

Riverside Transmission Reliability Project Subsequent EIR Fact Sheet

Southern California Edison (SCE) and the City of Riverside's Municipal Utility Department (RPU) jointly planned the Riverside Transmission Reliability Project (RTRP). The RTRP would be owned and operated by both SCE and RPU. The City of Riverside prepared and certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) in 2013 and approved the RPU-owned elements. SCE submitted an application to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to construct and operate the SCE-owned portions of the project. SCE revised the proposed transmission line to route to avoid conflicts with residential and commercial developments within SCE's proposed route in the City of Jurupa Valley. The CPUC, as the Lead Agency, must decide whether to approve the SCE-owned portion of the RTRP. The CPUC determined that a Subsequent EIR was appropriate under CEQA (CEQA Guidelines Section 15162) to analyze potentially significant impacts that may result from SCE's changes in the RTRP location and design.

REVISED PROJECT OVERVIEW

SCE modified the Proposed Project to avoid conflicts with housing developments constructed in the proposed RTRP Right-of-Way. The project modifications are referred to as the "Revised Project" in the Subsequent EIR and are identified on the Project Overview Map on page 2 of this fact sheet (Figure 1). The CPUC prepared a Subsequent EIR to analyze the environmental impacts of the Revised Project. The CPUC will consider the Subsequent EIR and the 2013 RTRP EIR in their decision-making.

The Revised Project includes the following components:

- **Overhead Segment—Wineville Avenue.** Construction of an overhead transmission line along Wineville Avenue between Cantu-Galleano Ranch Road and Landon Drive
- **Underground Segment—Limonite Avenue to the Goose Creek Golf Club.** Construction of an underground transmission line with two riser poles on either end of the underground segment
- **Distribution Line Relocations.** Relocation of existing overhead distribution lines to underground in two locations. One distribution riser pole would be constructed at either end of each segment.
- **Telecommunication Line.** Installation of telecommunication fiber optic cables at the same time as and within the same duct banks the underground 230-kV transmission line and the distribution lines
- **Etiwanda Marshalling Yard.** Use of the Etiwanda Marshalling Yard for storing construction materials during construction

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

SCE explained in their application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity that the project is to provide RPU and its customers with adequate transmission capacity to serve existing and projected load, to provide for long-term system capacity for load growth, and to provide needed system reliability.

The project objectives defined by the CPUC are to:

- Increase capacity to meet existing electrical system demand and anticipated future load growths, and
- Provide an additional source of bulk power into the RPU electrical system.

SCOPE OF THE SUBSEQUENT EIR

The CPUC prepared an Initial Study Checklist to evaluate the Revised Project at a screening level and to determine the environmental topics that have the potential for new or increased impact as a result of changes in baseline conditions and project design modifications. The CPUC considered the Initial Study Checklist, scoping comments, and tribal consultation when identifying the environmental topics to be analyzed in the Subsequent EIR. The Subsequent EIR addresses the following topics:

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| • Project Description | • Hazards and Hazardous Materials |
| • Aesthetics | • Hydrology |
| • Agriculture | • Land Use and Planning |
| • Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Emissions | • Noise |
| • Biology | • Public Services and Utilities |
| • Cultural, Tribal Cultural, and Paleontological Resources | • Recreation |
| • Geology and Soils | • Transportation and Traffic |
| | • Cumulative Impacts |
| | • Alternatives |

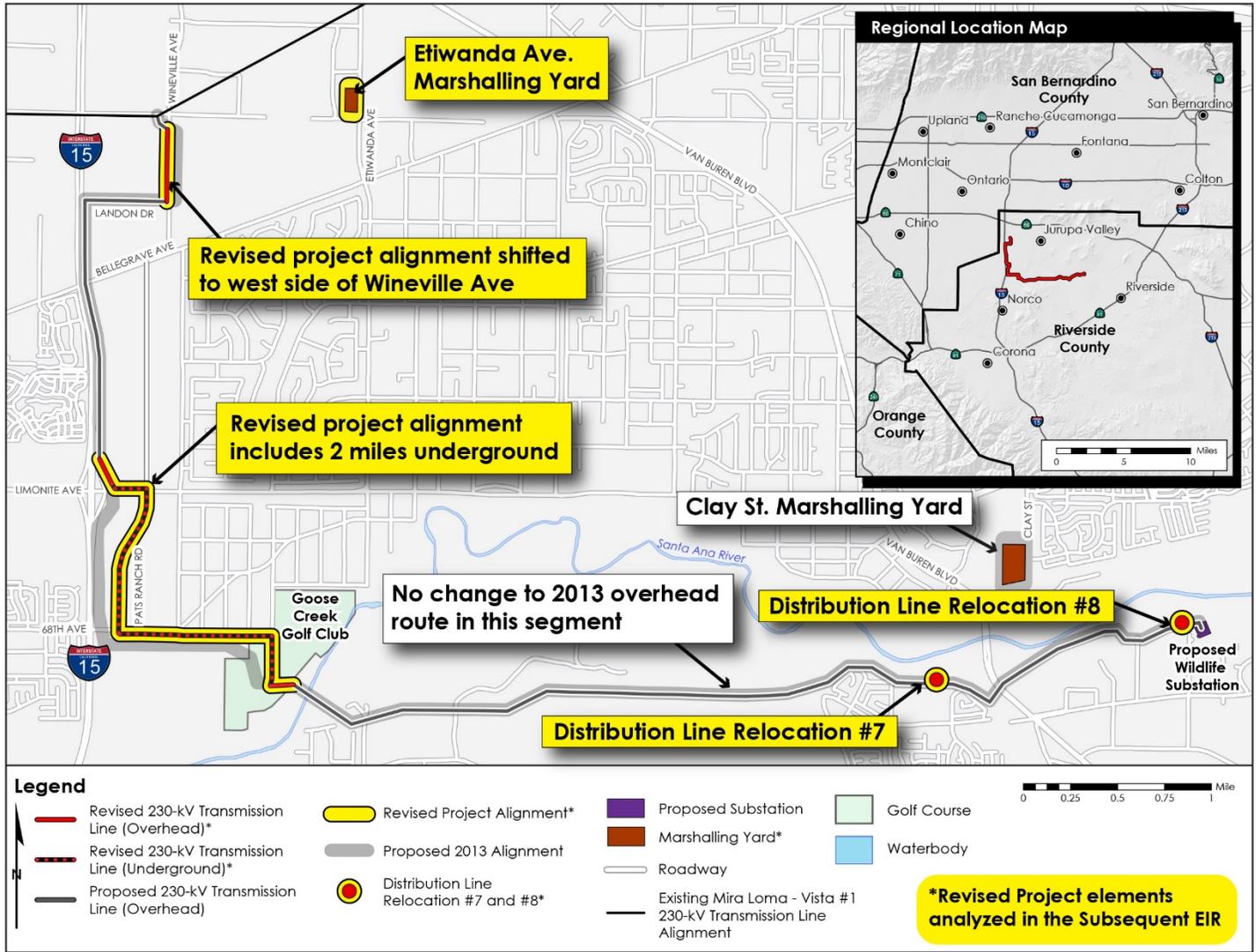
The Revised Project would not cause additional effects related to Mineral Resources or Population and Housing; therefore, these topics are not addressed in the Subsequent EIR.

ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

The CPUC solicited comments on the scope of the Subsequent EIR. The following topics were identified as the primary issues:

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| • Aesthetics | • Home and/or property values |
| • Biology | • Health effects from electric and magnetic fields |
| • Hazards and hazardous materials | |
| • Project alternatives | |

Figure 1. Project Overview



Subsequent EIR Conclusions

The Revised Project would have **significant and unavoidable impacts** on the following resource areas:

- **Aesthetics**, including permanent degradation of visual quality in the area due to visual contrast resulting from the presence of new transmission structures
- **Agricultural resources**, including permanent conversion of 0.4 acre of Important Farmland to nonagricultural use
- **Noise**, including temporary or periodic generation of noise from construction that would exceed local noise standards
- **Transportation and traffic**, including temporary lane and road closures during construction of the underground segment, which would conflict with the City of Jurupa Valley’s General Plan traffic threshold by reducing level of service

SUBSEQUENT EIR ANALYSIS

The Subsequent EIR includes a description of the Revised Project and the existing environment that the Revised Project would affect, and discloses the potential environmental impacts, including direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts. The Subsequent EIR includes an analysis of alternatives and describes mitigation measures which, if adopted by the CPUC, would avoid or minimize significant environmental impacts from the Revised Project.

SUBSEQUENT EIR FINDINGS

The Draft Subsequent EIR identified significant unavoidable impacts on four environmental topics: Aesthetics, Agricultural Resources, Noise, and Traffic. The CPUC identified mitigation for seven environmental topics to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. The Revised Project would have no impact on Land Use and Planning, Mineral Resources, and Population and Housing.

ALTERNATIVES

CEQA requires the evaluation of a reasonable range of alternatives. The Subsequent EIR identified 30 alternatives, including alternatives suggested by the public.

The following four alternatives were analyzed in the Subsequent EIR at the same level as the Revised Project (refer to Figure 2):

Alternative 1, Bellegrave – Pats Ranch Road Underground.

Alternative 1 replaces the overhead transmission line between Cantu-Galleano Ranch Road and Limonite Avenue

with an underground transmission line within the streets of Wineville Avenue, Bellegrave Avenue and Pats Ranch Road. The alternative reduces the aesthetic impacts of the Revised Project and eliminates loss of Important Farmland. Construction-related noise and traffic impacts would increase in relation to the Revised Project.

Alternative 2, Wineville – Limonite Underground.

Alternative 2 replaces the overhead transmission line between Cantu-Galleano Ranch Road and Limonite Avenue with an underground transmission line within the streets of Wineville Avenue and Limonite Avenue. The alternative reduces the aesthetic impacts of the Revised Project and eliminates the impacts on Important Farmland. Construction-related noise and traffic impacts would increase in relation to the Revised Project.

Alternative 3, Relocate Northern Riser Poles. Alternative 3 involves relocation of the northern riser poles adjacent to and north of Limonite Avenue, approximately 0.25 mile north-northwest of the Revised Project's riser pole positions, to a location adjacent to the I-15 right of way. This alternative would reduce the significant aesthetic impact from riser poles at Limonite Avenue by relocating the riser poles farther away from Limonite Avenue.

Alternative 4, Wineville – Landon Underground.

Alternative 4 replaces the overhead transmission line between Cantu-Galleano Ranch Road and I-15 with an underground transmission line within the streets of Wineville Avenue and Landon Drive. At the terminus of Landon Drive, the transmission line would transition back to overhead and follow the proposed project alignment along I-15. This alternative would avoid the significant aesthetic impact from the relocated overhead transmission alignment along Wineville Avenue.

No Project Alternative. A No Project Alternative scenario is developed to define actions that may be implemented in the absence of the RTRP or Alternatives. In the absence of the RTRP, it is likely that RPU would opt to increase use of gas-fired generation and install battery storage within RPU territory to mitigate the system impact from potential failure of RPU's transformers at Vista Substation, or failure of RPU's transmission line interconnections to Vista Substation. Under the No Project Alternative, the RPU electrical system would be vulnerable to outages.



ENVIRONMENTALLY SUPERIOR ALTERNATIVE

One of the factors the CPUC will consider in deciding whether to approve the Revised Project is its

environmental characteristics in comparison to other, potentially feasible alternatives that would reduce or avoid the Revised Project's significant environmental impacts, while still meeting most of the objectives of the Revised Project.

No Project Alternative is the Environmentally Superior Alternative because it would minimize significant and unavoidable impacts to Aesthetics, Agricultural Resources, Noise and Transportation and Traffic. CEQA Guidelines Section

15126.6(e)(2) states that if "the environmentally superior alternative is the 'no project' alternative, the EIR shall also identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives." Alternative 1, Bellegrave – Pats Ranch Road Underground is the environmentally superior alternative among the four alternatives analyzed in this Subsequent EIR. Alternative 1 is preferred because it substantially reduces the long-term aesthetic impact of the Revised Project riser poles and overhead transmission lines, and eliminates the agricultural impact from the loss of Important Farmland. Alternative 1 increases temporary impacts on noise and traffic; however, these impacts would be limited to the construction period and would not be located in a single location for more than a few months, at most.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT SUBSEQUENT EIR

The Notice of Availability of the Draft Subsequent EIR was published on April 2, 2018, and the CPUC is currently soliciting comments from the public and agencies. Written comments on the Draft Subsequent EIR must be postmarked or received by fax or email no later than **May 17, 2018**. Comments on the Draft Subsequent EIR should be submitted to:

Riverside Transmission Reliability Project

California Public Utilities Commission

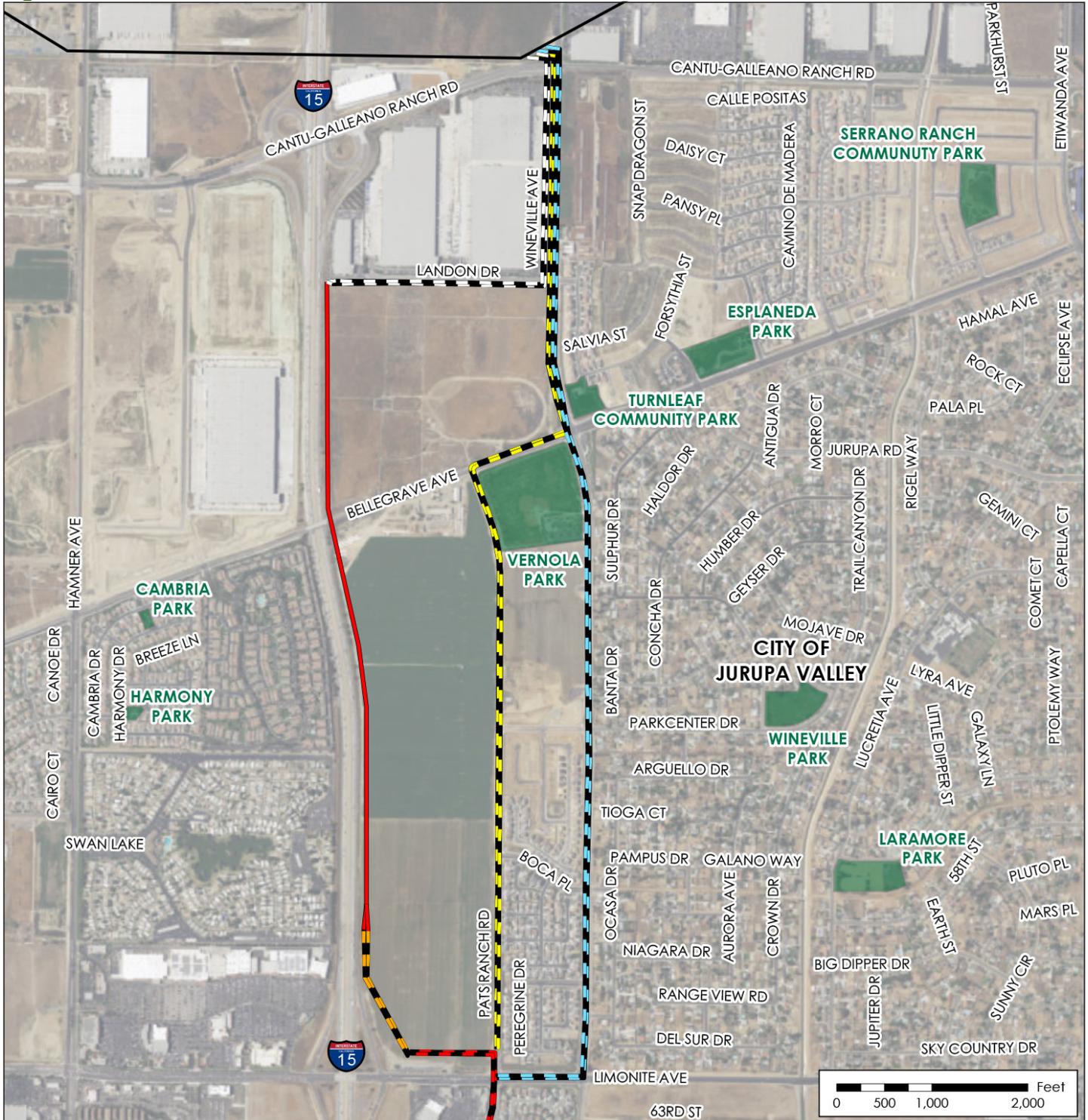
**717 Market Street, Suite 650
San Francisco, CA 94103**

Fax: 650-373-1211

Email: riversidetrp@panoramaenv.com

Note: The CPUC will not consider anonymous comments. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations and businesses will be available for public review in their entirety.

Figure 2. Alternative Routes



Legend

Scale = 1:21,000

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|  | <p> Alternative 1: Bellegrave - Pats Ranch Road Underground (Underground)</p> <p> Alternative 2: Limonite - Wineville Underground (Underground)</p> | <p> Alternative 3: Riser Pole Relocation (Underground)</p> <p> Alternative 4: Wineville - Landon Underground (Underground)</p> | <p> Revised 230-kV Transmission Line (Underground)</p> <p> Revised 230-kV Transmission Line (Overhead)</p> <p> Existing Mira Loma - Vista #1 230-kV Transmission Line Alignment</p> |
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