



BLM Authorized Officer Weekly Report

El Centro Field Office
1661 S. 4th Street
El Centro, California 92243
Website: www.tulewindECCMP.com

Project: Tule Wind Energy Project

Weekly Project Update

Prepared By: David Hochart, DUDEK, 605 Third Street, Encinitas, CA 92024

Reporting Period: 07.24.17 through 07.30.17

Summary

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures (MM) set forth in the *Joint Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/FEIS)* for the Tule Wind Energy Project. A federal Right-of-Way (ROW) grant (CACA-049698) for the Tule Wind Energy Project was granted by the BLM to Tule Wind LLC, a subsidiary of Avangrid Renewables, Inc. on April 10, 2010.

The BLM has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted an Environmental Compliance Monitoring Plan (ECMP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIR/FEIS to mitigate or avoid significant impacts are implemented in the field. This ECMP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities; a summary of site inspections conducted by the BLM's third-party environmental compliance monitors (ECMs); the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the ECMP, Limited Notice to Proceed (LNTP) -2, Notice to Proceed (NTPs) 3, 4, 5, and the February 1, 2017 NTP, which lifted the Temporary Suspension of Construction Activities issued on January 20, 2017; and anticipated construction activities for the following week. The following weekly report covers construction activities for the reporting period of 07.24.17 through 07.30.17.

Site Inspections, Mitigation Monitoring, and Compliance

Construction activities were observed to verify implementation of the measures stipulated in the project's ECMP and conditions included in LNTP-2, NTPs 3, 4, 5, and the NTP issued on February 1, 2017 as they pertain to the current activities. ECMs documented observations on daily site inspection forms and reviewed applicable mitigation measures. The following activities were observed by third party ECMs onsite during this reporting period:

Construction Activities

ECMs observed the installation of culverts and sediment control devices along McCain Valley Road between the J- and H-line entrances and north of the Lark Canyon Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) staging area. In addition, turbine pad and foundation work continued including pad contouring at turbine sites B-5, G-1, and G-13; turbine pad excavation at turbine sites C-5 and

B-5; sub grading at turbine sites C-4 and C-5; and trenching conduit with backfilling along the E, D and C-line, at vault C, and near turbine site G-8. Construction crews continued rock management activities including rock breaking at turbine sites G-2, G-4, G- 5 and laydown yard 10, rock hauling between turbine sites G-5 and G-15, topsoil stripping at turbine site C-5 and drilling at overhead collector poles #34, #36, #49, #50, #51, #61, #63 and T-11. Vegetation removal continued, including grubbing and clearing at turbine site B-5, between transmission poles T-3 and T-5, T-11, the access road between collector pole C-51 and C-52, C-53, C-54 and C-58.

Cultural Resources

Archaeological and Native American monitors were present to monitor ground-disturbing activities for construction activities including grading, trenching, rock breaking, drilling, soil loading, grubbing, and cut and fill, in accordance with mitigation measure CUL-1d and the approved Tribal Participation Plan.

Biological Resources

Biological monitors were present to monitor ground disturbing activities as well as clearing and grubbing activities in accordance with MM-BIO-1c. Biological monitors were observed conducting sweeps ahead of grubbing, grading, excavating and trenching activities.

On 7/24/17, ECMs observed trash consisting of water bottles and food trash wrappers along the corner of the 80-acre O&M yard next to a silt fence. The designated biologist was notified and contacted a worker to remove the trash. On 7/27 uncovered trash was observed in Yard 9 which was reported and promptly resolved.

Monitor Sign-off (February 1, 2017 NTP)

ECMs observed monitor sign-off sheets (MSOS) at each construction activity in accordance with the February 1, 2017 NTP. This is one of the conditions that allowed the temporary suspension of construction activities to be lifted.

Limits of Disturbance (MM BIO-1A)

On Tuesday, 7/25/17 a spoils pile was found to be outside of the limits of disturbance. The spoils pile is located on the south side of turbine pad G1. The area outside of the limits of disturbance measures approximately 15' x 48' totaling to 720 square feet. The exact date that the spoils pile was created is currently unknown, but believed to be on Monday, 7/24/17.

The area was inspected by both archaeological and biological monitors and no impacts to sensitive resources were observed. The construction contractor implemented the protocols included as part of Variance Request 006 to move the spoils pile back into the limits of disturbance.

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) (MM HYD-1)

During this reporting period, ECMs observed construction crews conducting ongoing repairs to silt fences, and installing straw wattles. Several areas were identified with deficient silt fencing and

straw wattles covered in sediment. Each of these issues were brought to the attention of the designated biologist and were tracked by ECMs and construction crew maintenance repair teams.

On 7/24/17, ECMs observed that the vegetation pile from the previous reporting period located at transmission tower T-3 and turbine site G-5 had been removed.

Dust Control Plan Implementation (MM-AQ-1; AIR-3)

ECMs observed water trucks applying water in active areas of construction at least three times a day in accordance MM-AQ-1 and the Dust Control Plan.

Fire Prevention/Protection Plan Implementation (MM-FF-1; MM BIO-1F)

During this reporting period, three lightning stand-downs occurred when lightning was tracked within 5 miles of the project site, in accordance with MM-HZA-1b.

ECMs observed fire equipment and water trucks on the project site during all construction activities including vehicles equipped with fire suppression equipment within 25 feet of active work sites, in accordance with MM-FF-1.

Hazardous Materials Management Plan (MM-HAZ-1A)

On 7/26/17, ECMs observed stained soil from a rock breaker leaking hydraulic fluid in laydown yard #10. The leaking hydraulic fluid affected the ground surface and a single boulder. The designated biologist was contacted and construction crews removed the stained soil from the ground surface in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a and site specific SWPPP. The construction contractor has proposed to use a cleaner/degreaser, Oil Eater to clean the boulder. The BLM agreed with the construction contractor's recommendation of using Oil Eater. The boulder is anticipated to be cleaned during the next reporting period. A tarp was placed around the boulder to avoid affecting the ground surface adjacent to the boulder.

On 7/27/17, ECMs observed two stained soil areas at the laydown yard #6 concrete batch plant. After the designated biologist was notified, ECMs conducted a follow up inspection and observed that the two areas had been cleaned in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a.

Traffic Control Plan Implementation (MM-TRA-1)

ECMs observed traffic flaggers on McCain Valley Road to notify motorists of temporary road delays in accordance with MM-TRA-1.

Construction Activities Schedule:

- Survey and staking turbine grade locations,
- Subgrade RARR, G-1 –G-3 access road, and site B-5,
- Rock management at site H1, H2 and E11,
- Rock hauling from B-line, G-1 and G-2 E-11 to E-13 and Rough Acres Ranch Road,
- Road maintenance on H-1 and H-2,
- Foundation excavation on G-1 and G-2,
- Rock crushing at G-5,
- Setting transformers at E-4 through E-9,
- Blasting G-2,
- Excavation, and installing conduit at the substation,
- Trenching F-line to B-line, and
- Set collector poles 31, 45, 52 and 55.

Notice to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Project Component	Conditions Included (Y/N)
1	09.17.12	Geotechnical Activities per MM-Geo-3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turbine borings • met tower borings • soil test pit exactions • visual examination • completion of Multichannel Analysis of Surface Waves (MASW) and seismic refraction testing at up to 15 percent of the turbine locations • thermal resistivity sample collection at approximately six locations • electrical resistivity testing at approximately six locations 	Yes
2	10.12.16	Preconstruction activities as follows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disturbance limit staking and limited vegetation clearing • staking of ESAs • removal of weeds in accordance with the HRP • cacti salvage • pickup truck and ATV use of BLM access routes authorized under the Eastern San Diego County Resource Management Plan (2008) 	Yes
3	11.18.16	Clearing and grading activities as follows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vegetation clearing (site clearing and grubbing) • grading work and blasting (as-needed) associated with the access road • equipment staging and laydown yard/staging areas • foundation excavation and blasting (as-needed) 	Yes
4	11.18.16	Construction activities for four 10,000-gallon fire tanks including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • site surveying • vegetation clearing and grading • footing excavation • turnout construction • forming the tanks • installation of reinforced steel • pouring footing, slab, and walls • backfill and final grading 	Yes
N/A	02.01.17	Temporary Suspension of Construction Activities lifted for the project subject to the implementation of all safeguards and corrective actions identified by Tule Wind LLC in the letter of January 31, 2017.	Yes
5	02.10.17	Balance of plant construction activities including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation drilling and blasting • Installation of seal slabs • Installation of turbine foundations • Installation of MET towers • Foundation backfill and crane pad installation • Turbine erection • Installation of underground collection system • Boring of specific locations for the collection line • Drilling and setting of overhead line systems 	Yes

Notice to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Project Component	Conditions Included (Y/N)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure erection • Wire pulling • Restoration of temporarily impacted areas 	

Variance Requests

Variance Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval Date
1	10.26.12	Use of one Type II Water Tender and one Type III Engine in-lieu of a Type VI Skid Mount pump unit	Approved	11.02.12
2	05.16.13	Use of additional existing roads, use of a track-mounted excavator, ability to shift small to medium sized boulders and use of a chain-saw or similar type equipment to trim vegetation	Approved	05.20.13
3	12.20.16	Realignment of access roads along the A-string, F-string, and G-string to minimize disturbance to previously undisturbed areas, to avoid impacts to sensitive environmental resources, and to accommodate construction and engineering design.	Approved	02.14.17
4	01.09.17	Addition of seven areas outside of the limits of disturbance to allow for the relocation of boulders along the G-string.	N/A	Resubmitted as part of variance request 006 on 03.24.17.
5	02.09.17	The use of generators to provide power for up to four Conex storage trailers.	Approved	02.23.17
6	02.24.17	Addition of temporary areas needed for constructability. A 20-foot buffer of the approved engineering disturbance limits is being proposed to allow construction activities to use the areas where necessary to safely construct the project while remaining in compliance with the permit conditions. Approximately 10 acres is anticipated to be impacted.	Approved	Resubmitted on 03.24.17. Approved on 04.24.17
7	03.03.17	Addition of impact areas for the installation of riprap associated with 48 culverts along project access roads.	Approved	04.14.17
8	03.24.17	Includes the addition of a concrete batch plant facility in the 2-acre laydown yard (Yard 6) to serve as the primary concrete batch plant	Approved	04.18.17
9	03.28.17	Includes additional temporary areas needed for turbine installation for blade overhang areas, Nacelle tagline areas, and turbine top section staging areas.	Approved	05.16.17
10	03.29.17	Includes additional areas needed for constructability and safety associated with travel along McCain Valley Road near the Lark Canyon Campground and off-highway vehicle (OHV) staging areas.	Approved	06.14.17
11	04.07.17	Relocation of office trailers from San Diego County land to laydown yards 9 and 11.	Approved	04.24.17

Variance Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval Date
12	04.20.17	Includes widening portions of McCain Valley Road at three specific areas for constructability and safety during construction.	Approved	05.24.17
13	05.10.17	Includes adjustments to the overhead collector line pole locations, associated access roads, and construction areas to reduce impacts to recently identified environmentally sensitive areas.	Approved	06.21.17
14	06.16.17	Includes additional pull areas for wire pulling along the transmission and collector lines, the use and widening of an existing access road, and shifting of a transmission line structure.	Approved	07.27.17
15	06.16.17	Requests turbine B-5 to be approved, as an alternate turbine that would replace an approved turbine, should it be determined necessary.	Approved	07.12.17
16	07.07.17	Requests a change in the means for installing underground collector line under McCain Valley Road from boring to trenching.	Approved	07.12.17

Representative Photos



Photo 1: ECMs observed archaeological and Native American monitors present for staking and grubbing activities in accordance with MM-Cul-1d.



Photo 2: ECMs observed a containment bin beneath a crane at site G-8 in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a.



Photo 3: ECMs observed a cover over a stained boulder to keep any runoff from spilling onto the ground in accordance with the Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan. Tule Wind LLC is anticipated to apply a cleaner/degreaser to clean the boulder.



Photo 4: ECMs observed water tenders at turbine site B-5 during topsoil salvaging in accordance with the Dust Control Plan and MM-AQ-1.

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