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May 5, 2009

**ADVICE LETTER 2082-E**

(U 902-E)

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE RANCHO MISSION VIEJO SUBSTATION IN ORANGE COUNTY**

**Purpose and General Description**

Pursuant to General Order (G.O.) 131-D, Section XI, Subsection B.4, San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E) hereby submits a notice of construction of the Rancho Mission Viejo (RMV) Substation project (Project). The Project is located outside of any city or town in an unincorporated area of southern Orange County.

The proposed Project will construct a new 138/12kV distribution substation. The substation will be sited on an approximate 2-1/2 acre parcel of land located within an unimproved area of Planning Area 2 of the proposed RMV Ranch Plan Development, in Orange County, north of Ortega Highway. Existing 138kV Tie Line (TL) 13831 is located approximately 200 feet south of the RMV substation site and will be looped overhead into the new substation on steel and wood poles. Initially, two distribution circuits will leave the substation constructed on an overhead wood pole line. The purpose of the proposed Project is to provide additional capacity and reliability for SDG&E's electric system.

Between 2011 and 2026, expected high growth of electricity demand in the RMV area will reach an ultimate load of 120 MW. In addition, the existing Margarita and Trabuco Substations, which currently serve the area, are forecasted respectively at 104% and 106% loading in 2011. A new RMV substation is required to serve the projected load growth rates and offset increasing demand at the Margarita and Trabuco Substations. The proposed in-service date for the new substation is June 2011.

This project is exempt from the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) requirements in accordance with the provisions of G.O. 131-D, Section III.A because all of the facilities are designed to operate below 200kV. This project is also exempt from a Permit to Construct (PTC) in accordance with the provisions of G.O. 131-D, Section III.B.1.f – “power lines or substations to be . . . constructed which have undergone

environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document (Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration) finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation,” and as described below, there are no exceptions to this exemption. (G.O. 131-D, Section III.B.2). In compliance with the noticing requirements found in G.O. 131-D, Section XI.B and C, this informational Advice Letter provides a copy of the Notice of Proposed Construction (Attachment A) and the Notice Distribution List (Attachment B).

### **Description of Project and Proposed Construction**

SDG&E is expected to purchase the necessary land for the substation in the second quarter of 2009. The total substation property area including required setbacks is approximately 2.52 acres. The substation perimeter walls will encompass approximately 1.9 acres. A masonry screen wall would be constructed along all sides of the substation. Access to the substation will be provided by two (permanent) and one (temporary) driveway through steel gates. Landscaping around the substation site will be installed in the future when surrounding planned development occurs.

The proposed substation will be a low profile design to reduce visual impact to the extent possible. The new substation, in ultimate design configuration, will eventually include four tie line positions, four 138/12kV, 30 mega-volt amps (MVA) transformers, four 12kV quarter-section switchgear for 16 circuit positions, and four 12kV, 7.2 MVAR distribution capacitor banks. A 20-foot by 40-foot control shelter will be installed to house the protection and communication equipment together with the substation battery and charger system. Immediately, the substation configuration will consist of two overhead 138kV tie lines, two 138kV low profile bus sections, two 138/12kV transformers, two sections of switchgear, two 12kV, 7.2 mega volts-amps reactive (MVAR) capacitor banks, and the control shelter. The balance of the substation design would be constructed as load growth dictates.

Initially two distribution circuits will leave the substation overhead on existing and new wood pole lines. Future distribution circuits will be undergrounded as surrounding development occurs and the load growth dictates.

An existing SDG&E electric transmission corridor is located approximately 200 feet south of the substation site. The project will open and terminate TL13831 by installing two new approximate 95 foot tall 138kV steel angle poles within the existing 138kV easement corridor that connects Talega Substation to Margarita Substation. Two additional approximately 95 foot tall 138kV YPI wood poles will be set between the new 138kV angle poles and the new substation dead-end insulators at the new substation rack. New access and work pads may be required to install the four poles that will loop into the new substation.

### **Project Schedule**

SDG&E plans to acquire the necessary land for the substation in the second quarter of 2009, and begin construction on the substation in the second quarter of 2009. SDG&E expects to complete the project on or before June, 2011.

**Potential Environmental Impacts**

The Rancho Mission Viejo substation was fully described and reviewed by the County of Orange in the September 25, 2008 "Segment 1 of Cow Camp Road and Ancillary Infrastructure Improvements (IP 08-338), Addendum to Final EIR 584 NCCP/MSAA/HCP For Southern Subregion (SCH# 2006061140) and Final Program EIR 589 The Ranch Plan (SCH# 2003021141) [(the "Addendum")].". All environmental impacts were considered in this Addendum in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code section 21000, et. seq. (CEQA) and applicable guidelines. The results of this Addendum found that the proposed substation project will not create any significant unmitigable incremental or cumulative environmental effects. (Addendum, § 4.18 (Mandatory Findings), pp. 4-68-4-69.). Further, the results of the environmental review demonstrate that the proposed project does not fit into any exceptions to the exemptions from a PTC, as described in G.O. 131-D.III.B.2.

No cost information is required for this advice filing.

This informational filing will not result in an increase in any rate or charge, conflict with any rate schedule or rules, nor cause the withdrawal of service or result in more restrictive conditions.

**Magnetic Field Management**

The CPUC requires utilities to consider "no-cost" and "low-cost" magnetic field management techniques on all new transmission projects as a precautionary measure to reduce public exposure to magnetic fields. SDG&E will implement magnetic field management techniques as appropriate, in accordance with SDG&E's *EMF Design Guidelines for Electrical Facilities* (Guidelines), as filed with the CPUC in compliance with D.93-11-013 and updated in compliance with D.06-01-042.

Following the SDG&E's Guidelines, the transmission line improvements for this Project are exempt from "no-cost" and "low-cost" magnetic field reduction techniques since the total length of new transmission line is less than 2,000 feet, all well within the existing SDG&E corridor Right-Of-Way (ROW) or on new substation property, not providing a significant opportunity to implement reduction techniques. Therefore, a Magnetic Field Management Plan was not required.

**Effective Date**

Because this Advice Letter is being filed in accordance with the noticing requirements described in G.O. 131-D, Section XI, Subsection B.4, no resolution is required for approval. (GO 96-B). SDG&E respectfully requests that this filing become effective on June 4, 2009, which is at least 30 days after the date filed.

**Protest**

Anyone may protest this Advice Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission. The protest must state the grounds upon which it is based, including such items as financial and service impact, and should be submitted expeditiously. The protest must be made either in writing or by facsimile and received by May 25, 2009, which is at least 20 days after the date this Advice Letter was filed with the Commission. There is no restriction

on who may file a protest. The address for mailing or delivering a protest to the Commission is:

IMC Branch Chief  
Energy Division  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 4002  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Copies should also be sent via email to the attention of Honesto Gatchallian ([jni@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:jni@cpuc.ca.gov)) and Maria Salinas ([mas@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:mas@cpuc.ca.gov)) of the Energy Division. A copy could also be mailed to the Energy Division-IMC Branch, Room 4005 (at the address shown above). It is also requested that a copy of the protest be sent via both e-mail and Facsimile to SDG&E on the same date it is mailed or delivered to the Commission (at the address shown below).

Attn: Rebecca W. Giles  
Regulatory Case Administrator  
San Diego Gas and Electric  
8330 Century Park Court – CP32D  
San Diego, CA 92123-1550  
Facsimile No. (858) 654-1788  
E-mail: [RGiles@semprautilities.com](mailto:RGiles@semprautilities.com)

### **Notice**

G.O. 131-D, Section XI, Subsection B requires that this Advice Letter be filed not less than 30 days before the date such construction is intended to begin. Construction of the project is scheduled to begin June 25, 2009, 45 days from the date notice was first published in the newspaper. In accordance with Section III.G of G.O. 96-B, SDG&E has, on May 5, 2009, served a copy of this filing on the parties shown on the attached list including the parties listed in G.O. 131-D, Section XI, Paragraphs B.1 and B.2, by providing them a copy hereof, either electronically or via the U.S. mail, properly stamped and addressed. A copy of the attached Notice will also be posted on site in accordance with G.O. 131-D, Section XI. Paragraph B.3.

Address changes should be directed to SDG&E Tariffs by facsimile at (858) 654-1788 or by e-mail to [SDG&ETariffs.com](mailto:SDG&ETariffs.com)

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RON VAN DER LEEDEN  
Director – Rates, Revenues & Tariffs

Accounts  
(cc list enclosed)

# CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

## ADVICE LETTER FILING SUMMARY ENERGY UTILITY

MUST BE COMPLETED BY UTILITY (Attach additional pages as needed)

Company name/CPUC Utility No. **SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC (U 902)**

Utility type:

ELC

GAS

PLC

HEAT

WATER

Contact Person: Megan Caulson

Phone #: (858) 654-1748

E-mail: mcaulson@semprautilities.com

### EXPLANATION OF UTILITY TYPE

ELC = Electric

GAS = Gas

PLC = Pipeline

HEAT = Heat

WATER = Water

(Date Filed/ Received Stamp by CPUC)

Advice Letter (AL) #: 2082-E

Subject of AL: Notice of Proposed Construction of the Rancho Mission Viejo Substation in Orange County

Keywords (choose from CPUC listing): Transmission Lines, GO 131-D

AL filing type:  Monthly  Quarterly  Annual  One-Time  Other Periodic

If AL filed in compliance with a Commission order, indicate relevant Decision/Resolution #:

Does AL replace a withdrawn or rejected AL? If so, identify the prior AL N/A

Summarize differences between the AL and the prior withdrawn or rejected AL<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Does AL request confidential treatment? If so, provide explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Required?  Yes  No

Tier Designation:  1  2  3

Requested effective date: 6/4/09

No. of tariff sheets: 0

Estimated system annual revenue effect: (%): N/A

Estimated system average rate effect (%): N/A

When rates are affected by AL, include attachment in AL showing average rate effects on customer classes (residential, small commercial, large C/I, agricultural, lighting).

Tariff schedules affected: N/A

Service affected and changes proposed<sup>1</sup>: N/A

Pending advice letters that revise the same tariff sheets: N/A

**Protests and all other correspondence regarding this AL are due no later than 20 days after the date of this filing, unless otherwise authorized by the Commission, and shall be sent to:**

**CPUC, Energy Division**

**Attention: Tariff Unit**

**505 Van Ness Ave.,**

**San Francisco, CA 94102**

**mas@cpuc.ca.gov and jnj@cpuc.ca.gov**

**San Diego Gas & Electric**

**Attention: Todd Cahill**

**8330 Century Park Ct, Room 32C**

**San Diego, CA 92123**

**tcahill@semprautilities.com**

<sup>1</sup> Discuss in AL if more space is needed.

General Order No. 96-B  
ADVICE LETTER FILING MAILING LIST

cc: (w/enclosures)

Public Utilities Commission

DRA

D. Appling  
S. Cauchois  
J. Greig  
R. Pocta  
W. Scott

Energy Division

P. Clanon  
S. Gallagher  
H. Gatchalian  
D. Lafrenz  
M. Salinas

CA. Energy Commission

F. DeLeon  
R. Tavares

Alcantar & Kahl LLP

K. Harteloo

American Energy Institute

C. King

APS Energy Services

J. Schenk

BP Energy Company

J. Zaiontz

Barkovich & Yap, Inc.

B. Barkovich

Bartle Wells Associates

R. Schmidt

Braun & Blaising, P.C.

S. Blaising

California Energy Markets

S. O'Donnell  
C. Sweet

California Farm Bureau Federation

K. Mills

California Wind Energy

N. Rader

Children's Hospital & Health Center

T. Jacoby

City of Chula Vista

M. Meacham  
E. Hull

City of Poway

R. Willcox

City of San Diego

J. Cervantes  
G. Lonergan  
M. Valerio

Commerce Energy Group

V. Gan

Constellation New Energy

W. Chen

CP Kelco

A. Friedl

Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP

E. O'Neill  
J. Pau

Dept. of General Services

H. Nanjo  
M. Clark

Douglass & Liddell

D. Douglass  
D. Liddell  
G. Klatt

Duke Energy North America

M. Gillette

Dynegy, Inc.

J. Paul

Ellison Schneider & Harris LLP

E. Janssen

Energy Policy Initiatives Center (USD)

S. Anders

Energy Price Solutions

A. Scott

Energy Strategies, Inc.

K. Campbell  
M. Scanlan

Goodin, MacBride, Squeri, Ritchie & Day

B. Cragg  
J. Heather Patrick  
J. Squeri

Goodrich Aerostructures Group

M. Harrington

Hanna and Morton LLP

N. Pedersen

Itsa-North America

L. Belew

J.B.S. Energy

J. Nahigian

Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP

J. Leslie

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP

D. Huard  
R. Keen

Matthew V. Brady & Associates

M. Brady

Modesto Irrigation District

C. Mayer

Morrison & Foerster LLP

P. Hanschen

MRW & Associates

D. Richardson

Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

J. Clark  
M. Huffman  
S. Lawrie  
E. Lucha

Pacific Utility Audit, Inc.

E. Kelly

R. W. Beck, Inc.

C. Elder

San Diego Regional Energy Office

S. Freedman  
J. Porter

School Project for Utility Rate Reduction

M. Rochman

Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP

O. Armi

Solar Turbines

F. Chiang

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP

K. McCrea

Southern California Edison Co.

M. Alexander  
K. Cini

K. Gansecki

H. Romero

TransCanada

R. Hunter  
D. White

TURN

M. Florio  
M. Hawiger

UCAN

M. Shames

U.S. Dept. of the Navy

K. Davoodi  
N. Furuta  
L. DeLacruz

Utility Specialists, Southwest, Inc.

D. Koser

Western Manufactured Housing

Communities Association

S. Dey

White & Case LLP

L. Cottle

**Attachment A**  
**NOTICE OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION**

**Project Name: Rancho Mission Viejo Substation project in the County of Orange**

**Date: May 5, 2009**

**SDG&E Advice Letter Number: 2082-E**

**Proposed Project**

San Diego Gas & Electric Company (SDG&E®) plans to construct the Rancho Mission Viejo Substation located in Orange County, north of Ortega Highway, to provide additional capacity and reliability for SDG&E's electric system.

**Project Description**

The proposed project will construct a new 138/12kV distribution electric substation in the unincorporated area of southern Orange County. The substation will be sited on an approximate 2-1/2 acre parcel of land located within an unimproved area of Planning Area 2 of the proposed Ranch Plan Development. Existing 138kV Tie Line 13831 is located approximately 200 feet south of the RMV substation site and will be looped overhead into the new substation on steel and wood poles. Initially, two distribution circuits will leave the substation constructed on an overhead wood pole line.

The proposed construction includes the following components:

**New 138kV Distribution Substation**

- Clear and grade approximately 2-1/2 acres of land (the substation and perimeter walls will encompass approximately 1.9 acres).
- Construct masonry screen wall along perimeter of site
- Install two 138/12kV transformers, five 138kV circuit breakers, and twelve 138kV disconnect switches
- Install two quarter sections of 12kV metalclad switchgear and two 12kV capacitor banks
- Install one control shelter, as well as all required relaying, wiring, grounding and steel structures

**Transmission Line Improvements**

- Install two new steel poles within the existing 138kV easement corridor between Talega and Margarita Substations to open and terminate TL13831 into the new substation
- Loop in TL 13831 approximately 200 feet into the new substation using two new wood poles

**Distribution Circuit Improvements**

- Install two overhead circuits on a new pole line located outside the substation wall and route to intercept existing overhead pole line
- Cut over 10MVA of existing Circuits C984 and C1256 to off load Margarita Substation

Construction is scheduled to begin in the second quarter 2009 with the new RMV substation operational by June 2011.

**Magnetic Field Management:**

The CPUC requires utilities to consider "no-cost" and "low-cost" magnetic field management techniques on all new transmission projects as a precautionary measure to reduce public exposure to magnetic fields. SDG&E will implement magnetic field management techniques as appropriate, in accordance with SDG&E's *EMF Design Guidelines for Electrical Facilities* (Guidelines), as filed with the CPUC in compliance with D.93-11-013 and updated in compliance with D.06-01-042.

Per SDG&E's EMF Design Guidelines, the transmission line improvements for this Project are exempt for "no-cost" and "low-cost" magnetic field reduction techniques because the total length of new transmission line is less than 2,000 feet and within the existing SDG&E Right-Of-Way (ROW) corridor. Therefore, a review of the Project determined that a Magnetic Field Management Plan was not required.

**Exemption from CPUC Authority:**

This project is exempt from the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) requirements in accordance with the provisions of G.O. 131-D, Section III.A. because all of the facilities are designed to operate below 200kV. This project is also exempt from a Permit to Construct (PTC) in accordance with the provisions of G.O. 131-D, Section III.B.1.f – "power lines or substations to be . . . constructed which have undergone environmental review pursuant to CEQA as part of a larger project, and for which the final CEQA document (Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or Negative Declaration) finds no significant unavoidable environmental impacts caused by the proposed line or substation," and there are no exceptions to this exemption. In compliance with the noticing requirements found in G.O. 131-D, Section XI.B and C, this informational Advice Letter provides a copy of the Notice of Proposed Construction (Attachment A) and the Notice Distribution List (Attachment B).

**Public Review Process:**

Persons or groups may protest the proposed construction if they believe the utility has incorrectly applied for an exemption or believe there is a reasonable possibility that the proposed project or cumulative effects or unusual circumstances associated with the project may adversely impact the environment. Pursuant to CPUC GO 131-D, Section XIII, protests must be filed by May 25, 2009 which is 20 days of the date this Advice Letter was filed with the Commission. All protests must be filed formally at the CPUC and SDG&E concurrently in accordance with the CPUC's Rules of Practice and Procedure to those listed below.

California Public Utilities Commission Docket Office, Room 2001 505 Van Ness Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102 AND	Rebecca W. Giles SDG&E Regulatory Affairs 8330 Century Park Ct. San Diego, CA 92123 AND	Ken Lewis California Public Utilities Commission Energy Division 505 Van Ness Avenue, Rm. 4002 San Francisco, CA 94102
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For assistance in filing a protest, please call the CPUC's Public Advisor in Los Angeles at 1-866-849-8391 OR e-mail: [public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov](mailto:public.advisor.la@cpuc.ca.gov). To request further information, please contact: Mark Gaughan, Regional Public Affairs Manager, San Diego Gas & Electric Company at: 714-634-5090 OR e-mail at: [MGaughan@semprautilities.com](mailto:MGaughan@semprautilities.com).

**Attachment B**

**Advice Letter No. 2082-E**

**Notice Distribution List**

**PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE RANCHO MISSION VIEJO SUBSTATION IN  
ORANGE COUNTY**

**California Public Utilities Commission**

Nicholas Sher  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Julie Fitch  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Ken Lewis  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**County of Orange**

Resource & Development Management Department  
300 North Flower Street  
Santa Ana, California 92703

Contacts: Ron Tippetts, Chief of Land Use and Advance Planning  
Chris Uzo-Diribe, Planner

**Santa Margarita Water District**

Santa Margarita Water District  
PO Box 7005  
Mission Viejo, CA 92690-7005

Contacts: Daniel Ferons, Chief Engineer  
Jaime Aguilar, Senior Project Engineer

**Newspapers of General Circulation**

Los Angeles Times  
Orange County Register

## **Neighborhood Notification**

Rancho Mission Viejo Company  
P.O. Box 9  
San Juan Capistrano, California 92693

Contacts:      Richard Broming, Senior V.P. – Planning and Entitlement  
                    Jeff R. Thompson, Director of Development and Engineering

The Attachment "A" Notice will be posted in public viewing areas such as on the proposed substation property and along the project area within the transmission corridor.