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services and Utilities
- Recreation
- Transportation and Traffic





# **EIR Alternatives**

- CEQA requires evaluation of alternatives to a project that are feasible, meet most of the basic objectives of the project, and avoid or reduce a significant impact.
- EIR will consider a range of reasonable alternatives to both the Valley–Ivyglen and Alberhill Projects, including the "No Project"
- EIR will compare the environmental impacts of the alternatives' to the proposed projects'





### **For More Information**

• Visit the project websites:

# http://tinyurl.com/Alberhill

http://tinyurl.com/lvyglen





Written scoping comments must be received or postmarked by Friday, June 5, 2015

Please send comments to:

Alberhill Project and Valley-Ivyglen Project c/o Ecology and Environment, Inc. 505 Sansome Street, Suite 300 San Francisco, CA 94111 Fax: (415) 398-5326 Email: alberhill@ene.com or ivyglen@ene.com

Please be sure to include your name, address, and phone number on all comments.

http://tinyurl.com/Alberhill

http://tinyurl.com/lvyglen

