



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Colorado River Basin Region



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

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<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver>

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

March 2, 2010

Mr. Andrew Keller
Southern California Edison
Go1A 2244 Walnut Grove Avenue
Rosemead, CA 91770

**RE: ORDER FOR TECHNICALLY-CONDITIONED CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401
WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION FOR DISCHARGE OF DREDGED AND/OR
FILL MATERIALS**

PROJECT: Southern California Edison Invader 12KV Transmission Line Project

APPLICANT: Southern California Edison

- ACTION:**
1. Order for Standard Certification
 2. Order for Technically-Conditioned Certification
 3. Order for Denial of Certification

STANDARD CONDITIONS:

The following standard conditions apply to all certification actions, except as noted above under Action 3 for denials.

1. This certification action is subject to modification or revocation upon administrative or judicial review, including review and amendment pursuant to section 13330 of the California Water Code and section 3867 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations (23 CCR).
2. This certification action is not intended and shall not be construed to apply to any discharge from any activity involving a hydroelectric facility requiring a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license or an amendment to a FERC license unless the pertinent certification application was filed pursuant to 23 CCR section 3855(b) and the application specifically identified that a FERC license or amendment to a FERC license for a hydroelectric facility was being sought.
3. The validity of any non-denial certification action (Actions 1 and 2) shall be conditioned upon total payment of the full fee required under 23 CCR section 3833, unless otherwise stated in writing by the certifying agency.

California Environmental Protection Agency

4. In the event of any violation or threatened violation of the conditions of this certification, the violation or threatened violation shall be subject to any remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions as provided for under State law. For purposes of Clean Water Act (CWA) section 401(d), the applicability of any State law authorizing remedies, penalties, process, or sanctions for the violation or threatened violation constitutes a limitation necessary to assure compliance with the water quality standards and other pertinent requirements incorporated into this Water Quality Certification (WQC).
 - a. In response to a suspected violation of any condition of this WQC, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) may require the holder of any permit or license subject to this certification to furnish, under penalty of perjury, any technical or monitoring reports the Regional Water Board deems appropriate, provided that the burden, including cost of the reports, shall be in reasonable relationship to the need for the reports and the benefits to be obtained from the reports.
 - b. In response to any violation of the conditions of this WQC, the Regional Water Board may add to or modify the conditions of this certification as appropriate to ensure compliance.

ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS:

The following additional conditions apply to this certification:

1. This WQC applies towards the proposed project as described in the 401 application received by the Regional Water Board on December 23, 2009. The Applicant shall provide the Regional Water Board and other interested agencies with written notification of any significant modifications made to the project prior to implementation of the modifications.
2. This WQC does not convey any property rights of any sort or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of federal, state, or local laws or regulations.
3. This WQC does not authorize the Applicant or any associated party to trespass on any land or property unless the applicant has obtained written authorization or acquired a special use authorization permit from the land or property owner.
4. A copy of this WQC shall be provided to the appropriate onsite Supervisor for the Project. All personnel performing work on the proposed project shall be familiar with the content of this WQC. Copies of the WQC shall be readily available at the project site at all times during periods of active work and shall be presented to regulatory agency representatives upon request.
5. The Applicant shall grant Regional Water Board staff, or an authorized representative, upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to enter the project site at reasonable times, to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions



of this WQC and/or to determine the impacts the project may have on waters of the United States.

6. The proposed projects shall not be enlarged or extend beyond the proposed project impact area. The Applicant shall delineate the project boundaries and staging areas with stakes, flags and/or temporary construction fencing.
7. The area of vegetation and soil disturbance shall be restricted to the smallest extent possible.
8. Projects shall not discharge substances in concentrations toxic to human, plant, animal, or aquatic life or that produce detrimental physiological responses.
9. Projects shall not discharge waste classified as "hazardous" as defined in Title 22 CCR section 66261 and the California Water Code section 13173.
10. No oil, petroleum products, or rubbish shall be allowed to enter into or be placed where it may be washed by rainfall or runoff into waters of the United States.
11. No equipment maintenance will be done within or near any stream channel where petroleum products or other pollutants from the equipment may enter waters of the United States.
12. Equipment refueling shall not occur within waters of the United States.
13. Any oil or grease leaks shall be immediately cleaned up.
14. The Applicant shall ensure that all contaminated material and/or contaminated soil removed or excavated from the Project site is properly loaded, transported, and disposed of in accordance with Federal, State, and local regulations.
15. Staging/storage areas for equipment and materials shall be located outside of waters of the United States.
16. The Applicant shall ensure that all disturbed and filled areas are adequately stabilized and protected from erosion and siltation by implementing appropriate soil stabilization, sedimentation and silt control measures.
17. Any flow diversion used during construction shall be designed in a manner to prevent pollution, minimize siltation, and shall provide flows to downstream reaches. Flows shall be maintained to support existing aquatic life and riparian wetlands and habitat that may be located upstream and downstream from any temporary diversion.
18. The Applicant shall restore drainages, to the greatest extent possible, to the original bank configuration, stream bottom width, and channel gradient.



19. All temporary facilities and impacts shall be removed and restored to the preexisting conditions and contours to the extent practicable.
20. Construction related materials and wastes shall be removed from the project site upon completion of the project.
21. The Applicant shall submit Notice to the Regional Water Board within 60-days of completion of the Project. The Notice shall include: 1) a detailed summary of the mitigation and restoration activities implemented during the project and 2) provide photographic documentation that supports the information summarized in the Notice.
22. The Regional Water Board reserves the right to suspend, cancel, or modify and reissue this WQC, after providing notice to the Applicant and/or responsible Site-Supervisor, if the Regional Water Board determines that the project fails to comply with any of the terms or conditions of this WQC.
23. The Applicant shall orally notify the Regional Water Board of any noncompliance that may impact the beneficial uses of waters of the United States, as soon as notification is possible and notification can be provided without substantially impeding measures necessary to address the noncompliance.

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD CONTACT PERSON:

If you have any questions, please contact Jay Mirpour, Water Resources Control Engineer, at (760) 776-8981 or jmirpour@waterboards.ca.gov.



WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION:

I hereby issue an order certifying that any discharge from the referenced project will comply with the applicable provisions of sections 301 (Effluent Limitations), 302 (Water Quality Related Effluent Limitations), 303 (Water Quality Standards and Implementation Plans), 306 (National Standards of Performance), and 307 (Toxic and Pretreatment Effluent Standards) of the Clean Water Act, and with other applicable requirements of State law.

Except insofar as may be modified by any preceding conditions, all certification actions are contingent on (a) the discharge being limited and all proposed mitigation being completed in strict compliance with the applicants' project description and the attached Project Information Sheet, and (b) compliance with all applicable requirements of the Regional Water Quality Control Board's Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan).



ROBERT PERDUE
Executive Officer

JJM/

cc: Mark Durham, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District Office
Bill Orme, SWRCB, Division of Water Quality, Water Quality Certification Unit
David Smith, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Thomas A. Vandenberg, Office of Chief Counsel, SWRCB

File: Southern California Edison Invader 12KV Transmission Line Project, WDID No.
7A333096001



Mailing List:

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State Water Resources Control Board
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Sacramento, CA 95814

Note: (*) will e-mail electronic copy



PROJECT INFORMATION

Application Date:

Received on December 23, 2009

Applicant:

Southern California Edison (SCE)

Contact:

Mr. Andrew Keller, (626)302-4839

Applicant Representative:

Mr. Stephen Jones
BioResource Consultants
(805)646-9006 Ext 17

Project Name:

Southern California Edison (SCE) Invader 12KV Transmission Line Project

Project Start and Completion:

Project start – March 1, 2010
Project completion – September 1, 2010

Project Description (purpose/goal):

SCE proposes to install a new 12KV underground Invader Transmission Line to serve the community. The proposed line begins at the Dever's Substation and will exit the substation heading west crossing waters of the U.S. at E538822 N3755245 (UTM Zone 11 NAD 83). The line will continue west tying into an underground vault. From the vault the line will proceed south crossing Diablo drive then continue south on the western side of Diablo Drive to Dillon Drive.

Before reaching Dillon Drive the line will cross waters of the U.S. at E538787 N3755168, E538788 N3755126, E538788 N3755063 (UTM Zone 11, NAD 83). At Dillon Drive the line will continue east on the northern side of Dillon Drive to Indian Canyon Avenue. Construction activities along Dillon Drive will be confined to the existing bladed gravel shoulder. Work along Diablo Drive will be 9 feet from the edge of Diablo Drive on the west side. The proposed right of way will be approximately 50 feet wide in upland areas. The trench for the electrical cable will be 3 feet wide by 8 feet deep. Work within waters will be done by a backhoe and loader with the electrical cable being laid and the trench backfilled concurrently. Therefore, impacts to the waters will be temporary. There will be no need for stockpiling of spoil material. Overall temporary impacts within the washes are expected to be 10 feet wide taking in consideration the 3 foot wide trench and 3.5 feet on either side for the width of equipment.



Project Location:

Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, Longitude/Latitude: E538821 N3755251 UTM, Zone 11 NAD83, Township/Range T4S R4E

Receiving Water(s):

UnNamed tributaries to garnet Creek – Whitewater River

Fill/Excavation

Area (acres): None

Dredge Volume (cy): None

Mitigation:

- To avoid and/or minimize impacts to Waters of the U.S. no work will be conducted within the washes during storm events or while there is surface flow.
- The installation of the electrical cable is not expected to change drainage patterns. Because no impervious surfaces would be introduced no change in runoff volume is anticipated. Groundwater will not be encountered.
- During intallation erosion control devices (sand bags, straw rolls) will be intalled as necessary at the crossings or near existing washes to prevent sediment or erosion transport downstream.
- Equipment will not be parked in washes.
- Equipment will not be fueled within 200 feet of washes.
- All materials and storage will be 200 feet from washes.
- After crossings are complete, the wash will be re-contoured to pre-existing conditions including banks and drainage patters.
- Due to minimal impacts, short duration of activities and lack of dense bank vegetation, bank stabilization and or re-seeding is not expected.

Federal Permit(s):

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers section 404 Permit Nationwide Permit Numbers 12 (pending).

Status of CEQA:

California Public Utilities Commission adopted a Categorical Exemption §15303(d) and §15304 (f). The Regional Water Board determined that the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA per CEQA Guidelines §15303 (d) - Water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions and 15304 (f) - Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines section 15062, the Regional Water Board shall file a Notice of Exemption with the Office of Planning and Research upon approval of the CWA section 401 WQC.

File: Southern California Edison Invader 12KV Transmission Line Project, WDID No. 7A333096001



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To:
Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

From:
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region (Region 7)
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Project Title:
Southern California Edison (SCE) Invader 12KV Transmission Line Project

Project Description:
SCE proposes to install a new 12KV underground Invader Transmission Line to serve the local community in the Desert Hot Springs, California area.

Project Location (City and County):
Longitude/Latitude: E538821 N3755251 UTM, Zone 11 NAD83, Township/Range T4S R4E.
Desert Hot Springs, Riverside County, California.

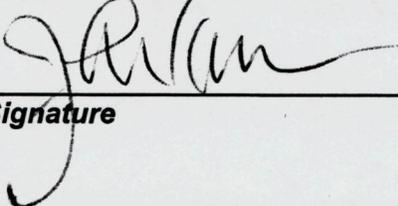
Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Regional Water Quality Control Board,
Colorado River Basin Region

Name of Agency Carrying Out Project: Southern California Edison (SCE)

Exempt Status (CEQA Guidelines Section and Class): The Regional Water Board determined that the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA per CEQA Guidelines §15303 (d) - Water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extensions and 15304 (f) - Minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is restored.

Reasons Why Project is Exempt: The proposed project, as described above is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act in accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15303 (d) and 15304 (f) because the project involves minor trenching and backfilling where the surface is stored and it will provide electricity to the public. These activities involve negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination.

Contact Person - lead agency: John Carmona, Senior WRCE Phone: (760) 340-4521

 2/3/10 Senior Water Resources Control Engineer
Signature **Date** **Title**

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

File: Southern California Edison Invader 12KV Transmission Line Project, WDID No. 7A333096001

