<u>Public Notice – 401 Certification/Dredged Or Fill Waste Discharge Requirements</u> Application

Date:

October 25, 2023

Applicant:

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

Southern California Edison TD1793594 Pipeline Road Deteriorated Pole Replacement Project, San Bernardino County, California

WDID No. 7A363051001, RM 454684, Place ID 890745

Receiving Water:

Unnamed ephemeral stream, tributary to Coyote Dry Lake (dry lakebed)

Location:

City or Area:

The Project is located in the Mojave Desert. The pole is located on private land, approximately 75 feet north of unpaved Pipeline Road and approximately 0.12 miles west of the intersection of Center Avenue and Pipeline Road in the town of Joshua Tree, San Bernardino County, California

Latitude/Longitude:

34.146001° N, -116.293207° W

Section, Township, Range:

Section 30, Township 1 North, Range 7 East

Project Description:

The proposed Project involves removing and replacing one deteriorated wooden distribution pole (Pole 341112S) with a new wood pole directly north of the existing pole. Ground disturbance for new pole installation includes excavation by truck-mounted or handheld auger for the new pole hole measuring approximately 2-3 feet in diameter by 6-9 feet deep. Spoils from the excavation will be side cast on an adjacent tarp. Once the excavation is complete, the new pole will be placed in the hole and held in place while the hole is backfilled with a portion of the excavated native spoils and gravel to stabilize the pole. Conductor wires will then be transferred to the new pole from the old pole, which will be pulled from the ground for disposal off-site at an approved facility. The hole vacated by the old pole will be backfilled with remaining native spoils from the

excavation for the new pole. The area of soil disturbance (i.e., excavation, side casting and backfill) would be limited to approximately 10 feet around the pole location within a general 25-foot temporary work area around the pole for the staging and operation of construction vehicles and equipment. The Project work area is accessible by existing maintained dirt roads and approximately 75 feet of overland truck travel over unvegetated sandy substrate. Access to the sites will utilize rubber-wheeled vehicles, no grading is proposed.

The Project will result in 0.038 acres (50 linear feet) of temporary impacts to the Colorado River Basin Water Board jurisdictional waters of the State. The unnamed intermittent drainage has no surface connectivity to traditional navigable waters or other waters of the U.S. Surface water flow in the general vicinity is ultimately conveyed toward Coyote Dry Lake, a dry lake which is not considered waters of the U.S. pursuant to United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) approved Jurisdictional Determination Form SPL-2019-00509-SLP. Temporary impacts include soil disturbance (i.e., excavation, side casting, and backfill) within a 3-foot radius of the existing pole. No permanent impacts are proposed. The Project involves the removal and replacement of an existing pole, no additional discharge of materials is anticipated.

Anticipated Project Start and End Dates:

June 6, 2023 – June 6, 2028

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

n/a

Action:

Pending

Water Board Contact:

Logan Raub, Senior Environmental Scientist (760) 776-8966

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