

Riverside Transmission Reliability Project

January 2009

Public Open House

Plan to attend a public open house to view alternative transmission line routes for the Riverside Transmission Reliability Project.

Thursday, February 12
Jurupa Community Services District Board Room
11201 Harrel St.
Mira Loma, California 91752
5 pm – 8 pm

Typical Structure Diagrams



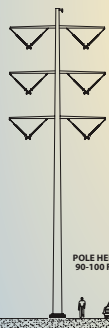
Typical 230 kV Lattice Steel Tower

POLE HEIGHT
120-100 FEET



Typical 230 kV Tubular Steel Pole

POLE HEIGHT
100-140 FEET



230 kV Transmission Line (Steel Pole)

POLE HEIGHT
90-100 FEET



69 kV Transmission Line (Steel or Wood Poles)

POLE HEIGHT
65 - 75 FEET

Introduction

Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) and Southern California Edison Company (SCE) are jointly proposing the Riverside Transmission Reliability Project (RTRP) to improve service reliability for RPU customers. Additionally, this project will help strengthen the system reliability of the state electrical grid by creating a second energy delivery point, which will benefit surrounding communities.

This newsletter is being mailed to residents and interested parties to provide an update on the project. The project team has been conducting studies in the project area since early 2006. During that time, five newsletters have been distributed and six open houses have been held to provide the public with the opportunity to review project information and provide comments.

At the last public meeting, held in June 2007, the project team presented the preferred transmission line routes for the 230 kV line and 69 kV line. Since summer 2007, the project team has worked together to address the public's concerns through an extensive reanalysis of the proposed routes. This study has highlighted constructability concerns, which has resulted in a modified Van Buren alternative route, addressed environmental concerns along the Santa Ana River, and identified a new potential route alternative. These route changes were summarized in Newsletter 5, which was mailed out to the public in December 2008. The current routes are shown on the maps located on pages 4 and 5. An open house has been scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2009 to provide the public the opportunity to review the routes and again provide comments by:

- Attending the public open house on Thursday, February 12
- Sending an email to rtrp@riversideca.gov
- Calling the information line at (951) 710-5013

Additional information, including previous project newsletters, can be found at the project website, www.riversideca.gov/utilities/electric (select Major Energy Projects in the left column).

Project Need

RPU, serving the City of Riverside, imports much of its power from distant areas. This requires power to be transmitted long distances over high-voltage transmission lines that make up the state electrical grid, which is controlled by the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). Currently, all of RPU's external power from the state grid flows through SCE's Vista Substation, which is near capacity. In June 2006, the

CAISO Board reviewed and approved the immediate need for a second interconnection point into the City of Riverside. The new 230 kV transmission line proposed as part of the RTRP would provide this second interconnection point to the state grid. The RTRP would move 50 percent of RPU load to the new interconnection, freeing up capacity at the Vista Substation. This additional capacity at Vista Substation will benefit existing and future loads in western Riverside County and reduce the potential for service interruptions during peak times. The proposed project also would substantially reduce the impact of an outage similar to that which occurred in October 2007, when all electrical load, including government, school, university, and hospital facilities within the City of Riverside lost power for up to four hours.

Project Description

The three major components of the project include:
 1) 230 kV transmission lines, 2) substations, and
 3) 69 kV transmission lines.

Proposed 230 kV Transmission Line – SCE would construct a new 230 kV transmission line that will provide a second interconnection to the state grid. In response to public comments, the project team has re-evaluated all previously proposed routes. New environmental and constructability analysis has resulted in modifications to all routes and the identification of a new route alternative.

- **Van Buren Route** – Several major concerns regarding construction, maintenance, and compatibility with a busy railroad right-of-way presented many challenges

to ensuring reliable electrical service. The previously identified alternative is not a feasible alternative. Extensive modifications have been made to the Van Buren route and a new route has been identified.

- **Eastern Route** – Further environmental and constructability analysis showed that extensive flood protection measures would be required in order to maintain and operate this alternative. These measures would create major impacts to endangered species, existing land uses, and protected wetlands. Based on these environmental impacts this route is no longer a feasible option.
- **Bain Street** – Slight modifications to the route were made to reduce potential impacts of crossing lands purchased under the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund program.
- **Western Route** – In response to public comments received, a new alternative has been identified along the I-15 corridor. This new alternative will run parallel to the I-15, cross the Santa Ana River, and proceed along the south side of the river to the proposed 230 kV substation site.

Proposed Substations – SCE also would construct a new 230 kV substation near Wilderness Avenue and Ed Perkie Street. The new substation and proposed 230 kV line will provide a connection between the existing Vista and Mira Loma substations (see map on page 5). RPU would construct a new 230 – 69 kV substation adjacent to SCE’s new substation.

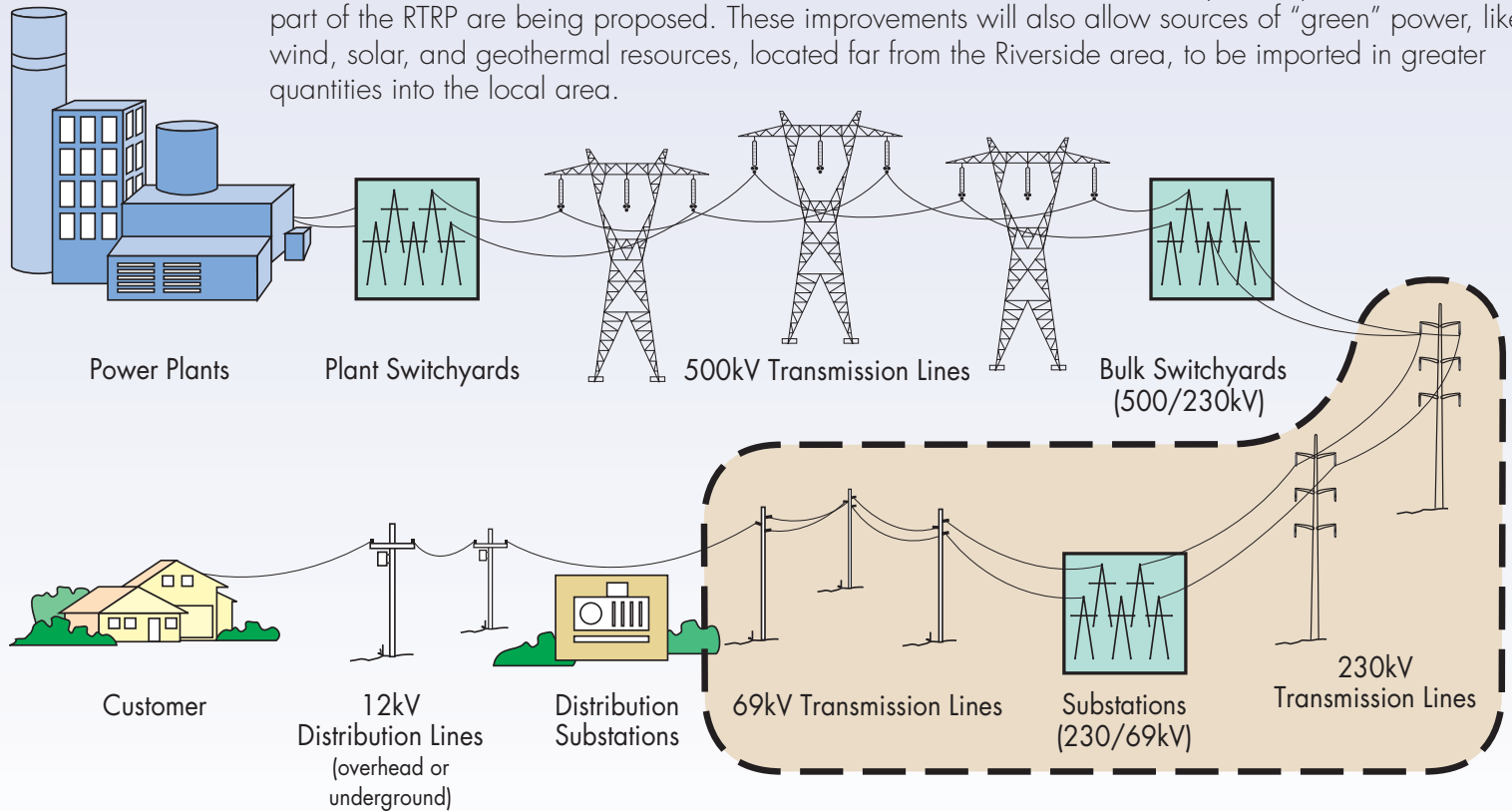
Proposed 69 kV Transmission – RPU would construct 69 kV transmission lines to move power out of the new substation and distribute energy to local RPU distribution substations.

Process Flow Chart/Schedule



How does electricity reach the customer?

Electricity is generated at a power plant and transmitted over a 500,000-volt (500 kV) transmission lines. The power is then “stepped-down” from 500 kV to 230 kV so the power can be transmitted into service areas. Before the power can be sent to homes and businesses, it is sent through transmission substations and converted to 69 kV. Finally, local distribution stations convert the power to 12 kV and transmit over lines that directly serve utility customers. The capacity for both 230 kV - 69 kV transformers and 69 kV transmission lines in the Riverside area is constrained, which is why the improvements as part of the RTRP are being proposed. These improvements will also allow sources of “green” power, like wind, solar, and geothermal resources, located far from the Riverside area, to be imported in greater quantities into the local area.



Planning Process and Schedule

The project requires environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The City of Riverside will be the lead agency in preparing the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). SCE will need a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity from the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) for the 230 kV transmission line. As the team evaluates route alternatives and as required by CEQA, they will study biological resources, adjacent land uses, existing linear features (roads, utilities, etc.), the ability to acquire right-of-way, and constructability.

The current schedule for the project is shown on the flow chart on page 2. Throughout the process, RPU and SCE have communicated with local agencies, elected officials, and the public to provide information and identify issues or concerns.

Next Steps

As shown on the flow chart on page 2, the next step in the process will be to select a preferred route. This route will be announced to the public through another project newsletter and open house. Following selection of a preferred route, the Draft EIR will be issued for a 45-day public review period. The availability of the Draft EIR, and a public meeting that will be held during the review period, will be announced through project mailings, the project website, and through local media. After the close of the 45-day public comment period, the project team will respond to comments received on the document and issue the Final EIR.

Public Involvement Opportunities

RPU and SCE want to hear your thoughts and comments on the project. Throughout the project, numerous opportunities have been provided to receive input including:

- Four meetings of a Technical Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from agencies and elected officials at the state, county, and local level
- Six newsletters
- Six open houses attended by a total of 200 people
- Project website and email address (rtrp@riversideca.gov)
- Project information line (951) 710-5013

Please plan to attend the next public open house to review transmission line routes and provide your input:

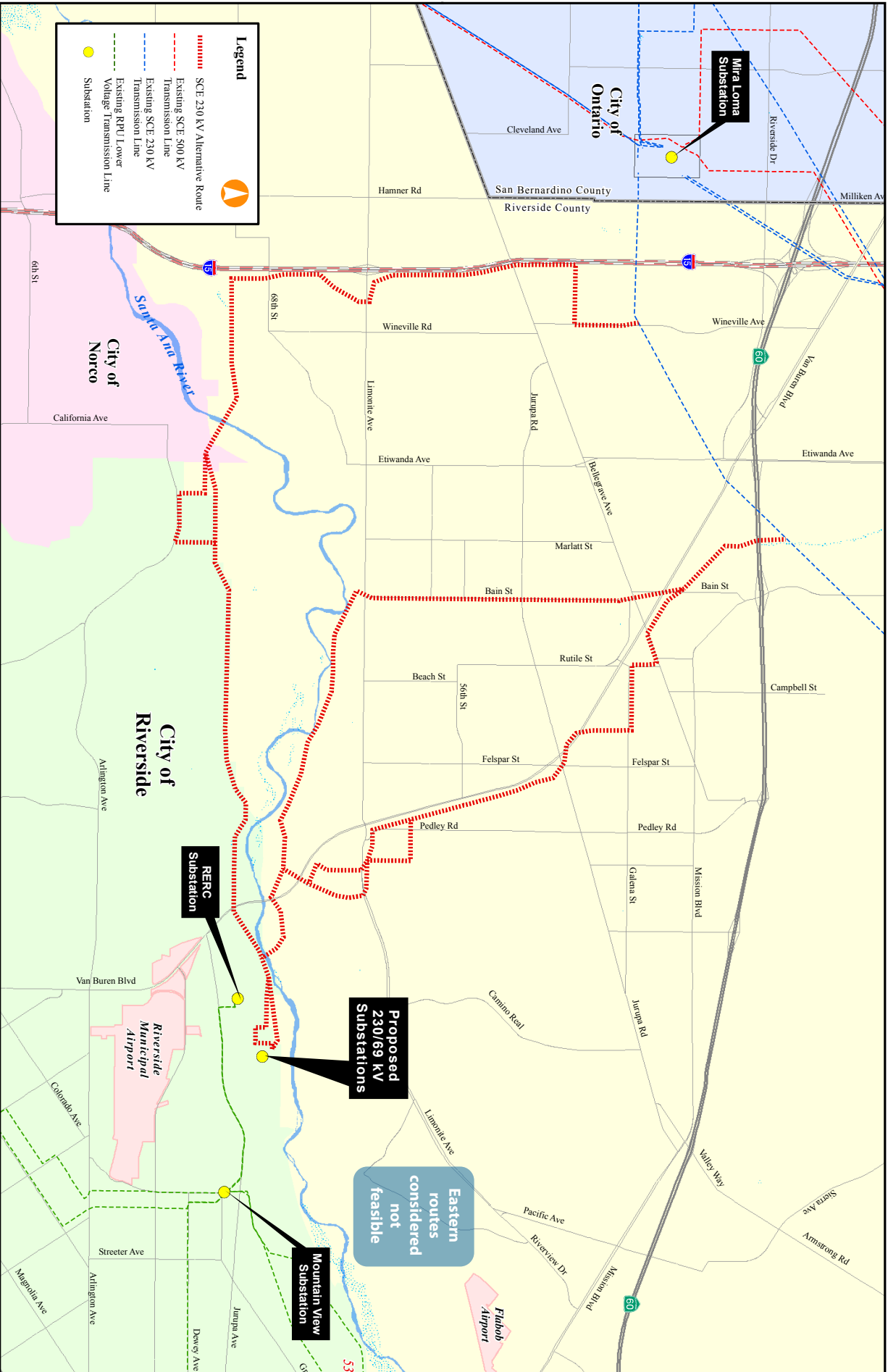
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Additional public comment opportunities will be provided when a preferred route is selected. There will also be a 45-day public comment period when the Draft EIR is released for review.

Alternative 69 kV Routes



Alternative 230 kV Routes





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PARA MÁS INFORMACIÓN

Para más información sobre este proyecto, por favor visite www.riversideca.gov/utilities/elec-rtrp.asp

Si tiene preguntas o comentarios o quiere ser agregado a la lista de correo del proyecto, por favor llame al (951) 710-5013. Adicionalmente, usted puede solicitar una versión en español del boletín, a través de la línea telefónica del proyecto.