

## **NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT**

### **IVANPAH- CONTROL PROJECT**

**Filing Date: July 17, 2019**

**Proposed Project:** Southern California Edison Company (SCE) has filed an application with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for a Permit to Construct (PTC) the Ivanpah-Control Project ("IC Project"). The primary purpose of the IC 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 115 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 IC Project will rectify approximately 2,950 such discrepancies along the following 115 kV line circuits:

- Control- Haiwee- Inyokern
- Control- Coso- Haiwee- Inyokern
- Kramer- Inyokern Randsburg No. 1
- Kramer- Coolwater
- Kramer- Tortilla
- Coolwater- SEGS2- Tortilla
- Ivanpah- Baker- Coolwater- Dunn Siding- Mountain Pass

**Project Description:** These five circuits traverse Inyo County, northeast Kern County, northern San Bernardino County, and the City of Barstow.

As discussed in greater detail in the Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA) submitted in conjunction with its application, SCE has identified a variety of ways to accomplish the IC Project. For purposes of a conservative and complete analysis of all potential environmental impacts associated with the IC Project, the PEA filed with the application describes and analyzes the environmental impacts associated with a scope of work that would involve the complete rebuild of the existing SCE facilities along five subtransmission line segments containing the 115 kV line circuits identified above, altogether spanning 358 miles between Ivanpah Substation and SCE's Control Substation. (These five segments have been identified for purposes of the IC Project as Segment 1, Segment 2, Segment 3 North or "3N", Segment 3 South or "3S", and Segment 4). This complete rebuild scope is identified as the "Full Rebuild Concept" in the PEA.

During the PEA preparation process SCE identified a number of potential alternatives to the Full Rebuild Concept and assessed them for feasibility and potential environmental impacts. As a result of that effort, and as discussed more fully in the PEA, SCE identified "Alternative E" as an alternative that would accomplish most of the IC Project objectives with fewer environmental impacts compared to the Full Rebuild Concept. On that basis, SCE's PTC application requests CPUC approval of a PTC authorizing SCE to implement Alternative E.

The IC Project Alternative E consists of the following major elements (please also refer to the enclosed map below):

## **Subtransmission Lines**

**Subtransmission, Rebuild** – Rebuild 218 miles of existing 115 kilovolt (kV) subtransmission circuits in Segments 1, 2, and 3S by:

- Removing existing subtransmission towers and poles and replacing them with tubular steel poles (TSPs), lightweight steel (LWS) poles, LWS pole H-frames, and multi-pole TSP and LWS pole structures.
- Removing existing conductor and installing new Aluminum Conductor Composite Core (ACCC) ‘Dove’ conductor on replacement structures.
- Installing overhead groundwire (OHGW) in some locations for system protection.
- Installing a double-circuit pole line in Segment 3S.

### **Subtransmission, Derating and Remediating, Segment 3N**

- Derate the approximately 44 miles of existing 115 kV subtransmission circuits in Segment 3N.
- Remediating 163 discrepancies by replacing 108 existing structures with a combination of 108 new LWS poles, LWS H-frames, and TSPs.

### **Subtransmission, Derating and Remediating, Segment 4**

- Derate the approximately 96 miles of existing 115 kV subtransmission circuits in Segment 4.
- Remediating 74 discrepancies by installing 2 new LWS H-frames and replacing 61 existing structures with 59 LWS H-frames and 2 TSP H-frames

## **Distribution**

- Remove existing distribution conductor and appurtenances and install new distribution conductor and appurtenances on replacement structures.

## **Telecommunications/ System Protection**

- Install approximately 218 miles of optical groundwire (OPGW) and/or All-Dielectric Self- Supporting (ADSS) fiber optic cable overhead on replacement structures and new structures in Segments 1, 2, and 3S.
- Install approximately 1,590 feet of fiber optic cable underground within existing substations, and approximately 3,200 feet of underground fiber optic cable outside of existing substations.
- Install system protection and telecommunications-associated equipment at existing substations.

## **Substation**

- Install a new 115/33/12 kV Ring-Bus at Baker Substation
- Provide new 115 kV line position at Kramer Substation for the new Coolwater-Kramer No.2 115 kV circuit
- Provide new 115 kV line position at Coolwater Substation for the new Coolwater-Kramer No.2 115 kV circuit
- Disconnect existing conductor from existing positions at substations and connect new conductor to those existing positions.
- Install new OHGW and make minor modifications to the existing racks to accommodate the new OHGW.
- Install cabling between existing breakers to the existing mechanical electrical equipment room (MEER)/communication room/telecommunications cabinet and install new relay and protection racks in the existing MEER/communication room/telecommunications cabinet

Construction is anticipated to begin 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2022, and the Proposed Project is planned to be operational by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2025.

**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 IC Project would implement a combination of the following recommended measures:

1. Full Rebuild Concept and Alternative E: Utilize double-circuit construction that reduces spacing between circuits as compared with single-circuit construction;
2. Full Rebuild Concept and Alternative E: Arrange conductors of the proposed subtransmission line for magnetic field reduction;
3. Full Rebuild Concept and Alternative E: Install taller structures in areas with potential overhead discrepancies, increasing ground clearance; and
4. Alternative E: Reduce power load flow in de-rated segments to reduce magnetic field

**Environmental Review:** SCE has prepared a Proponent’s Environmental Assessment (PEA) of potential environmental impacts created by the construction and operation of the Proposed Project. The PEA concludes that with the implementation of Applicant-Proposed Measures, the majority of the potentially significant environmental effects associated with the Proposed Project would be reduced to less than significant levels. However, impacts to Air Quality would remain significant and unavoidable. In addition, cultural resources technical reports are still in process and the information to be described therein would be informative as to whether or not 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 is expected to issue 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](mailto: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 **August 19, 2019**, 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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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/ICProject](http://www.sce.com/ICProject).

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# Transmission Line Rating Remediation

- ▲ Substations
- ▬ Ivanpah-Control Project
- ▭ State Boundary
- ▭ County Boundary

