

Attachment C

**Supplemental Project Information Sheet**

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## Attachment C

### SUPPLEMENTAL PROJECT INFORMATION SHEET (Provided by Southern California Edison and Dudek)

**Project Maps:** See Attachment D

**Cross Streets:** **Valley Substation:** California State Route 74 (CA-74) E (Pincate Road and Menifee Road)  
**Devers Substation:** Diablo Road and Power Line Road  
**Colorado River Switchyard (CRS) Substation:** Wiley Wells Road and Power Line Road

**Section, Township, Range:** The study area traverses 25 U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute quadrangles (USGS Quad), including Aztec Mines, Beaumont, Cabazon, Cathedral City, Corn Spring, Cottonwood Basin, Cottonwood Spring, Desert Center, Desert Hot Springs, East of Aztec Mines, El Casco, Hayfield, Hayfield Spring, Hopkins Well, Indio, Lakeview, Myoma, Perris, Romoland, Roosevelt Mine, Seven Palms Valley, Sidewinder Well, Thermal Canyon, West Berdoo Canyon, and Whitewater.

**Valley Substation:** USGS Quad Romoland; Township 5S; Range 3W, Section 14

**Devers Substation:** USGS Quad Desert Hot Springs; Township 3S; Range 4E, Section 4

**CRS Substation:** USGS Quad Roosevelt Mine; Township 7S; Range 21E, Section 6

**Zip Code:** **Valley Substation:** 92585  
**Devers Substation:** 92240  
**CRS Substation:** 92230

**Directions:** **Valley Substation:** From Interstate 215 (I-215), take exit 15 for CA-74 toward Hemet. Turn left onto CA-74 E. Turn right onto Menifee Road.

**Devers Substation:** From I-215, take exit 29 to merge onto CA-60 E/Moreno Valley Freeway. Take the exit on the left onto I-10 E. Take exit 117 to merge onto CA-62 E/Twenty-nine Palms Highway toward 29 Palms/Yucca Valley.

**CRS Substation:** From I-215, take exit 29 to merge onto CA-60 E/Moreno Valley Freeway. Take the exit on the left onto I-10 E. Take exit 222 for Wiley Well Road. Turn right onto Wiley Well Road. Turn left onto Power Line Road. Continue onto Power Line

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Road. CRS Substation will be on the left.

**Latitude(s) and  
Longitude(s):**

**Valley Substation:** -117.15615312500/33.73936402040

**Devers Substation:** -116.57732870000/33.93850477920

**Colorado River Switchyard:** -114.81752173100/33.59164478180

**Receiving Water(s):**

The entire project area spans four watersheds: San Jacinto Valley, Whitewater, Hayfield, and Chuckwalla. Major drainage features in the San Jacinto Valley watershed (Hydrologic Unit 802) include the San Jacinto River, Laborde Canyon, and Portrero Creek. Major drainage features in the Whitewater watershed (Hydrologic Unit 719) include Smith Creek, San Gorgonio River, and the Whitewater River. No major drainage features occur in the Hayfield watershed (Hydrologic Unit 718) or the Chuckwalla watershed (Hydrologic Unit 717).

**Candidate, Sensitive,  
or Special-Status  
Species:**

Several special-status plant and wildlife species are known to occur within and adjacent to the proposed project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) issued a Section 7 Biological and Conference Opinion (BO) on the Devers to Palo Verde No. 2 Transmission Line Project (Project) on January 11, 2011 (FWS-ERIV-07B0060-1OF0884). On April 27, 2011, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued a 2080.1 Consistency Determination with the BO regarding impacts to State-listed species (2080-2011-010-06).

According to the BO, approximately 722 acres of habitat for the Coachella Valley milk-vetch (*Astragalus lentiginosus* var. *coachellae*) (FE), Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard (*Uma inornata*) (FT, SE), flat-tailed horned lizard (*Phrynosoma mcallii*) (PFT), desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) (FT, ST), and Stephens' kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys stephensi*) (FE, ST) will be impacted by the proposed project (USFWS 2011)<sup>1</sup>. The BO considers both temporary and permanent impacts in the overall impact calculations. With implementation of the Conservation Measures outlined in the BO, it is the USFWS's opinion that the proposed action (Devers–Palo Verde No. 2 500kV Transmission Line Project) is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of these species and is not likely to modify designated critical habitat for fringe-toed lizard or desert tortoise (USFWS 2011). CDFW determined that for the State-listed species (Coachella Valley fringe-toed lizard, desert tortoise, and Stephens' kangaroo rat), the BO and its Incidental Take Statement

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<sup>1</sup> FE: federally listed endangered; FT: federally listed threatened; PFT: proposed federally listed threatened; SE: state-listed endangered; ST: state-listed threatened

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are consistent with the California Endangered Species Act.

**Any Required Documents or Plan Submittals (SWPPP, Mitigation and Monitoring, etc.):**

A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is required in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit No. CAS000002 for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, Water Quality Order No. 2009-0009.

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), in conjunction with San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and other responsible agencies, drafted a Mitigation Monitoring Compliance and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure compliance with Mitigation Measures approved in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/FEIS) for Devers-Palo Verde No. 2, as well as with the terms and conditions associated with the BLM right-of-way. A current final version of the Mitigation Measures and Applicant-Proposed Measures (APMs) for Public Health and Safety and Hydrology and Water Resources are provided in Attachment G. Changes may be made to the document as construction progresses,.

**Describe Potential Water Quality Impacts:**

Construction of the proposed project would require excavation and grading for construction of access roads, spur roads, towers, and substations. Disturbance of soil during construction could result in soil erosion and lowered water quality through increased turbidity and sediment deposition into local streams. APMs W-1 through W-3 and W-7 through W-9 (*Attachment G*) are intended to reduce the amount of erosion and sedimentation that would result from construction. In addition, a SWPPP will be required in accordance with the NPDES General Permit No. CAS000002 for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Construction Activity, Water Quality Order No. 2009-0009. With implementation of the APMs defined above and the required SWPPP, construction-related water quality degradation from soil erosion and sedimentation would be less than significant and no mitigation is required, unless impacts occur within waters of the state.

For portions of the Project located on USFS land, which is on very steep terrain, there is a concern that construction of the power line would result in increased erosion in these areas, with long-term adverse water quality impacts. Implementation of the APMs and the required SWPPP would address short-term construction impacts. However, long-term impacts may still occur in some

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sensitive areas because of the steepness of the terrain. Implementation of Mitigation Measure H-1a would reduce potentially significant impacts to less-than-significant levels (*Attachment G*).

Accidental spills or disposal of potentially harmful materials used during construction could occur during refueling or due to equipment damage. Spilled liquids could wash into and pollute surface waters or ground water. Materials that could potentially contaminate the construction area due to spills or leaks include diesel fuel, gasoline, lubrication oil, hydraulic fluids, antifreeze, transmission fluid, lubricating grease, and other fluids. APMs W-2 and W-3 (*Attachment G*) were designed, in part, to reduce the potential for water quality degradation from spills and leaks during construction. However, even with implementation of these APMs and the required SWPPP, construction-related water quality degradation could occur. This impact would be potentially significant, but with implementation of Mitigation Measures P-1a (Develop Hazardous Substance Control and Emergency Response Plan), P-1b (Conduct Environmental Training and Monitoring Program), P-1c (Ensure Proper Disposal of Construction Waste), and P-1d (Maintain Emergency Spill Supplies and Equipment), it would be reduced to less than significant.

Construction of tower foundations, access or spur roads, and substation or substation expansions could result in additional runoff through creation of impervious areas and compaction of soils. Impervious areas and compacted soils generally are less able to absorb rainfall, so increased flood peaks are a common occurrence in developed areas. Project construction may result in small local increases in runoff, but the total area affected by construction would be very small in comparison with the total watershed. Implementation of APM W-3 and APM W-8 (*Attachment G*) would ensure that the adverse effects associated with increased runoff from new impervious areas would be less than significant.

Oil from electrical equipment at substations and the series capacitors could be released accidentally and contaminate local surface water and/ground water. However, implementation of APM W-3 requires development of hazardous material plans that would minimize this occurrence. In addition, the implementation of Public Health and Safety Mitigation Measure P-4a (Prepare Spill Prevention, Countermeasure, and Control Plans) would reduce this impact to less than significant.

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Encroachment of a project structure into a water flow path could result in erosion damage to the encroaching structure. This impact would likely occur only if transmission line towers or other permanent project features were constructed in or closely adjacent to a watercourse. Although the project description states that watercourses would be avoided where possible, complete avoidance may be difficult in some areas. APMs W-4 through W-6 were designed by SCE to avoid the adverse local effects related to floodplain encroachment by avoiding watercourses where possible, ensuring foundations are adequate to resist scour, and constructing diversion dikes in severe cases (Attachment G). Although diversion dikes would protect the proposed structures, they could result in adverse impacts to adjacent property through diversion and concentration of flows. However, implementation of Mitigation Measure H-6a would ensure that diversion dikes be designed to avoid damage to adjacent properties. Impacts would be less than significant (Class II).

**Describe Avoidance and Minimization for Impacts to Waters:**

SCE identified APMs that avoid and minimize impacts to waters of the state and water quality prior to submittal of the application to CPUC. Additionally, the overall approach to addressing waters of the state in the Project area is to prioritize avoidance and minimization of impacts to waters with mitigation/compensation employed only where impacts are unavoidable.

A whole suite of avoidance and minimization measures have been and will be implemented to reduce unavoidable impacts to water resources to the maximum extent possible, including but not limited to facility micro-siting measures, design revisions, construction monitoring, water quality and construction site best management practices (BMPs).

**Describe Compensatory Mitigation for Impacts to Waters (temporary and permanent):**

For temporary impacts, 15.99 acres of waters of the state will be restored. For permanent impacts to 1.01 acres of waters of the State, off-site preservation will occur within the 1,874-acre Devers Palo Verde Preserve (Preserve), which includes approximately 619 acres of waters. A pre-Project functional assessment was conducted by a qualified biologist using the California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) to assess the functions and values of the aquatic resources that will be permanently impacted by the proposed project and the aquatic resources that will be used as compensatory mitigation in the preservation areas (November 2011) The results of the analysis concluded that the functions and

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values lost at the permanent impact sites will be replaced at the Preserve.

**Mitigation Site  
Location(s):**

Restoration will occur where waters of the state are temporarily impacted, which is spread out along the Project alignment. Off-site preservation for permanent impacts to state waters will occur within the 1,874-acre Devers Palo Verde Preserve (Preserve), as described in the Conceptual Wetlands Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (CWMMP). The CWMMP was submitted to the State Water Board on October 28, 2011.

The Preserve is composed of five groups of properties in unincorporated Riverside County, CA, extending from north Palm Springs to approximately 27 miles west of the City of Blythe. The Preserve area spans four watersheds: Whitewater, Hayfield, Chuckwalla, and East Salton, three of which are also within the DPV2 project site (e.g., Whitewater, Hayfield, Chuckwalla).

The Preserve is being established to compensate for unavoidable impacts to special-status biological resources, and to conserve and protect waters under state and federal jurisdiction. The Preserve includes approximately 619 acres of waters. The Land Manager will be Wildlands California Holdings, LLC (Wildlands). The Land Manager, and subsequent Land Managers upon transfer, will manage and monitor the off-site preservation areas in perpetuity to protect its habitat and conservation values in accordance with the Long-term Mitigation and Monitoring Plan, the 401 Water Quality Certification and 404 Nationwide Permit.