



BLM Authorized Officer Weekly Report

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Project: Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility Project

Weekly Project Update

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Reporting Period: 5.21.12 through 5.27.12

Summary:

The BLM is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility Project. The BLM has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted an Environmental and Construction Compliance Monitoring Plan (ECCMP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIS to mitigate or avoid significant impacts are implemented in the field. This ECCMP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the BLM's third-party environmental compliance monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the ECCMP, and anticipated construction activities for the following week. This weekly report covers construction activities for the period of May 21, 2012 through May 27, 2012.

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring:

Compliance Issues with Applicable Conditions of Certification (e.g., areas out of compliance, interpretational disagreements, etc.)

Access Road Signage: BLM has informed the Project Applicant that signage should be placed where approved access roads intersect with non-project approved access roads. BLM is concerned that crews will utilize existing WECO routes that are not approved for project related construction activities. Project Applicant's construction contractor responded to the BLM concern by committing to posting signage to ensure construction related vehicles are aware of non-project approved access routes.

Temporary Water Pond – BLM identified issues/concerns associated with the temporary water pond located at the laydown yard. The temporary water pond does not include a covering or

functional equivalent measures to deter avian activity and appropriate fencing to ensure wildlife is not able to enter into the temporary water pond area. BLM environmental compliance monitors observed gaps in the chain-link fencing and thus a potential for wildlife to enter into the temporary water storage pond area. The Project Applicant's construction contractor responded to these concerns by filling-in the gaps with additional fencing materials. The Project Applicant's lead biological monitor is currently working with BLM resource specialists and the wildlife Agencies to determine appropriate measures to be put in place to deter avian activity. The Project Applicant's lead biological monitor is monitoring avian activity in the interim.

Sediment on Steel Plates - BLM environmental compliance monitors observed sediment on steel plates that had been put in place to avoid impacts to 404 jurisdictional waters. BLM environmental compliance monitors notified the lead biological monitors onsite of the issue/concern observed with sediment on steel plates. The Project Applicant's construction contractor responded to this issue/concern by immediately removing the sediment from the steel plates.

Refueling within 100 feet of waterways - BLM environmental compliance monitors observed construction crews refueling within 100 feet of blue-line drainages (MM PHS-7). The BLM environmental compliance monitors notified the Project Applicant of this requirement and corrective measures were implemented to ensure re-fueling crews are aware of this requirement and the location of blue-line drainages onsite.

Issues of Concern with or by the Applicant

None.

Construction Activities:

The construction activities conducted for this period consisted of land surveying, establishing the 12-acre temporary laydown yard, grading activities at the 30-acre substation/switchyard and access road between Dos Cabezas Road and the 30-acre substation/switchyard, and geotechnical testing.

12-acre Temporary Laydown Yard: Crews were observed utilizing road graders to establish the finish grade and excavators were utilized to construct the temporary water storage pond. The temporary water storage pond was completed during this reporting period. A chain-link fence has been constructed along the perimeter of the water storage pond and two pumps are being utilized to transfer water from the temporary water storage pond to water trucks being utilized for grading and dust suppression. The temporary laydown yard is being utilized to stage construction equipment and materials. A rock apron and rattle plate are being maintained at the point of ingress/egress to minimize trac-out along County Route S-2.

30-acre Substation/Switchyard: Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of grading activities associated with establishing the pad foundation for the 30-acre substation/switchyard. Heavy construction equipment utilized to complete grading activities consisted of loaders, tractors, and graders. Multiple water trucks were observed onsite for both compaction and dust suppression purposes.

Dos Cabezas Road to 30-acre Substation/Switchyard Access Road: Construction activities consisted of grading the access road between Dos Cabezas Road and the 30-acre substation/switchyard. Graders and loaders were utilized to establish the access road and water trucks were onsite for road compaction and dust suppression purposes.

Geotechnical Testing: Crews utilized approved access routes to complete geotechnical testing at turbine pad sites and MET tower foundations located throughout the project site. Geotechnical testing was completed at approximately eight locations per day.

Compliance:

Environmental compliance monitors conducted site inspections of the active construction areas on a daily basis from May 21, 2012 through May 27, 2012. Areas of active construction were observed to verify implementation of the measures stipulated in the project's ECCMP as they pertain to current construction activities. Daily observations were documented on daily site inspection forms and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed.

Pre-construction mitigation measures have been completed as indicated in NTP #1. The Project Applicant has contracted with a biological and archeological consulting firm to complete day-to-day monitoring of the construction activities in accordance with the ECCMP.

Environmental compliance monitors reported concerns with lack of a covering and/or function equivalent at the temporary water storage pond to deter avian activity and gaps in the chain-link fence located along the limits of the temporary water storage pond were also reported. The Project Applicant construction contractor has filled-in the gaps in the chain-link fencing and the Project Applicant's lead biological monitor is working with BLM resource specialists and wildlife Agencies to determine appropriate measures to be put in place to deter avian activity. The Project Applicant's lead biological monitor is monitoring avian activity in the interim.

BLM environmental compliance monitors observed sediment on steel plates that had been put in place to avoid impacts to 404 jurisdictional waters. BLM environmental compliance monitors notified the lead biological monitors onsite of the issue/concern observed with sediment on steel plates. The Project Applicant's construction contractor responded to this issue/concern by immediately removing the sediment from the steel plates.

BLM environmental compliance monitors observed construction crews refueling within 100 feet of blue-line drainages (MM PHS-7). The BLM environmental compliance monitors notified the

Project Applicant of this requirement and corrective measures were implemented to ensure re-fueling crews are aware of this requirement and the location of blue-line drainages.

No issues/concerns were observed during this reporting period associated with fugitive dust emissions. The Project Applicant's construction contractor has been observed actively watering down construction areas to minimize dust.

Environmental compliance monitors observed issues/concerns associated with soil stains as a result of leaking construction equipment. The Project Applicant's construction contractor was notified of these areas and the soil stains were cleaned-up in accordance with the project requirements.

Based on environmental compliance monitors observations, all crew members working on the project site have been WEAP trained and sensitive environmental resources requiring avoidance within proximity to the active construction areas are being identified in accordance with the project requirements. In accordance with MM-Wild-2b, preconstruction migratory bird nesting surveys are being completed by the Project Applicant's designated biologist on a daily basis.

Construction Schedule:

Scheduled Activities for Next Week: The anticipated construction activities associated with week ending 6.3.12 consist of the following:

- Clear, grub, grade and gravel laydown yard
- Geotechnical borings at wind turbine foundations
- Grade substation and switchyard

Potential Delays to the Online Date of the Project

- None identified at this time.

Plan Review Submittal Items

Submittal Type	Description
N/A	N/A

Notice to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Project Component	Conditions Included (Y/N)
1	5.14.12	Clearing and grading of the following facilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12-acre temporary laydown yard • 30-acre Substation/Switchyard • Temporary and permanent access road/collection corridors and permanent turbine area for 71 turbines. • Performance of all required geotechnical studies within the Project site with access along planned access road corridors. • Buried Site Sensitivity Testing • Structure installation at the SDG&E Energy switchyard. 	Yes

Variance Requests

Variance Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval Date
1	5.23.12	Shift of the 30-acre substation/switchyard approximately 565 feet to the north in order to minimize disturbance to areas that have the potential of cultural importance.	Pending	Pending

Project Photographs from Week



Photo 1: A water truck is utilized for dust suppression and grading compaction purposes along the access road between Dos Cabezas Road and the 30-acre substation/switchyard.



Photo 2: A crew repairs a drill rig where a hydraulic hose leak was identified. The hose was repaired and the area was cleaned up in accordance with project requirements.



Photo 3: Drill rigs completing geotechnical testing activities at the 30-acre substation/switchyard.



Photo 4: The access road between Dos Cabezas Road and the 30-acre substation switchyard has been completed.



Photo 5: A biological monitor, archeological monitor and Native American monitor escort a geotechnical crew to a turbine pad site. Environmental monitors escort geotechnical crews to ensure crews remain with the approved work limits and avoid sensitive resources.



Photo 6: Heavy equipment is utilized to establish the 30-acre substation/switchyard pad site. Transmission towers associated with the Sunrise Powerlink and Southwest Powerlink can be seen in the background of this photo.



Photo 7: Heavy equipment is utilized to establish the 30-acre substation/switchyard pad site.



Photo 8: Water trucks placing water within the temporary water storage pond located at the temporary laydown yard.