



January 9, 2023

Louis Torres  
Project Manager  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Monthly Report Summary #61 for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project**

Dear Mr. Torres:

This report summarizes the compliance monitoring activities that occurred during the period from **November 1 to 30, 2022**, for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project in Orange County, California. Compliance monitoring was performed once between November 1 and November 30, 2022, to ensure all project-related activities conducted by San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) and its contractors were in compliance with the Final Environmental Impact Report (Final EIR) for the SOCRE Project, as adopted by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on December 15, 2016.

The CPUC has issued the following Notices to Proceed (NTPs) for the SOCRE Project to SDG&E:

- NTP-1 (October 13, 2017): Geotechnical investigation and hazardous materials abatement at the future San Juan Capistrano Substation.
- NTP-2 (December 18, 2017): Conduct site preparation activities and construction staging at the future San Juan Capistrano Substation.
- NTP-2 Addendum 1 (March 23, 2018): Modified alignment of the interior fence separating the upper and lower yards, removal of three de-energized 138-kilovolt (kV) rack structures and associated hazardous materials abatement activities.
- NTP-3 (April 27, 2018): Rebuild and upgrade of the San Juan Capistrano Substation.
- NTP-4 (October 29, 2018): Transmission and distribution line work.
- NTP-5 (July 26, 2019): Installation of the 138-kV and 230-kV eastern getaways and removal and installation of 12-kV distribution lines.
- NTP-6 (October 30, 2019): Removal and replacement of the existing 138-kV transmission line with a new double-circuit 230-kV transmission line from Rancho Viejo Road southeast to pole 41.
- NTP-6 Addendum 1 (September 29, 2020): Extension of the scope of NTP-6 to pole 42, located just north of the Talega Hub and outside of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.
- NTP-7 (February 4, 2021): Installation of two 230-kV transmission lines, reconfiguration of three 138-kV lines, and relocation of a 69-kV line within the Talega Hub and Corridor.

The WSP USA Inc. (WSP) compliance monitoring team completed onsite compliance checks during this reporting period to verify compliance of ongoing site preparation and construction activities. The

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CPUC/WSP compliance monitoring team visited the San Juan Capistrano Substation site and other project construction areas on November 14, 2022. The WSP site inspection reports that summarize observed construction activities and compliance events, as applicable, and verifies mitigation measures (MMs) and applicant proposed measures (APMs) were completed for the site visits. This report is attached below (Attachment 1).

Project activities in November 2022 were covered under NTP-3, NTP-6, and NTP-7. NTP-4, Long and Westport Complex, was inactive in November. At the Capistrano Substation, work on the 230kV bussing, switches and welding was conducted. Roofing for the 230kV control shelter as well construction on the new 230kV GIS enclosure was conducted. Trenching and conduit work for Phase 2 and concrete repair of the former utility building was also conducted. Mobilization to the Lat Pata Staging Yard was conducted in November 2022. At the Talega Hub and Talega Corridor, vegetation clearing, grading for retaining walls anchors, and placement of temporary poles with associated wire work was conducted.

In addition, SDG&E conducted routine inspection, maintenance, and monitoring activities in November 2022. Inspection activities included weekly inspections of the San Juan Capistrano Substation boundary for cleanliness and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) inspections at all construction activity areas to ensure there were no best management practice (BMP) deficiencies or potential non-compliance incidents. Two non-qualifying rain events took place on November 2 and between November 7 and November 8. Major stormwater BMP maintenance took place at the Capistrano Substation, including storm drain cleaning and installation of additional fiber rolls north and south entrances. Bonded Fiber Mic was installed on eastern and southern slopes. No non-compliance incidents were observed during the reporting period.

Historic Architect Monitoring occurred on November 29 for the ongoing restoration work at the former utility structure. There were no non-compliance incidents noted by the monitor during this month's reporting period. SDG&E conducted monitoring, as applicable, for cultural, paleontological, and biological resources that are all associated with the start of NTP-7. Cultural monitoring was conducted on November 15. Vegetation removal at Location 43, entrance maintenance at the Avenida Pico Street entrance, excavation at Location 43, trenching at Locations 14A, 43, and 50, and excavation at Locations 14A, 43, and 50 were monitored during the reporting period. Isolated finds included three separate meta-volcanic secondary flakes discovered between November 29 and November 30. Finds were relocated outside of any access road or project work area. There were no non-compliance incidents noted by the monitor during this month's reporting period. Paleontological monitoring was conducted on excavation, vegetation trimming, grubbing, grading and drilling activities. Cultural monitoring occurred from November 14 through 18, and on November 21, November 23, and November 28. Fossils oysters and Monterey Formation were discovered and recorded per Paleontological Monitoring and Treatment Plan. There were no non-compliance incidents noted by the monitor during this month's reporting period. Biological monitoring was conducted on November 10, 11, 14 through 18, 21, 22, and 28 through 30. No sensitive resources were impacts as a result of project activities with NTP-7. No biological non-compliance incidents were recorded during the month of November.

Project compliance during the November 2022 monitoring period was achieved through regular communication with and reporting by SDG&E. Communication between the CPUC/WSP compliance team and SDG&E has been regular and effective. SDG&E's monthly environmental compliance report for October 2022 provides a compliance summary and includes a description of construction activities, a look-ahead construction schedule, a monthly biological monitoring report, a summary of compliance with project commitments (MMs/APMs), a summary of non-compliance incidents and public complaints (as applicable), a record of SOCRE Project personnel that received safety and environmental awareness training during the reporting month, and a list of upcoming or pending Minor Project Refinements



(MPRs) and outstanding agency deliverables.

Overall, the SOCRE Project has maintained compliance with the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) based on adherence to applicable MMs and APMs and satisfaction of pre-construction requirements and conditions of approval for NTP-1, NTP-2, NTP-2 Addendum 1, NTP-3, NTP-4, NTP-5, NTP-6, NTP-6 Addendum 1, NTP-7, MPR-1, MPR-1 Addendum 1, MPR-1 Addendum 2, MPR-3, MPR-4, MPR-5, MPR-6, MPR-7, MPR-8, MPR-9, MPR-10, MPR-11, MPR-12, and MPR-13.

### **Compliance Incidents**

One compliance incident occurred on November 29 that involved a civil subcontractor performing vegetation clearing outside of approved work limits at Location 50 within disturbed habitat. Staking was difficult to decipher due to overgrown mustard. The compliance issue was addressed at the morning tailboard meeting on November 30. The corrective action included placing additional stakes and string line between stakes in areas with poor line of sight. The areas will also be walked with the crew who will be working at each site. In addition, the area that was mowed will be included in the forthcoming MPR-15. Although it is not anticipated that the additional mowed area will be needed for construction, it will be included for the Project record. No other compliance incidents were noted in November 2022.

### **Public Concerns**

No public concerns were reported during November 2022.

### **Minor Approvals**

One minor approval was reported in November 2022. On November 10, 2022, the CPUC approved three biological resource monitors per MMs BR-2, BR-3, BR-6, BR-7, BR-8, and a cultural resource monitor in accordance with APM CUL-2 and MM CUL-2 to support the SOCRE Project.

Sincerely,

Fernando Guzman  
CPUC Compliance Manager, WSP

cc: Richard Quasarano, Environmental Project Manager, SDG&E



# ATTACHMENT 1

CPUC Site Inspection Reports



## South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project CPUC Site Inspection Form

<b>Project:</b>	South Orange County Reliability Enhancement (SOCRE) Project	<b>Date:</b>	November 14, 2022
<b>Project Proponent:</b>	San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)	<b>Report #:</b>	VS153
<b>Lead Agency:</b>	California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)	<b>Monitor(s):</b>	CPUC/WSP Compliance Monitor
<b>CPUC PM:</b>	Andrew Barnsdale, Energy Division	<b>AM/PM Weather:</b>	Sunny, warm and calm
<b>CPUC CM (WSP):</b>	Fernando Guzman	<b>Start/End time:</b>	1130 – 1400 hrs
<b>Project NTP(s):</b>	Notice to Proceed (NTP)-1, NTP-2, NTP-2 Addendum 1, NTP-3, NTP-4, and NTP-5		

SITE INSPECTION CHECKLIST (Based on monitor's observations during site visit; responses do not imply that monitor observed all staff, crews, and parts of the project during this inspection)

<b>Safety and Environmental Awareness Program (SEAP)</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Is the WEAP training in place and does it appear to have been completed by all new hires (construction and monitors)?	X		
<b>Erosion and Dust Control (Air and Water Quality)</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Have temporary erosion and sediment control measures (Best Management Practices [BMPs]) been installed?	X		
Are erosion and sediment control measures (BMPs) properly installed (without apparent deficiencies) and functioning as intended during rain events?	X		
Are measures in place to avoid/minimize mud tracking onto public roadways, in accordance with the project's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)?	X		
Is dust control being implemented (i.e., access roads watered, haul trucks covered, soil piles are tarped, streets cleaned on a regular basis)?	X		
Are work areas being effectively watered prior to excavation or grading?	X		
Are measures in place to stabilize soils and effectively suppress fugitive dust?	X		
<b>Equipment</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Are observed vehicles maintaining a speed limit of 15 miles per hour on unpaved roads?	X		
Are observed vehicles/equipment arriving onsite clean of sediment or plant debris?	X		
Are observed vehicles/equipment turned off when not in use?	X		
<b>Work Areas</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Is exclusionary fencing or flagging in place to protect sensitive biological or cultural resources?	X		
Are observed vehicles, equipment, and construction personnel staying within approved work areas and on approved roads?	X		
Are excavations and trenches covered at the end of the day?	X		



Are wildlife escape ramps installed at 100-foot intervals with ramps not exceeding 2:1 slopes?	X		
<b>Biology</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Have preconstruction surveys been completed for biological (coastal California gnatcatcher, least Bell's vireo, southwestern will flycatcher, rare plants) resources, as appropriate?	X		
Are biological monitors present onsite?	X		
Are appropriate measures in place to protect sensitive habitat and/or drainages (i.e., flagging, signage, exclusion fencing, biological monitor, appropriate buffer distance enacted)?	X		
Have wildlife been relocated from work areas? If yes, describe below.		X	
Have impacts occurred to adjacent habitat (sensitive or non-sensitive)? If yes, describe below.		X	
Were any threatened or endangered species observed? If yes, describe below.		X	
If there are wetlands or water bodies near construction activities, are adequate measures in place to avoid impacts on these features?	X		
Have there been any work stoppages for biological resources? If yes, describe below.		X	
<b>Cultural and Paleontological Resources</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Are identified cultural/paleo resources that will not be relocated/salvaged clearly marked for exclusion?			X
Are archaeological and paleontological monitors onsite if needed?	X		
Are appropriate buffers maintained around sensitive resources (e.g., cultural sites)?			X
Have there been any work stoppages for cultural/paleo resources? If yes, describe below.		X	
<b>Hazardous Materials</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Are hazardous materials that are stored or used on site properly managed?	X		
Are procedures in place to prevent spills and accidental releases?	X		
Are required fire prevention and control measures in place?	X		
Are contaminated soils properly managed for onsite storage or offsite disposal?	X		
<b>Work Hours and Noise</b>	Yes	No	N/A
Are required night lighting reduction measures in place?			X
Is construction occurring within approved hours?	X		
Are required noise control measures in place?			X

**AREAS MONITORED** (i.e., structure numbers, yards, or substations)

San Juan Capistrano Substation and SOCRE transmission line work.

**DESCRIPTION OF OBSERVED ACTIVITIES** (i.e., mitigation measures [MMs] of particular focus or concern, construction activity, any discussions with first-party monitors or construction crews)

I arrived on site at the substation at 1130 hours. I met with the Environmental Inspector (EI) and together we inspected the project site.

The EI informed me that the site had received nearly 3 inches of rain the week before and therefore work had been shut down for most of the week. Evidence of rainwater runoff was noted around the site, along with the best management practices (BMPs) in place to slow the flow and allow sediment to drop out (Photo 1). Pools of rainwater remained present on site and crews were actively avoiding driving through those areas (Photo 2). It did not appear that any mud had entered public roadways, and street sweepers were regularly clearing the roads just outside of the substation site. Entry and exit BMPs were in place at both access roads; however, the rumble plate at the north entrance was in need of cleaning (Photo 6). I discussed this with the EI and the rumble plate was cleaned during my inspection. The EI indicated that he plans to spray hydromulch on the open slopes before the next rain event.

Work had begun on the building around the new substation (Photo 3). The staging area east of the substation was in good condition, with no trash or runoff issues (Photo 4). Some trenching and conduit installation was being conducted around the retaining wall (Photo 5). Some minor concrete removal was underway around the base of the former utility structure (Photo 7).

Work had begun on Phase II of the transmission line installation near the Talega substation. BMPs were in place at the entrance to the access road (Photo 8). Two work crews were working up a fairly steep slope within an area of coastal sage scrub vegetation (Photo 9). One crew was clearing and chipping vegetation for what will be pole site 45A (Photo 10). A paleontological monitor and a biological monitor were on site to oversee the work. The biological monitor had completed a morning sweep for any sensitive animals within the area to be cleared for pole site 45A. None were observed. The second work crew had installed a temporary pole and were working up in the infrastructure (Photo 11).

I departed the project site at 1400 hours.



<p><b>MITIGATION MEASURES VERIFIED</b> (Refer to the Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program [MMCRP], e.g., MM BIO-5. Report only on MMs pertinent to your observations today)</p> <p>All project personnel have been through the environmental training with hardhat stickers (MM HAZ-3, MM CUL-1).</p>
<p><b>RECOMMENDED FOLLOW-UP</b> (i.e., items to check on next visit, minor issues to resolve)</p>
<p><b>COMPLIANCE SUGGESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS</b> (i.e., suggestions to improve compliance on-site, environmental observations of note)</p>
<p><b>COMPLIANCE SUMMARY</b> Check all applicable boxes below to indicate new conditions or issues that have occurred since your last visit. Note this information on the monitoring datasheet and document with photographs.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New biological or cultural discovery requiring compliance with MMs, permit conditions, etc.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Potential compliance incident(s) observed. Document incident(s) and potential for environmental resources to be impacted.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> New non-compliance issues reported by SDG&amp;E monitors since your last visit. Describe issues and resolution under "compliance suggestions or additional observations" (above) and include SDG&amp;E report identification number.</p>
<p><b>PREVIOUS NON-COMPLIANCE ITEMS REQUIRING FOLLOW-UP OR RESOLVED TODAY:</b></p>



<b>REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS</b>			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 1 – Evidence of rainwater runoff and the BMPs that are in place. Photo facing west.



REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 2 – Areas of ponded rainwater runoff. Photo facing south.
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 3 – The new substation. Photo facing northeast.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 4 – The staging area east of the new substation. Photo facing north.
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 5 – Trenching and conduit installation along the retaining wall. Photo facing south.



REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 6 – Rumble plate at the north entrance to the site requiring some cleaning out. Photo facing west.
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 7 – Some concrete work in process at the base of the former utility structure. Photo facing north.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
11/14/22	SOCRE Project Phase II		Photo 8 – Rumble plates at the access road to the Phase II work area. Photo facing south.
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 9 – Phase II work near the Talega substation. Photo facing southwest.



REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 10 – Vegetation clearing and initial grading of the 45A pole site. Photo facing west.

REPRESENTATIVE SITE PHOTOGRAPHS			
Date	Location	Photo	Description
11/14/22	SOCRE Project		Photo 11 – Crews working on newly installed temporary poles near the 45A pole site. Photo facing south.

<b>Completed by:</b>	CPUC/WSP Compliance Monitor
<b>Date:</b>	11/29/22

<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Manager
<b>Date:</b>	11/29/22