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## 4.15 RECREATION

Would the Proposed Project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less-than-Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less-than-Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated?				✓
b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				✓

### 4.15.0 Introduction

This section describes the existing recreational facilities in the vicinity of the San Diego Gas & Electric Company Tie Line (TL) 649 Wood-to-Steel Replacement Project (Proposed Project) and evaluates potential impacts to recreational resources that may result from construction, operation, and maintenance of the Proposed Project. No impacts to recreational facilities are anticipated as a result of construction or operation and maintenance of the Proposed Project.

### 4.15.1 Methodology

The assessment of impacts to recreation facilities in the vicinity of the Proposed Project involved a review of the County of San Diego General Plan, City of San Diego General Plan, City of Chula Vista General Plan, and Otay Valley Regional Park Concept Plan. In addition, Google Earth aerial photographs were reviewed to determine the potential for impacts to recreational facilities in the Proposed Project area.

### 4.15.2 Existing Conditions

#### Regulatory Background

No federal, state, or local regulations related to recreational resources are relevant to the Proposed Project.

#### Environmental Setting

Recreational areas and facilities in the vicinity of the Proposed Project are described in the following subsections.

#### Otay Valley Regional Park

Otay Valley Regional Park represents one of the major open space areas within the southern area of San Diego County, linking south San Diego Bay with Otay Mountain, San Miguel Mountain,

and the Jamul Mountains. The park is managed under a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement by the County of San Diego, City of San Diego, and City of Chula Vista. There are currently no permanent facilities in the portions of the park that intersect or overlap the Proposed Project or temporary work areas associated with the Proposed Project.

### **County of San Diego**

Otay Lakes County Park is located approximately 0.7 mile northeast of pole location 76 at 2270 Wueste Road. This park contains facilities for bird watching and picnicking as well as playground facilities and bathroom facilities.

Otay County Open Space Preserve is located approximately 0.7 mile east of pole location 76 at 2155 East Beyer Boulevard. This facility contains numerous hiking trails.

### **City of San Diego**

Ocean View Hills Neighborhood Park is located approximately 0.4 mile southwest of pole location 1 at 4915 Ocean View Hills Parkway. This park contains playground facilities, a basketball court, picnic areas, and bathroom facilities.

Vista Pacifica Park is approximately 0.2 mile south of pole location 15 at 6000 Avenida De Las Vistas. This park is equipped with playground facilities, baseball fields, a basketball court, picnic areas, and bathroom facilities.

Palm Ridge Park is located approximately 0.9 mile southwest of pole location 1 at 751 Firethorn Street. This park is equipped with sports fields, playground equipment, a basketball court, and restroom facilities.

### **City of Chula Vista**

The City of Chula Vista contains two privately owned recreational facilities in the vicinity of the Proposed Project. The Aquatica San Diego is located approximately 100 feet north of the Proposed Project at 2052 Entertainment Circle. This facility contains multiple water slides and other attractions and is open seasonally from June to September. Sleep Train Amphitheatre, an outdoor music venue owned by Live Nation Entertainment, is located approximately 0.1 mile north of the Proposed Project at 2050 Entertainment Circle, just east of the water park. This outdoor theater venue hosts concerts and events year round and seats approximately 10,500 people.

#### **4.15.3 Impacts**

The following subsections describe the criteria of significance used to assess potential impacts to recreational resources that may result from implementation of the Proposed Project, and examine those potential impacts.

## Significance Criteria

Standards of significance were derived from Appendix G of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. Impacts to recreation will be considered significant if the Proposed Project:

- Increases the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities to the extent that substantial physical deterioration of the facility will occur or be accelerated.
- Requires the construction or expansion of recreational facilities to meet population demand, potentially resulting in an adverse physical effect on the environment.

### Question 4.15a – Recreational Facilities Use

#### *Construction – No Impact*

Construction personnel will be on site during various phases of construction. However, a majority of these crew members will likely commute from within the San Diego County area and are not expected to use any of the parks or recreational facilities during construction. Because the anticipated increase in personnel will be small and temporary in nature, construction will not result in additional demands for existing recreational facilities. While the Proposed Project will not cross any existing park or recreational facilities, the Aquatica San Diego parking lot may be used to access pole locations 4 through 17 during construction. In addition, fire hydrants located at Aquatica San Diego and the Sleep Train Amphitheatre may be used to obtain water for dust control purposes. These temporary uses will not require the temporary closure of any recreational facilities or parks. Therefore, no impacts will occur.

#### *Operation and Maintenance – No Impact*

Operation and maintenance activities for the Proposed Project will be conducted in the same manner as the existing facilities. Operation and maintenance activities are expected to decrease slightly as a result of the Proposed Project due to the lower maintenance requirements of the replacement steel poles relative to the existing wood poles. Operation and maintenance practices do not currently impact recreational uses or facilities in the area; therefore, no impacts will occur.

### Question 4.15b – Recreational Facilities Changes

#### *Construction – No Impact*

The Proposed Project will not include the construction or expansion of any recreational facilities or result in an increase in demand for existing recreational facilities. Additionally, the Proposed Project will not increase the capacity of the existing power line and, as described in Section 4.13 Population and Housing, will not induce significant population growth. Therefore, no impacts will occur.

#### *Operation and Maintenance – No Impact*

Operation and maintenance activities for the Proposed Project facilities will be conducted in the same manner as the existing facilities. Operation and maintenance activities are expected to

decrease slightly as a result of the Proposed Project due to the lower maintenance requirements of the replacement steel poles relative to the existing wood poles. Operation and maintenance practices do not currently impact recreational uses or facilities in the area; therefore, no impacts will occur.

#### **4.15.4 Applicant-Proposed Measures**

Because the Proposed Project will not result in any significant impacts to recreational resources, no applicant-proposed measures have been proposed.

#### **4.15.5 References**

- Aquatica San Diego. 2015. Aquatic San Diego. Online. <http://aquaticabyseaworld.com/en/sandiego/>. Site visited July 6, 2015.
- City of Chula Vista. 2014. *City of Chula Vista General Plan*.
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- Otay Valley Regional Park. 1997. *Concept Plan*.
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