March 11, 2014

Mr. Don Houston
Project Manager II, Environmental Services
San Diego Gas and Electric
1010 Tavern Road
Alpine CA, 91901

Subject: Minor Project Refinement Request (MPRR) #12 – Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-in – East County Substation Project (Application No. 09.08.008)

Dear Mr. Houston:

On February 27, 2014, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) submitted a Minor Project Refinement Request (MPRR) to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for refinements to the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) loop-in. The request includes a reduction and shift in the maintenance pad for three-pole structure SD-6; shift in the temporary workspace at existing SWPL structure 50183; reduction of temporary workspace at the pull site between SWPL structure 50183 and SD-6; shifted temporary workspace for the pull site and removal of the southernmost access road at three-pole structure SD-2; additional grading at the permanent access road for SD-2; and shifts in the workspace for three-pole structures SD-1, SD-3, SD-4, and SD-5. The refinement also includes the extension of fiber optic cable from the adjacent Sunrise Powerlink transmission structure to the SWPL loop-in.

The CPUC voted on June 21, 2012 to approve the East County (ECO) Substation Project (Decision 12-06-039) and a Notice of Determination was submitted to the State Clearinghouse (SCH#2009121079). The Commission decision approving the Permit to Construct (PTC) authorizes Energy Division staff to approve requests by SDG&E for minor project refinements. The decision states that minor project refinements may be approved so long as such minor project refinements are located within the geographic boundary of the study area of the EIR/EIS and do not, without mitigation, result in a new significant impact or a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on the criteria used in the environmental document; conflict with any mitigation measure or applicable law or policy; or trigger an additional permit requirement.
This letter documents the CPUC’s thorough evaluation of all activities covered in MPRR #12 and that the changes requested in MPRR #12 are allowed pursuant to the Commission decision issuing the PTC. In accordance with the MMCRP, the MPRR was reviewed by CPUC to confirm that no new impacts or increase in impact severity would result from the requested activities.

Sincerely,

Eric Chiang  
CPUC Environmental Project Manager