



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

El Centro Field Office
1661 S. 4th Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 337-4400

February 5, 2013

In Reply Refer To:

CACA-51204/DOI-BLM-CA-D070-2010-0027-EIS

CERTIFIED MAIL NO. 7011 1150 0000 8092 6111
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Don Houston
Environmental Project Manager
San Diego Gas & Electric Company
1010 Tavern Road
Alpine, CA 91901

NOTICE TO PROCEED

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) is hereby authorized to proceed with the Geotechnical Testing activities as described below in the locations specified. These activities shall be undertaken in conformance with the Record of Decision issued by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) on August 21, 2012 (Environmental Impact Statement 20110347 and Case File Number: CACA-51204), Biological Opinion, dated September 1, 2011 (FWS-SD-10B0136-11F0122), Memorandum of Agreement, dated August 14, 2012, and additional Terms and Conditions attached as Exhibit 1.

Description of Activities

Purpose and Need: The geotechnical testing activities will be completed in order to provide SDG&E with a further understanding of the geotechnical conditions onsite. The information collected from the geotechnical testing will be utilized to determine the final design for the 138 kV transmission line that would transmit electricity from the SDG&E East County Substation to the SDG&E rebuilt Boulevard Substation.

The geotechnical testing is intended to be used by SDG&E to finalize the engineering design and meet the requirements of Mitigation Measure GEO-3 included in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the East County Substation Project. Mitigation Measure GEO-3 requires completion of design-level geotechnical investigations to evaluate the potential for liquefaction, lateral spreading, seismic slope instability, and ground-cracking hazards.

All geotechnical testing will be completed within the proposed limits of disturbance identified in the East County Substation FEIS and the Right-of-Way Grant (CACA-51204). This activity and all associated activities will be conducted in a manner consistent with the Right-of Way Grant.

Geotechnical Testing Overview: The geotechnical testing will consist of one six-inch bore along the northern limits of Old Highway 80. The location is within a disturbed road shoulder immediately adjacent to Old Highway 80. The geotechnical boring will obtain samples at various depths ranging from 3 to 20 feet and will be backfilled following drilling activities. No grading or vegetation clearing is proposed as part of this geotechnical investigation; therefore, no native vegetation will be impacted.

It is anticipated that the total duration of this activity will be one day. Drilling at the boring location will start at 7:00 a.m., and all drilling activities will be finished no later than 7:00 p.m. The geotechnical investigation will not occur on a Sunday.

The Project Legal Description

Location

The public lands are identified as follows:

San Bernardino Meridian

T. 18 S., R. 8E.

sec. 2, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

sec. 2, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$;

sec. 3, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

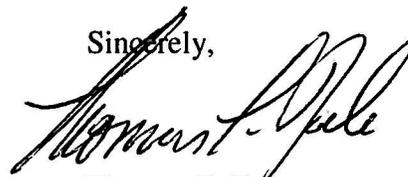
sec. 3, S $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$;

sec. 10, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$;

Totaling 10.44 acres of public land, more or less.

A copy of this notice, terms and conditions, and grant CACA 51204 shall be made available in the field during the project. Any questions should be directed to Brian Paul, BLM Project Manager at 760-337-4445.

Sincerely,



Thomas F. Zale
Acting Field Manager

Enclosures:

Exhibit 1: Geotechnical Investigation Overview Map

Exhibit 2: Terms and Conditions

cc:

Carrie Simmons, El Centro Field Office

R. Brian Paul, RECO Project Manager, El Centro Field Office

Greg Miller, California Desert District

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
RIGHT-OF-WAY NOTICE TO PROCEED

Right-of-Way or Temporary Use Permit (TUP) Serial Number CACA 51204	
Date 02/05/2013	Issuing Office El Centro Field Office
Right-of-Way or TUP name East County Substation Project	

Certified/Registered Mail-Return Receipt Requested

INSTRUCTIONS — Use Certified or Registered Mail or hand deliver. Send or give original to Holder. Distribute other copies as indicated after receipt date.

Holder: **San Diego Gas & Electric Company 1010 Tavern Road Alpine, CA 91901**

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the above referenced right-of-way grant or TUP you are hereby authorized to proceed with the activities noted below in the locations specified. Map(s) are attached. Yes No

Activity	Location
<p>The holder is authorized to begin pre-construction activities as identified in NTP Request #1 (January 23, 2013);</p> <p>1) See Exhibit 2 - Terms and Conditions</p>	<p>See Exhibit 1 - Geotechnical Investigation Overview Map. Please see cover letter for the Project Legal Description</p>

Authorized officer is:

Thomas Zale

(Name)

Acting Field Manager, El Centro Field Office

(Title)

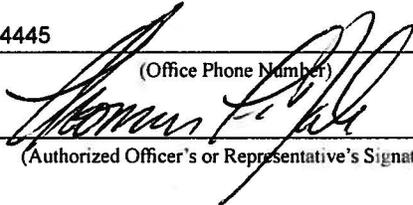
Onsite inspection and compliance of the Right-of-Way or TUP stipulations will be conducted by the authorized officer's representative.

R. Brian Paul

(Name of Authorized Officer's Representative)

760-337-4445

(Office Phone Number)



(Authorized Officer's or Representative's Signature)

El Centro Field Office, 1661 S 4th, Street, El Centro, CA 92243

(Office, Street Address, City, State, Zip)

760-356-0527

(Cell Phone Number)

2/5/2013

(Date)

Holders Acknowledgement when notice is delivered in person.

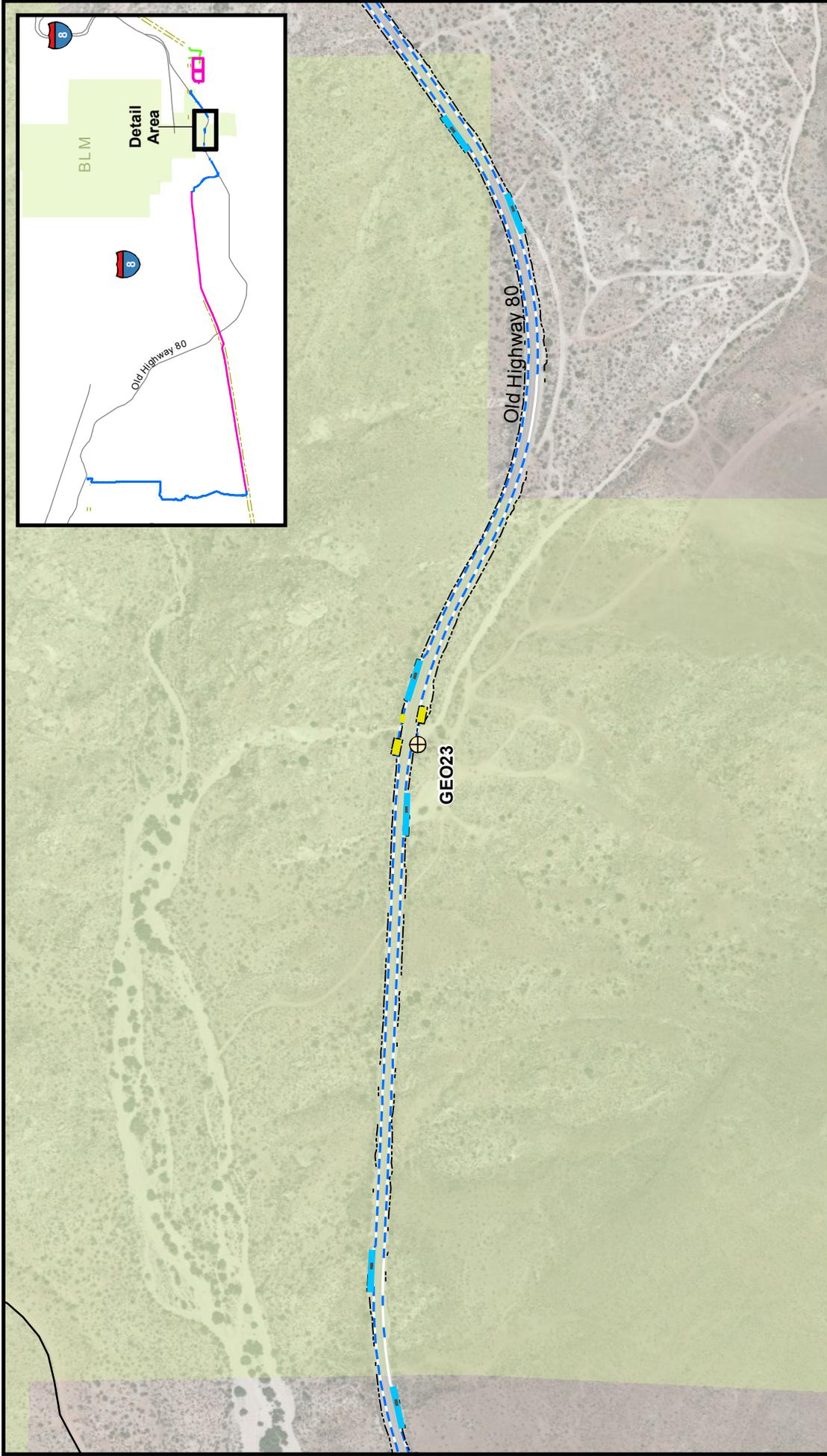
(Signature of Recipient)

(Firm Name)

(Name of Recipient)

(Date)

HOLDER CASE FILE



Attachment A: Overview Map

- Geothermal Bore Pit Test Location
- Boring Pit
- Pull Site/Vault Pad
- Proposed 138 kV Underground
- Temporary Construction Area
- Vault
- Bureau of Land Management-Administered Land
- Existing Access Road Centerline

East County Substation Project

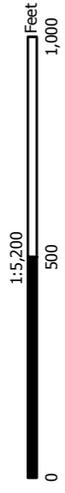


Exhibit 2 – Terms and Conditions

East County Substation Project CACA-51204

General Conditions:

- The Holder shall complete all geotechnical activities within the approved work limits identified in the right-of-way grant and location identified in Exhibit 1.
- The Holder shall comply with all stipulations contained in the Right-of-Way Grant dated December 19, 2012. Non-compliance with the stipulations by the Holder or any of its agents may at the option of the Authorized Officer result in cancellation or suspension of the Right-of-Way Grant or adverse action against the Holder.
- The Holder shall construct, operate, maintain and decommission the boreholes within this right-of-way in strict conformity with the project description as described in Notice to Proceed (NTP) Request dated January 23, 2013.
- Upon completion of the geotechnical study, boreholes and all construction related materials shall be removed from each bore site, and each borehole or related excavation will be backfilled in accordance with all state and local regulations. Any components deemed to be unrecoverable shall be disposed of in approved landfills.
- The Holder shall comply with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations issued thereunder, existing or hereafter enacted or promulgated, affecting in any manner construction, operation, maintenance or termination of the Right-of-Way Grant.
- BLM reserves the right to approve of the post geotechnical restoration activities, if applicable, to ensure compliance with the terms of this NTP and the ROW.
- The BLM retains the right to occupy and use the right-of-way and to issue or grant rights-of-way or other land uses over, upon, under and through the lands within the work limits, and will not unreasonably interfere with the authorized activities, or rights granted herein or by the Right-of-Way Grant.
- The Holder shall confine all activities within the area specifically defined in the Right-of-Way Grant.
- The Holder or its agents shall define and respect work area limits.
- The Holder shall protect all survey monuments found within the right-of-way. Survey monuments include, but are not limited to, General Land Office and BLM Cadastral Survey Corners, reference corners, witness points, U.S. Coastal and Geodetic benchmarks and triangulation stations, military control monuments, and recognizable civil (both public and private) survey monuments. In the event of obliteration or disturbance of any of the above, the Holder shall immediately report the incident, in writing, to the Authorized officer and the respective installing authority if known. Where General Land Office or BLM right-of-way monuments or references are obliterated during operations, the Holder shall secure the services of a registered land surveyor or a BLM cadastral surveyor to restore the disturbed monuments and references using surveying procedures found in the Manual of Surveying

Instructions for the Survey of the Public Lands in the United States, latest edition. The Holder shall record such survey in the appropriate county and send a copy to the Authorized Officer. If the BLM cadastral surveyors or other Federal surveyors are used to restore the disturbed survey monument, the Holder shall be responsible for the survey cost.

- In the event that the public land underlying the right-of-way encompassed in the grant, or a portion thereof, is conveyed out of Federal ownership and administration of the right-of-way or the land underlying the right-of-way is not being reserved to the United States in the patent/deed and/or the right-of-way is not within a right-of-way corridor being reserved to the United States in the patent/deed, the United States waives any right it has to administer the right-of-way, or portion thereof, within the conveyed land under Federal laws, statutes, and regulations, including the regulations at 43 CFR Part [2800][2880], including any rights to have the Holder apply to BLM for amendments, modifications, or assignments and for BLM to approve or recognize such amendments, modifications, or assignments. At the time of conveyance, the patentee/grantee, and their successors and assigns, shall succeed to the interests of the United States in all matters relating to the right-of-way, or portion thereof, within the conveyed land and shall be subject to applicable State and local government laws, statutes, and ordinances. After conveyance, any disputes concerning compliance with the use and the terms and conditions of the right-of-way shall be considered a civil matter between the patentee/grantee and the right-of-way Holder.
- The Holder, contractor or anyone conducting activities authorized under the grant must have a copy of the grant/terms and conditions on site at the time the activity is being conducted pursuant to the authorization.
- The Holder, and its contractors are liable for damages related to its activities and is responsible for incidents on its construction sites, including but not limited to, hazmat, vandalism, and accidents with recreational visitors.
- The Holder will obtain any applicable state/local permits pertaining to any activity, prior to initiating that activity
- All crew personnel shall be appropriately trained on environmental issues, including requirements of the NTP, prior to starting work. A log shall be maintained on-site with the names of all crew personnel trained and submitted to the BLM on a weekly basis.
- Holder shall be required to adhere to the pertinent provisions of the following East County Substation Plans;
 - Dust Control Plan (October 2012)
 - Paleontological Monitoring and Treatment Plan (October 2012)
 - Nesting Bird Management, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan (January 2013)

Fire Prevention:

- All geotechnical crew members shall receive environmental and fire prevention training prior to performing geotechnical testing activities.

- Holder shall be required to adhere to the pertinent provisions of the East County Substation Construction Fire Prevention Plan (August 2012).

Biological Resources:

- The project proponent shall designate a field contact representative (FCR) who will be responsible for overseeing compliance with protective stipulations for sensitive species and for coordination on compliance with the BLM. The FCR must be on-site during all project activities. The FCR shall have the authority to halt all project activities that are in violation of the stipulations. The FCR shall have a copy of all relevant stipulations when work is being conducted on the site. The FCR may be a crew chief or field supervisor, a project manager, any other employee of the project proponent, or a contracted biologist. The FCR shall have knowledge of all the sensitive species that may be found within the project area. The FCR shall also be approved by BLM.
- Only biologists approved by the BLM shall serve as biological monitors. The project proponent shall submit the name(s) and resumes of proposed biologist(s) to the BLM for review and approval at least 15 days prior to the onset of activities. No activities shall begin until a biologist is approved.
- To prevent the introduction of new invasive weedy plant species into the project area, Holder shall require the designated contractor to ensure that vehicles and equipment that have been used on sites outside of the project area have been cleaned prior to starting work on the project.
- Biological monitoring shall be conducted throughout geotechnical testing activities in order to avoid and minimize impacts to sensitive biological resources. The biological monitoring shall at a minimum include the following components: 1) presence of a qualified biological monitor during all geotechnical activities; 2) avoidance and minimization of impacts to sensitive biological resources to the maximum extent feasible; 3) avoidance of special-status plant and animal species; 4) avoidance of wetlands and drainage features; and 4) specific measures for the protection of sensitive habitats as necessary, including but not limited to, erosion and siltation control measures, dust control measures, and defining geotechnical testing work area limits.
- The biological monitor shall survey the geotechnical testing sites and surrounding areas for compliance with all environmental specifications. The on-site monitor will take photographs, record notes of the monitoring activities and coordinate with the FCR regarding compliance issues.
- For the protection of migratory birds, Holder shall implement East County Substation Nesting Bird Management, Monitoring and Reporting Plan (January 2013).
- No grading and/or road construction shall be permitted in order to complete the geotechnical testing activities.
- No vegetation removal and/or drive and crush methods are permitted.
- No jurisdictional wetlands or waters of the U.S./State shall be impacted during geotechnical activities.

- A biological monitor shall conduct a final site visit after the completion of geotechnical activities to GPS the final limits of disturbance that resulted from geotechnical testing activities. A summary report shall be prepared to quantify areas that were disturbed during geotechnical testing and a graphic shall be provided depicting the location of disturbance. The report shall be provided to BLM within three weeks of completing all geotechnical testing activities.
- All potential pitfalls to wildlife including test pits will be covered or backfilled when not attended. Topsoil shall be conserved during excavation activities and reused as backfill following geotechnical testing activities. Topsoil located in developed or disturbed areas is excluded from this requirement.

Archeological Resources:

- As per the Section 106 Final Memorandum of Agreement, Historic Properties Treatment Plan, Plan for Monitoring and Post-Review Discovery and Unanticipated Effects, an archaeological monitor and a Native American observer will be present during all ground disturbing activities associated with the East County Substation project, including geotechnical investigations. Archaeological monitors shall ensure that all known resources are avoided by the geotechnical investigations. Archaeological monitors will meet the Secretary of Interior standards for cultural resources and must be approved by the BLM prior to initiation of field investigations.
- Archaeological Monitoring and Native American observation activities must adhere to all of the requirements set forth in the Section 106 Final Memorandum of Agreement. Should post-review discoveries of archaeological resources occur during geotechnical activities, the archaeological monitors present shall ensure that the procedures outlined in the Plan for Monitoring and Post-Review Discovery and Unanticipated Effects are followed.