APPENDIX F

Cultural Resources Technical Study

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SYLMAR GROUND RETURN SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Cultural Resources Technical Report

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POWER ENGINEERS

Sylmar Ground Return System Replacement Project
Los Angeles County, California

Cultural Resources Technical Report

PREPARED FOR: LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER
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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

This Cultural Resources Technical Report has been prepared to address the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's proposed replacement of the underground and marine electrical cables and the existing marine electrode portions of the existing Sylmar Ground Return System Replacement System. The Project is located in the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Monica, in Los Angeles County, California within the Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 of Township 1 South, Range 15 West; Section 36 of Township 1 South, Range 16 West; and Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 17 of Township 2 South, Range 16 West, which are on the 7.5' *Topanga* and *Beverly Hills* U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic quadrangle maps.

Cultural resources literature reviews were conducted at the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the South Central Coastal Information Center (SCCIC) at the California State University, Fullerton on September 2, 2009 and June 16, 2010. A marine record search was also conducted utilizing the California Office of Historic Preservation's shipwreck database on July 27, 2013. No previously recorded cultural resources sites were found to be in the project area as a result of those record searches. However, four previously recorded cultural resources were documented within a half-mile buffer of the project area.

The cultural resources survey of the project area was conducted on September 17, 2009, November 18, 2010, and on January 7, 2011. The project area has been extensively developed as it extends through current city streets and neighborhoods. Therefore, an intensive survey was not undertaken for this project; fieldwork consisted largely of windshield survey with minimal pedestrian survey. No previously recorded or new (previously unrecorded) cultural resources were documented within the project area as a result of the survey. The paleontological resources records search was completed by Dr. Sam McLeod of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County (LACM) on August 2, 2010. No fossil localities are recorded directly on or adjacent to the project area, but vertebrate fossil localities have been recorded nearby from the same sedimentary deposits that occur in the project area.

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) for a Sacred Lands File Search (SLFS) for the project area. The SLFS did not indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area.

Based on the cultural resources records search undertaken at the SCCIC, Native American scoping through the NAHC, and limited, opportunistic pedestrian survey efforts, no significant cultural resources are recorded or known to occur within the project area. One existing cultural resources site previously recorded as occurring within 500 feet of the alignment was previously recorded immediately north of the Kenter Canyon Terminal Tower.

To reduce environmental impacts to less than significant, six mitigation measures are proposed:

CR-1: Prior to the removal of the existing marine electrode cable, a qualified marine archaeologist shall be retained to assess the potential impact to the known shipwreck identified in the vicinity of the cable. If the archaeologist determines the resource is not in close proximity to the removal activities, then no further action would be required. If the shipwreck is located in close proximity, and the removal of the cable would likely impact the resource, then that portion of the marine cable will not be removed or a plan shall be developed by a qualified marine archaeologist. The plan, if required, shall include:

1. A plan for stabilization of the site,

2. Methods of recovery of data and artifacts (if necessary),
3. Treatment of the recovered marine artifacts through curation, and
4. Documentation of the site post cable removal.

PR-1: Based on the location of highly sensitive underlying geologic formations, a qualified paleontologist shall be retained to design and implement a paleontological resource mitigation plan (PMTP). The qualified paleontologist shall attend relevant pre-construction meetings to consult with grading and excavation contractors concerning excavation schedules, paleontological field techniques, and safety issues. The PMTP shall identify construction impact areas where high sensitivity paleontological resources may be encountered and the depths at which those resources are likely to occur. The PMTP shall outline a coordination strategy for monitoring; detail significance criteria used to determine data potential of resources; and describe methods of recovery, preparation, analysis, and final curation of specimens.

PR-2: A paleontological monitor shall be retained on a full-time basis to monitor Project-related excavations into native soils in areas underlain by formations of high sensitivity for paleontological resources. The areas deemed to have potential for presence of paleontological resources that shall be monitored during construction-related excavation include:

- San Vicente Boulevard between Gretna Green South and Entrada Drive
- Entrada Drive between San Vicente Boulevard and Kingman Avenue

PR-3: Before the initiation of ground-disturbing activities, all construction personnel shall be trained regarding the recognition of possible subsurface paleontological resources and protection of all paleontological resources during construction. Training shall inform all construction personnel of the procedures to be followed upon the discovery of paleontological resources.

PR-4: When fossils are discovered, the qualified paleontologist (or paleontological monitor) shall recover them. In the instance of an extended salvage period, the paleontologist shall work with the construction manager to temporarily direct, divert, or halt earthwork to allow recovery of fossil remains in a timely manner. Because of the potential for the recovery of small fossil remains, such as isolated mammal teeth, as determined by a qualified paleontologist, it may be necessary to collect bulk samples (up to 6,000 pounds) of sedimentary rock matrix.

PR-5: Fossil remains collected during monitoring and salvage shall be cleaned, repaired, sorted, and cataloged as part of the mitigation program. Prepared fossils, along with copies of all pertinent field notes, photos, and maps, shall be deposited in a federally accredited repository for both vertebrate and invertebrate fossils, such as the LACM or the Museum of Paleontology at the University of California, Berkeley. A final summary report shall be completed that outlines the results of the mitigation program. This report shall include discussions of the methods used, stratigraphic section(s) exposed, fossils collected, and significance of recovered fossils.

CONFIDENTIAL

This report contains information on the nature and location of prehistoric and historic cultural resources.

All information on the location of cultural resources shall be treated as confidential and shall not be released to the public or other unauthorized entity, consistent with California Government Code, Chapter 3.5, Inspection of Public Records, Section 6254.10, and California Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) guidelines.

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