

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT

CONTROL-SILVER PEAK PROJECT

Filing Date: August 13, 2021

Proposed Project: Southern California Edison Company (“SCE”) has filed an application (“Application”) with the California Public Utilities Commission (“CPUC”) for a Permit to Construct (“PTC”) the Control-Silver Peak Project (CSP Project). The primary purpose of the CSP Project is to ensure compliance with CPUC General Order 95 (“G.O. 95”) and North American Electric Reliability Corporation (“NERC”) Facility Ratings through remediating physical clearance discrepancies identified on existing 55 kilovolt (“kV”) subtransmission lines. In particular, G.O. 95 Rules 37 through 39 specify minimum vertical and horizontal clearances that must be maintained between an electrical conductor and other conductors, or between a conductor and the ground, buildings, and a variety of other objects. In 2006, SCE identified discrepancies along many of its circuits where minimum clearances are not being met compared to what is required by G.O. 95.

The CSP Project would remediate discrepancies along the following five Segments of the CSP ‘A’ and ‘C’ 55 kV circuits located in portions of unincorporated Inyo County and Mono County:

- Segment 1 consists of portions of the CSP ‘A’ and ‘C’ 55 kV circuits. Segment 1 spans from the Control Substation located near the City of Bishop to where the CSP Project alignment intersects US Highway 395 (“US 395”). Segment 1 is approximately 3.4 miles in length. Segment 1 is located in Inyo County.
- Segment 2 consists of portions of the CSP ‘A’ and ‘C’ 55 kV circuits. Segment 2 spans from the point where the CSP Project alignment intersects US 395 located near the City of Bishop to the point where the two existing pole lines merge north-northeast of the US 395 crossing. Segment 2 is approximately 1.4 miles in length. Segment 2 is located in Inyo County.
- Segment 3 consists of portions of the CSP ‘A’ and ‘C’ 55 kV circuits. Segment 3 spans from the eastern end of Segment 2 to the Fish Lake Valley Metering Station located west of the California-Nevada border, approximately 2 miles east of the community of Oasis. Segment 3 is approximately 37.3 miles in length. The existing ‘A’ and ‘C’ circuits generally parallel each other along the length of Segment 3. Segment 3 is located in Inyo County and Mono County.
- Segment 4 consists of the portion of the CSP ‘C’ 55 kV circuit known as the Zack Tap. Segment 4 spans from Segment 3 north of the City of Bishop to the Zack Substation. Segment 4 is located in Inyo County and Mono County; it is approximately 16.0 miles in length.
- Segment 5 consists of the portion of the CSP ‘A’ 55 kV circuit known as the Deep Springs Tap. Segment 5 spans from Segment 3 south to the Deep Springs Substation. Segment 5 is located in Inyo County; it is approximately 2.4 miles in length.

The proposed scope of work for the CSP Project consists of the following major components, which are described in further detail below under the “Project Description” heading:

- Installing optical groundwire (“OPGW”) on existing and replacement structures in Segments 1, 2, and 3;
- Replacing two existing single-circuit 55 kV subtransmission pole lines with two single-circuit 55 kV subtransmission pole lines in Segment 2;

- Replacing two existing single-circuited 55 kV subtransmission pole lines with one double-circuited 55 kV subtransmission pole line in Segment 3;
- Replacing structures in Segment 4; and
- Replacing structures in Segment 5.

SCE also submitted a Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (“PEA”) along with the Application.

Project Description: As discussed in greater detail in the PEA, SCE has identified a variety of ways to accomplish the CSP Project. For purposes of a conservative and complete analysis of all potential environmental impacts associated with the CSP Project, the PEA filed with the Application describes and analyzes the environmental impacts associated with a scope of work for the CSP Project. The proposed scope of work for the CSP Project consists of the following components¹:

- Subtransmission
 - In Segments 2 and 3 remediate discrepancies by rebuilding approximately 39 miles of existing 55 kV subtransmission lines by:
 - Removing existing subtransmission poles and H-frames and replacing them with tubular steel poles (“TSPs”), wood-equivalent poles, lightweight steel (“LWS”) poles, and TSP H-frames.
 - Removing existing conductor and installing new Aluminum Conductor Composite Core (“ACCC”) or Aluminum Conductor Steel Reinforced (“ACSR”) conductor.
 - Installing overhead groundwire (“OHGW”) on some replacement structures.
 - In Segments 4 and 5, remediate discrepancies by:
 - Replacing select existing subtransmission structures with DI or equivalent poles
- Distribution
 - In Segment 3, topping approximately three poles after removal of subtransmission infrastructure.
 - In Segments 3, 4, and 5 transferring distribution circuitry to replacement poles.
- Telecommunications/System Protection
 - In Segments 1, 2, and 3 installing approximately 42 miles of OPGW and/or All-Dielectric Self-Supporting (“ADSS”) fiber optic cable overhead on new and existing structures.
 - In Segments 1 and 3 installing approximately 1,005 feet of fiber optic cable underground within and adjacent to the existing Control Substation and Fish Lake Valley Metering Station.
 - Installing system protection and telecommunications-associated equipment at Control, Deep Springs, White Mountain, and Zack Substations, and at the Fish Lake Valley Metering Station.

¹ The CSP Project description is based on planning level assumptions. Actual work scope would be refined following completion of final engineering, further identification of field conditions, and compliance with applicable environmental and permitting requirements.

- Substations
 - Disconnect existing conductor from existing positions at the White Mountain Substation and connect new conductor to existing positions.
 - Install new OPGW and OHGW and make minor modifications to the existing terminal racks at White Mountain Substation to accommodate the new OPGW and OHGW.
 - Install telecommunication equipment on existing rack structures, install cable in new or existing underground cable raceways, and install new or replacement telecommunications infrastructure within existing cabinets, control buildings, or Mechanical and Electrical Equipment Rooms (MEERs) within the Control Substation and at the Fish Lake Valley Metering Station.
 - Update relay settings at Control, Deep Springs, White Mountain, and Zack substations.
 - Install a capacitor bank and circuit breaker at Fish Lake Valley Metering Station.

Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMF) Compliance: The CPUC requires utilities to employ “no-cost” and “low-cost” measures to reduce public exposure to magnetic fields. In accordance with “EMF Design Guidelines” (Decisions 93-11-013 and 06-01-042.), the CSP Project would implement a combination of the following recommended measures:

1. Utilize double-circuit construction that reduces spacing between circuits as compared with single-circuit construction;
2. Utilize subtransmission line construction that reduces the space between conductors compared with other designs;
3. Utilize pole heights that meet or exceed SCE’s preferred EMF design criteria

Environmental Review: As noted above, SCE’s PEA assesses the potential environmental impacts created by the construction and operation of the CSP Project scope. The PEA concludes that with the implementation of Applicant Proposed Measures, the CSP Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable environmental impacts for all resources except cultural resources. The cultural resources technical reports are still in process and the information to be described therein would be informative as to whether there are any potentially significant impacts related to cultural resources as a result of the Proposed Project.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), the CPUC’s Energy Division will conduct an independent review of the Proposed Project’s environmental impacts. Depending on the results of its review, the Energy Division may issue a Negative Declaration that the Proposed Project will not result in any significant environmental impacts, a Mitigated Negative Declaration that the Proposed Project will not result in any significant environmental impacts after mitigation, or an environmental impact report (“EIR”) identifying the significant environmental impacts and mitigation measures and alternatives to avoid or reduce them.

Public Participation:

The public may participate in the environmental review by submitting comments on the Notice of Intent to Approve a Negative Declaration, or on the Notice of Preparation of the EIR and draft EIR, and by participating in any scoping meetings or public meetings that may be conducted. For information on the environmental review, contact the CPUC’s Energy division at enviroteam@cpuc.ca.gov or (415) 703-2126.

Persons wishing to present testimony in evidentiary hearings and/or legal briefing on all other issues, including EMF compliance, require party status. Persons may obtain party status by filing a protest to the application by **September 13, 2021**, in compliance with CPUC General Order 131-D and the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure Rule 2.6, or by making a motion for party status at any time in compliance with Rule 1.4 (posted at www.cpuc.ca.gov).

The public may communicate their views regarding the application by writing to the CPUC at 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102, or by emailing the Public Advisor at public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov. In addition, the CPUC may, at its discretion, hold a public participation hearing in order to take oral public comment.

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Contacts: For assistance from the CPUC, please contact the Public Advisor in San Francisco at (415) 703-2074 (public.advisor@cpuc.ca.gov) or toll free at (866) 849-8391.

To review a copy of SCE's application, or to request further information about the proposed project, please contact the SCE Government Affairs representatives listed below. You can also visit the Project website at www.sce.com/CSPPProject.

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