

**TL 6926 – Valley Center Transmission Line Fire Hardening Project**  
**Project Update**  
**August 6, 2021**

**Background:**

The design and implementation of the TL 6926 wildfire safety project is an integral part of SDG&E's Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP). The undergrounding design of the project along Cole Grade Road was initiated in 2017 and completed in 2019. SDG&E engaged and continued to coordinate with the County throughout the design and planning phase, as we understood the various anticipated County projects in the vicinity.

Specific to the Keys Creek crossing, SDG&E accounted for the County bridge installation work in our design and construction phasing. Attaching to the County bridge via utility cells was our preferred option. However, the County's project was delayed, so we pivoted to the jack and bore option to prevent significantly delaying this critical wildfire mitigation project, which is located in the highest fire threat district.

**Dewatering Timeline:**

Dewatering efforts for the project began on April 28 and ended on June 30. Dewatering efforts needed to continue once construction activities stopped to maintain the integrity of the pits and more importantly the integrity of the roadway.

**April 28 – May 6:** Water was stored in Adler Tanks onsite.

**May 7 – May 27:** Water was hauled to disposal facilities in Los Angeles County.

**May 22 – July 13:** Water was hauled to the Stehly Farm in Valley Center.

**Hydrogeologist's Report:**

SDG&E has hired an independent hydrogeologist to study the water system in order to better understand any concerns customers have and to identify any potential impacts. A new monitoring well has been installed to study the groundwater over a longer period of time. The study will also identify how much water was extracted as part of the dewatering efforts. It will take several months for the hydrogeologist to finalize the report as he studies the characteristics of the area. Once finalized, SDG&E will determine what, if any, actions should be taken.

**Claims:**

SDG&E has set up a specific claims representative within our claims department to immediately investigate any concerns customers may have. We have identified an arborist and hydrogeologist to work with customers and our claims team to evaluate any concerns.

The claims process is the first step in identifying potential impacts and commencing a dialogue between SDG&E and concerned customers. Initiating a claim does not forfeit the ability of the customer to initiate litigation.

If you believe you have been impacted by the project's dewatering activities, please visit <https://www.sdge.com/business/customer-service/assistance-help/claims> to download a claims form and obtain additional information on SDG&E's claims process.

**What's Next?:**

SDG&E is still reviewing potential options for crossing Keys Creek. Potential options could include a Horizontal Directional Drill process, a temporary overhead option or defer the work until the County's road widening and bridge installation is completed.

SDG&E will provide an update to the Valley Center Community Planning Group on Monday, August 9 at 7pm. The Valley Center Community Planning Group meets at the Valley Center Community Hall, located at 28246 Lilac Road.