Environmental Minor Project Refinement Form

Project Name: West of Devers Upgrade Project Request Prepared By: Sylvia Granados

Date Approval Required: 12/29/2017 Variance Request No.: 4

Date Submitted: 12/27/2017 Location: Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District hydrants located near the intersections of: Highland Springs Avenue and Crooked Creek (TEWS #1); Oak Valley Parkway and Oak View Drive (TEWS #2), in the City of Beaumont, Riverside County.

Landowner: Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District / City of Beaumont Landowner Parcel Number: __________

Current Vegetative Cover/Land Use: Developed/Disturbed

Existing Sensitive Resource? NO ■ YES Specify: See “Biological Resources”

Modifying (check as many as apply): ■ MITIGATION MEASURE □ PLAN/PROCEDURE □ SPECIFICATION ■ DRAWING □ PERMIT CONDITION □ OTHER

Specify Source (e.g., Mitigation Measure B.5): Continued use of TEWS #1 and TEWS #2

Description of Change and Justification (Attach additional sheets if needed.)

Attachments: ■ CONSTRUCTION DRAWING □ ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS □ CORRESPONDENCE □ OTHER:

Continued construction use of purple water hydrants located near the intersections of: Highland Springs Avenue and Crooked Creek (TEWS #1); Oak Valley Parkway and Oak View Drive (TEWS #2), in the City of Beaumont, Riverside County.

Biological Resources:
The hydrant located along Highland Springs Avenue, on the north side of Crooked Creek Road, serves a residential housing development, in an urbanized part of Beaumont. Only occasional short-term filling of a water truck will occur at sidewalk curb, while allowing access to local land uses. No ground disturbance will occur. Due to the nature of the construction activity and absence of suitable habitats for special-status plants and special-status terrestrial wildlife, no impacts to these species are anticipated.

The hydrant is located within 500 feet of habitats presumed to be historically occupied by the least Bell’s vireo (LBVI) (Vireo bellii pusillus) and southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL) (Empidonax traillii extimus). However, construction activity at the hydrant is not expected to occur during the breeding season for these species. In addition, the activities are low impact. Therefore, no direct or indirect impacts to breeding LBVI or SWFL are anticipated. SCE will conduct focused nest location surveys as required by MM WIL-1c and consistent with the project Nesting Bird Management Plan (NBMP) beginning January 1. If a breeding territory for LBVI or SWFL is identified, SCE will implement avoidance and minimization measures consistent with MM WIL-2c, in coordination with the RCA, CDFW, and USFWS, in accordance with the NBMP.

The purple hydrant located along Oak Valley Parkway near the intersection of Oak View Drive is also on developed/disturbed land. Only occasional short-term filling of a water truck will occur, while allowing access to local land uses. No ground disturbance will occur. The water source location and vicinity does not include habitats supporting special-status plants or wildlife. No sensitive biological resources were observed during previous surveys. No impacts to sensitive biological resources are anticipated.

The hydrant locations and vicinity include suitable nesting substrates for breeding birds protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code. Suitable substrates include trees, shrubs, man-made structures, and the ground surface. Beginning January 1, SCE will conduct focused nest location surveys consistent with the NBMP. If active nests are found, avoidance and minimization measures will be implemented as described in the NBMP.

No tree trimming or removal is required for use of the hydrants.
Jurisdictional Waters

The hydrants and associated work areas are not located within or adjacent to any potentially jurisdictional riparian or riverine areas. Therefore, no impacts area anticipated.

Cultural Resources

The hydrant locations were covered during previous cultural surveys. Results were negative, as reported in:
McLean, Roderic, Natalie Brodie, and Jacqueline Hall. 2013. Cultural Resources Assessment and Class III Inventory, West of Devers Project, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California. LSA Associates, Inc. for Southern California Edison.

Resources:

Biological  NO SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT  ■ SENSITIVE RESOURCES PRESENT  □ N/A
New Survey Report Attached:  ■ YES  □ NO
If No, Previous Biological Survey Reference: ____________________________

Cultural  NO RESOURCES PRESENT  □ RESOURCES PRESENT WITH PROJECT APE:  □ YES  ■ NO
□ (PAVED/GRAVEL AREA AND NO GROUND DISTURBANCE)

If not in APE, attach new survey report.

Other Potential Impacts:  (Check any potential changes to permitted impacts and provide details below. Attach additional sheets if needed.)

□ AIR QUALITY  □ LAND USE  □ TRAFFIC
□ BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES  □ NOISE  □ VISUAL
□ GROUND DISTURBANCE
CEQA and Permitting: (Provide details for any “Yes” answer and attach additional information if needed.)

1. Will modification involve substantial changes that will require major changes to the CEQA document?
   - [ ] Yes  [ ] No

2. Will modification result in new significant environmental effects or a substantial increase in the severity of previously identified impacts?
   - [X] Yes  [ ] No

3. Additional agency notifications and/or permit modifications required?
   - [ ] Yes  [ ] No

Conditions of Approval or Reasons for Denial: (Attach additional information if needed.)

Required Signatures: (Attached email approvals may be used in lieu of signatures.)

[ ] Chief Construction Inspector or Foreman:      [ ] Variance modification is needed for safe and efficient construction
Name: Rodney Lloyd                               Signature: See signature page attached   Date: 12/11/2017
Environmental Inspector:     [ ] Field review complete
Name: Hannah Buckley                        Signature: See signature page attached   Date: 12/11/2017
[ ] Land Agent:      [ ] Consistent with existing rights  [ ] New rights obtained
Name: Anjeanette Barrett                   Signature: See signature page attached   Date: 12/11/2017
Environmental Compliance Lead:     [ ] Approved  [ ] Approved with conditions (see conditions above)  [ ] Denied
Name: Sylvia Granados                        Signature: See signature page attached   Date: 12/11/2017
FIGURE 2

LEGEND

- Non-potable Water Hydrant
- Temporary Work Space

Southern California Edison
West of Devers Upgrade Project

MPR #4 -
Oak Valley Parkway Water Source