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Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report

May 15, 2014

Dear Agencies, Organizations, and Interested Parties

Subject: Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Report for the
Sylmar Ground Return System Replacement Project (SCH #2010091044)

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) for consideration of the Sylmar Ground Return System Replacement Project. LADWP is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Project Location

The Project, consisting of replacing (in a new location) the underground and marine segments of the Sylmar Ground Return System (SGRS), would be located in the City of Los Angeles, within the communities of Brentwood and Pacific Palisades, and briefly in the City of Santa Monica; it would also extend into the Pacific Ocean in the Santa Monica Bay. See the attached Project map.

Project Description

- LADWP is proposing to replace the existing underground and marine electrical cables and the existing marine electrode portions of the SGRS. The new underground and marine electrical cables would be in a different alignment than the existing, though serving the same purpose and function. The SGRS is an integral component of the Pacific Direct Current Intertie Transmission Line (PDCI), which transmits bulk power between Los Angeles and the Pacific Northwest. The PDCI is a direct current system, and it cannot operate without a ground return system. Due to system deficiencies with the existing underground and marine components of the SGRS, their replacement is proposed to maintain the reliability and stability of the power generation and delivery system for Southern California; to continue to meet current and projected demand for power; and to help increase the available share of renewable resource energy.

The proposed alignment for the underground segment would run for approximately five miles from the Kenter Canyon Terminal Tower to the proposed West Channel Vault near Will Rogers State Beach. Installation of the underground cables and vaults would occur primarily by trenching and excavation within existing streets. The marine segment of the Project would begin at the proposed West Channel Vault. The marine cables would be installed via directional drilling below Will Rogers State Beach. They then would be trenched into the ocean floor by jet plowing or a similar process to a location approximately three miles from shore in Santa Monica Bay. The marine cables would terminate at the proposed electrode array which would consist of approximately 88 cylindrical boxes weighing about 100 tons each installed on the ocean floor. Marine barges and divers would be utilized for installation of the quarter mile diameter the electrode array.

Impacts of the Project

The Draft EIR found that implementation of the proposed Project, including the implementation of identified Best Management Practices and Mitigation Measures, would result in temporary but significant unavoidable adverse impacts during Project construction related to air quality, noise, and traffic and transportation. No permanent significant impacts to air quality, noise, or traffic and transportation would result from Project operation.

Hazardous Waste Sites

Pursuant to Section 15087c(6) of the Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act, the City acknowledges the presence of hazardous waste sites within the Project area reviewed by this Draft EIR.

Public Review of the Draft EIR

The forty-five (45) day public review period for the Draft EIR will commence on Thursday, May 15, 2014 and conclude on Monday, June 30 at 5:00 p.m. A copy of the document will be posted at www.ladwp.com/envnotices on the project website at www.ladwp.com/envnotices. The document will also be available for review at the following locations:

REPOSITORY SITE	ADDRESS
LADWP Environmental Affairs Call for an appointment 213-367-1745	111 North Hope Street, Room 1044 Los Angeles, CA 90012
Donald Bruce Kaufman – Brentwood Branch Library	11820 San Vicente Boulevard Brentwood, CA 90049
City of Santa Monica Main Library	601 Santa Monica Boulevard Santa Monica, CA 90401
Palisades Branch Library	861 Alma Real Drive Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

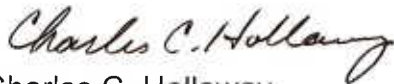
Ways to Submit Comments

During the public review period, written comments concerning the adequacy of the Draft EIR may be submitted in one of the ways listed below. Comments must be submitted by June 30, 2014. Written responses will be prepared for inclusion in the Final EIR following the public review period.

- Email to: SylmarGroundReturnProject@ladwp.com
- Send Written comments by mail to:

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
Sylmar Ground Return System Replacement Project
Attention: Ms. Nadia Parker, Environmental Project Manager
111 North Hope Street, Room 1044
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Sincerely,



Charles C. Holloway
Manager of Environmental Planning and Assessment

NP:lr
c: Ms. Nadia Parker



Legend

- - - Proposed Underground Alignment
- - - Proposed Marine Alignment
- Proposed Electrode Array
- - - Existing Underground Alignment
- - - Existing Marine Alignment
- City Boundary

PROPOSED PROJECT

SYLMAR GROUND RETURN
SYSTEM REPLACEMENT PROJECT

