

**Notice of Determination****- 1 -****To:**

Office of Planning and Research  
 For U.S. Mail:  
 P.O. Box 3044

Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**Street Address:**

1400 Tenth Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**From:**

Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)  
 Inland Deserts Region  
 3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220  
 Ontario, CA 91764  
 Contact: Kyle Maxwell  
 Phone: 909-229-0762

**SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Determination pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21108**

State Clearinghouse Number: 2023120696

Project Title: Lugo-Victorville 500 KV Transmission Line Remedial Action Scheme Project (California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2019-055-R6 (ITP))

Project Location : The Project is located within a 114-mile section of the Eldorado-Lugo 500 kV line utility corridor starting at Southern California Edison's Gale Substation in unincorporated San Bernardino County, California (approximately 1 mile east of Daggett), through SCE's Pisgah Substation (immediately north of Interstate 40 (I-40), approximately 13 miles northwest of Ludlow, California, and ending near Nevada State Route 164 in Clark County, Nevada at transmission tower M152-T2.

Project Description: This proposed project involves the installation of a new telecommunication path in the existing utility corridor, including the replacement of overhead ground wire (OHGW), optical fiber nonconducting riser (OFNR) cable, and/or all-dielectric self-supporting (ADSS) fiber-optic cable between the existing Eldorado Substation in Nevada, and Cima, Pisgah, and Gale Substations in California to prevent thermal overloading of the existing Lugo-Victorville 500kV Transmission Line.

The Project will result in impacts to 174.3 acres of desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*) and 31.72 acres of gilded flicker (*Colaptes auratus chrysoides*) habitat. The project is expected to result in incidental take of desert tortoise and gilded flicker, which are designated as a threatened species for desert tortoise and an endangered species for gilded flicker under the California Endangered Species Act. The ITP referenced above as issued by CDFW authorizes incidental take of species listed under CESA that may occur as a result of Project implementation.

This is to advise that CDFW, acting as [ the lead agency /  a responsible agency] approved the above-described project on March 25, 2024, and made the following determinations regarding the above described project:

1. The project [ will /  will not] have a significant effect on the environment.
2. [ An environmental impact report /  A negative declaration] was prepared by CDFW for the project.
3. Additional mitigation measures [ were /  were not] made a condition of CDFW's approval of the project.
4. A mitigation reporting or monitoring plan [ was /  was not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
5. A Statement of Overriding Considerations [ was /  was not] adopted by CDFW for this project.
6. Findings [ were /  were not] made by CDFW pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21081(a). CDFW did, however, adopt findings to document its compliance with CEQA.
7. Compliance with the environmental filing fee requirement at Fish and Game Code § 711.4 (check one):
  - Payment is submitted with this notice.
  - A copy of a receipt showing prior payment was submitted to CDFW.

DocuSigned by:



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SignatureDate: 6/6/2024Heidi Calvert, *Regional Manager*

Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_