

**Public Notice – 401 Certification/Dredged Or Fill Waste Discharge Requirements
Application**

Date:

December 8, 2022

Applicant:

Southern California Edison
Hazem Gabr, Water Quality Section Manager
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Project Name:

Southern California Edison TD1418565 Joshua Drive Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project, Located in the city of Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California
WDID No. 7B363054001, RM 450023, Place ID 884313

Receiving Water:

Unnamed drainage, nearest downstream waterbody is Coyote Lake (a dry lakebed)

Location:

City or Area:

Located at 7999 Sage Ave, Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County, California, 92284

Latitude/Longitude:

34.105486°N, -116.422775°W

Section, Township, Range:

Section 1, Township 1 South, Range 5 East

Project Description:

The proposed Project involves removing one existing 75-foot wood pole and replacing it with an 80-foot wood pole with caisson. The pole will be accessed by overland travel (175 feet), starting at Joshua Drive via a private residence entrance, using rubber-wheeled and tracked vehicles and equipment. The anticipated travel will be confined to upland habitats, east of the wash and existing and new pole locations. The work area will extend into the channel if additional new pole stabilization is required. Vehicle staging potentially needed in this area will be rubber-wheeled vehicles only. The caisson and pole replacement would result in 0.07 acres (102 linear feet) of temporary impacts to non-wetland Waters of the State and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) streambed. Permanent impacts to non-wetland Waters of the State and CDFW streambed will result in 0.00016 acres (3 linear feet). Upon completion, disturbed areas will be returned to pre-existing contours.

Work crews will first trim and remove upland non-special status shrubs located within the 40-foot-wide by 175-foot-long overland access route and temporary work area. Four

existing Joshua trees (*Yucca brevifolia*), a special status species, are present along the access route and will be avoided. Once the overland access route has been cleared of vegetation, crews will use a telehandler forklift, a tracked low drill rig, and a rubber-tired cement truck to dig and install a new caisson in a location approximately 11.5 feet south of the old pole. The hole will be backfilled with cement, pea gravel, crushed rock, and/or native dirt. The caisson high-side reveal will be 36 inches. The temporary work area will extend into the wash. The new pole will be set by truck and crane. Trucks within the wash will be limited to the 50-foot temporary work area.

The temporary work area will accommodate the operation and staging of construction vehicles and equipment. The area of soil disturbance (i.e., excavation, side casting, and backfill) will be limited to a 10-foot radius around the pole. Tracked vehicles, staged materials, and spoils will remain in the upland area east of the wash. If necessary, a rubber-tired line truck may be staged in the wash, west of the new pole location, to assist with the proper setting of the new pole in the caisson. After the new pole is installed, wedges will be placed to secure the new pole while the cement cures. Once the cement is cured, the wedges will be removed. After the new caisson and pole are installed, crews will transfer the overhead wires and then remove the old pole using a line truck and crane. Native soil from excavation for the new pole will be used to backfill the hole from which the old pole is removed. The old pole, debris, and excess spoils will be transferred offsite to a licensed waste facility.

Anticipated equipment for the Project includes rubber-wheeled pick-up trucks, line trucks, backhoe, concrete truck, telehandler forklift, tracked low drill digger vehicle, and a tracked 40-ton crane. Various hand tools including a hydraulic jackhammer, chainsaw, hammers, wrenches, and rope slings will be used for this work.

Anticipated Project Start and End Dates:

February 19, 2022 – February 28, 2028

US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Permit Number(s):

n/a

Action:

Pending

Water Board Contact:

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