Q&A: Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project
Underground Construction in Chino Hills and Chino
July 2014

Project Overview

Q: What is the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project?
The Tehachapi project is a series of new and upgraded electric transmission facilities. The project is designed to add capacity to the region’s power grid system for delivering power from remote areas in Kern County to populated urban areas in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. While the Tehachapi project will deliver power from traditional generating sources, it is also one of the first major utility projects in California to deliver power from renewable energy generators, such as wind and solar, to help meet California’s renewable energy goals. When completed, the system upgrades will enable SCE to deliver up to 4,500 megawatts of electricity, enough energy to power approximately three million homes.

Q: Who approved the Tehachapi project?
The project was approved in December 2009 by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), the state regulatory agency who has jurisdiction over the development and construction of such electric infrastructure projects.

In July 2013, the CPUC directed SCE to construct a 3.5 mile section of the project underground in portions of Chino Hills and Chino.

Q: When will Tehachapi underground construction begin and what hours will crews be working?
Construction of the 3.5 mile underground portion of the Tehachapi project may begin as early as mid-July 2014 and will likely continue through 2016. Construction is expected to occur during the following hours in accordance with city ordinances:

**Chino Hills locations:**
- Mon-Fri: 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. and;
- Sat: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Chino location (west of Pipeline Ave.):**
- Mon-Sat: 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

This construction schedule is tentative and may change due to weather and other factors. Construction schedules may also change to include extended hours as well as Sunday work as needed.

Q: What is involved in constructing the section of underground line?
Construction activities in the 3.5 mile section of the transmission line will include:
- Ground-surface trenching along much of the project area and underground drilling in areas where necessary
- Installation of underground transmission wires (500 kilovolts), encased in protective conduit, vaults (constructed to allow access for maintenance and replacement) and related equipment.
- Installation of two (2) transition stations enabling the wires to go from overhead towers to underground conduits and where they will come back to the surface.
  - Each station will be approximately three acres in size, enclosed by an eight-foot perimeter wall with some equipment approximately 133 feet high.
- Installation of two (2) new lattice steel transmission structures, one adjacent to each transition station to feed the overhead wires into the stations.
- The use of large construction equipment, including cranes and project vehicles.

Q: Where is the underground portion of the project located?
The underground portion of the project is located from an area southwest of the western end of Eucalyptus Ave., proceeding northeast (south of Eucalyptus Avenue) to Peyton Drive, then east to the Chino Valley Freeway (71). *(see the enclosed map)*
Q: How will the electric transmission wires transition from the overhead portion of the project to underground?
One “transition station” and one lattice steel tower will be built at both ends of the underground portion of the project, each comprised of equipment enabling wires to go from overhead towers to underground conduits. Below are some details of the new facilities:

**Size of each transition station:**
- Each transition station will be approximately three (3) acres; Some equipment inside the transition station will be approximately 133 feet in height
- The stations will be enclosed on all sides by an eight-foot perimeter wall

**Visual simulations available:**
- Simulated images to provide an approximate representation of the transition stations are available on the Tehachapi project web site at [www.sce.com/trtp](http://www.sce.com/trtp) (view “Resources & More Information”)

**New lattice steel transmission structure**
- One new lattice steel transmission tower built next to each transition station will be necessary to feed the overhead wires into the station

### Public Access along the Project Area

SCE’s top priority is safety. Building an electric transmission line underground at this voltage level (500 kilovolts) is a first-of-its-kind project in the United States and we’re working carefully to ensure the safety of the community and project personnel.

Q: Will residents have access to trails and parks along the project area during construction?
No. There are portions of trails and parks that enter into the utility right-of-way corridor where the Tehachapi project is located and the public will not have access to those areas during construction. A plan for future access and use in the utility right-of-way corridor following construction has not yet been determined.

Chain-link fencing will be installed along the construction area (including portions of trails and parks) to ensure the public does not enter hazardous work areas. This will help maintain the safety of both the public and project personnel. Please observe all project caution signs, traffic safety measures and safety personnel when you are near the project area.

Q: Will residents have access to trail and park areas in the utility right-of-way corridor after construction is completed?
While chain-link fences will be present during construction, a plan for right-of-way use, public access in the area and safety measures has not yet been finalized. Transmission at this high voltage level is typically not constructed underground, so safety reasons may restrict future access. SCE continues to analyze this and will provide more information when it’s available.

### Residential Impacts

We want you to experience as little inconvenience as possible. That means balancing residential, commercial and safety concerns during the construction of these electric system upgrades.

Q: Will construction create dust in my home, on my car and in my swimming pool?
While dust is a part of construction and cannot be completely eliminated, dust control measures will be implemented during construction, including the use of water trucks to spray work sites to reduce dust. Residents may wish to close their windows and doors facing the construction and cover vehicles and swimming pools to reduce any potential dust during construction.

Q: How much noise will there be during construction?
While sound from construction-related activities is unavoidable, SCE crews and contractors will take all reasonable steps to minimize this impact. Construction will be performed during the permitted hours listed above, yet there may be times
when work during extended hours is necessary to complete critical activities. Residents who have questions or concerns about noise or other project-related matters are encouraged to call SCE’s Tehachapi project hotline at 877-795-8787.

Q: Will traffic be affected by this construction project?
Depending on the location, short periods of road and/or traffic lane closures may be required due to construction activities and large equipment deliveries. This includes periods of temporary lane closures and traffic control on:

- **Chino Hills Parkway:** Between Carbon Canyon Road and Eucalyptus Avenue, and;
- **Pipeline Avenue:** Between Chino Hills Parkway and Eucalyptus Avenue

SCE will work with local agencies and will comply with local traffic regulations, including the use of roadway signage for alerting drivers of such temporary road and/or lane closures.

**Underground High Voltage Lines and Electric & Magnetic Fields (EMF)**

Q: How will constructing the transmission line underground affect EMF?
Both overhead and underground transmission lines are designed by engineering experts to meet CPUC requirements to reduce magnetic fields from new power lines. Areas in the right-of-way directly above underground transmission lines would have higher magnetic field levels compared to overhead lines. This is because underground cables will be buried only several feet from the surface whereas overhead wires would be many more feet away. However, magnetic field levels from underground lines diminish at a faster rate with increased distance, compared to overhead lines. At the edge of right-of-way near most locations, magnetic field levels are anticipated to be near existing ambient levels.

Significant research has been conducted internationally over the last 40 years to evaluate the potential health impacts of exposure to electric and magnetic fields (EMF). Major health organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) agree that power line EMF exposures have not been shown to cause adverse health effects. SCE continues to support ongoing research on potential health effects of EMF.

The CPUC has established an EMF policy requiring SCE and other investor owned utilities to reduce public exposure to magnetic fields that originate from new and rebuilt power lines and facilities at low or no cost. SCE complies with the CPUC’s EMF Policy for the TRTP project by incorporating field reduction measures into the design of the new project.

**More Information**

We’re here to answer your questions. Give us a call, send an e-mail or visit our web site for more information:

- **Project hotline:** (877) 795-8787
- **E-mail:** trtp@sce.com
- **Project web site:** www.sce.com/trtp