



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710
(559) 243-4005
www.wildlife.ca.gov

GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



February 22, 2023

Erika Esparza, Project Manager
Southern California Gas Company
555 West 5th Street, MLGT16G3
Los Angeles, California 90013

Subject: Incidental Take Permit Amendment No. 1 for Southern California Gas Company Pipeline Recoat and Anode Install Project (2081-2021-007-04)

Dear Erika Esparza:

Enclosed you will find an electronic copy of Amendment No. 1 for the incidental take permit for the above referenced Project, which has been digitally signed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). Please read the amendment carefully, sign the acknowledgement, and return the original **no later than 30 days from CDFW signature**, and prior to initiation of ground-disturbing activities. You may return a hard copy of the amendment via mail to:

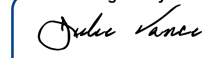
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch, CESA Permitting
Post Office Box 944209
Sacramento, California 94244-2090

Alternatively, you may return an electronic copy of the amendment with digital signature to CESA@wildlife.ca.gov. Digital signatures shall comply with Government Code section 16.5. Digital signatures facilitated by CDFW will be automatically returned.

You are advised to keep the amendment in a secure location and distribute copies to appropriate project staff responsible for ensuring compliance with the conditions of approval of the permit. Note that you are required to comply with certain conditions of approval prior to initiation of ground-disturbing activities. Additionally, a copy of the permit and amendment must be maintained at the project work site and made available for inspection by CDFW staff when requested.

The permit will not take effect until the signed acknowledgement is received by CDFW. If you wish to discuss these instructions or have questions regarding the permit, please contact Sarah Bahm, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at sarah.bahm@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager
Central Region
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Enclosure

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

CENTRAL REGION

1234 EAST SHAW AVENUE

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93710



AMENDMENT NO. 1

(A Minor Amendment)

California Endangered Species Act

Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2021-007-04

Southern California Gas Company

Gas Pipeline Recoat and Anode Install Project In Kern County

INTRODUCTION

On July 15, 2022, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) issued Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2021-007-04 (ITP) to Southern California Gas Company (Permittee), authorizing take of giant kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys ingens*), Tipton kangaroo rat (*Dipodomys nitratoides nitratoides*), and San Joaquin antelope squirrel (*Ammospermophilus nelsoni*) (collectively, the Covered Species) associated with and incidental to the Gas Pipeline Recoat and Anode Install Project (Project). The Project as described in the ITP as originally issued by CDFW includes repair of two approximately 50-foot sections of high-pressure gas pipeline to prevent pipeline failure at two separate Work Sites, eTS 43141 Line 225 MP 3.28 (L225 Site) and eTS 44051 Line 85 MP 49.9 (L85 Site). The Project also includes the installation of anodes at these Work Sites to provide cathodic protection of the pipelines. In issuing the ITP, CDFW found, among other things, that Permittee's compliance with the Conditions of Approval of the ITP would fully mitigate Project impacts of the taking on the Covered Species and that issuance of the ITP would not jeopardize the continued existence of the Covered Species.

On January 24, 2023, CDFW received a request from the Permittee for a minor amendment to the ITP and the corresponding fee payment on January 27, 2023. The request included updating the Permittee's Contact Person and extending the expiration date of the ITP from January 31, 2023 to July 31, 2023. The Project has been delayed because Gas Control Outage Coordination (GCOC) has not allowed for the Project to proceed as there was a chance it could impact customers during months with high demand. The Permittee was able to install magnesium anodes to temporarily address the out of read tolerances while awaiting approval from GCOC to begin construction for the Project. GCOC has since provided new dates for construction with work at the L225 site expected to start construction in early April and end in mid-May 2023 and at the L85 site expected to start construction in early June and end in mid-July 2023.

This Minor Amendment No. 1 (Amendment No. 1) makes the following changes to the existing ITP:

First, Amendment No. 1 updates the Permittee's Contact Person on the ITP.

Second, Amendment No. 1 extends the expiration date for the ITP from January 31, 2023 to July 31, 2023.

AMENDMENT

The ITP is amended as follows (amended language in ***bold italics***; deleted language in ~~strikethrough~~):

1. The phone number of the Contact Person on page 1 of the ITP, shall be amended as follows:

Contact Person: ~~Molly Peters, 213-200-4584~~
Keely Craig, 858-325-5308

2. The paragraph entitled "Effective Date and Expiration Date of this ITP", on page 1 of the ITP, shall be amended to read as follows:

This ITP shall be executed in duplicate original form and shall become effective once a duplicate original is acknowledged by signature of the Permittee on the last page of this ITP and returned to CDFW's Habitat Conservation Planning Branch at the address listed in the Notices section of this ITP. Unless renewed by CDFW, this ITP's authorization to take the Covered Species shall expire on ~~January 31, 2023~~ ***July 31, 2023***.

All terms and conditions of the ITP and MMRP that are not expressly amended herein remain in effect and must be implemented and adhered to by permittee.

FINDINGS

Issuance of Amendment No. 1 will not increase the amount of take of the Covered Species compared to the Project as originally approved, nor will Amendment No. 1 increase other Project impacts on the Covered Species (i.e., "impacts of taking" as used in Fish and Game Code Section 2081, subd. (b)(2)).

Discussion: Amendment No. 1 makes two specific changes to the ITP: 1) updates the Contact Person on the ITP and 2) extends the expiration date of the ITP from January 31, 2023 to July 31, 2023. The impacts to the Covered Species, however, including the temporary loss of 0.451 acre of habitat for the Covered Species, as a result of the Project, will remain the same.

CDFW has determined that Amendment No. 1 will not increase the amount of take or the severity of other impacts of the taking on the Covered Species. Given the

circumstances of this Project, CDFW believes that the changes to the Project described in Amendment No. 1 will not increase impacts to the Covered Species.

Issuance of Amendment No. 1 does not affect CDFW's previous determination that issuance of the ITP meets and is otherwise consistent with the permitting criteria set forth in Fish and Game Code section 2081, subdivisions (b) and (c).

Discussion: CDFW determined in July 2022 that the Project, as approved, met the standards for issuance of an ITP under CESA. This determination included findings that, among other things, the impacts of the taking would be minimized and fully mitigated and that the Project would not jeopardize the continued existence of the Covered Species. Those findings are unchanged with respect to Amendment No. 1 because it: (1) will have no effect on the amount or severity of Project impacts on the Covered Species, as discussed above, and (2) does not substantively alter the measures that will be undertaken to minimize and mitigate previously authorized impacts on the Covered Species. Permittee's continued adherence to and implementation of the avoidance and minimization measures set forth in the ITP's Conditions of Approval and MMRP will minimize and fully mitigate impacts of the taking on the Covered Species.

None of the factors that would trigger the need for subsequent or supplemental environmental analysis of the Project under Public Resources Code section 21166 or California Code of Regulations, title 14, sections 15162 and 15163, exist as a result of Amendment No. 1.

Discussion: CDFW issued the ITP in July 2022 as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq.). CDFW has determined that this Project is statutorily exempt from CEQA because it is an action "necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency." (Pub. Resources Code, §21080, subd. (b)(4).) and "necessary to maintain service essential to the public health, safety or welfare, including those that require a reasonable amount of planning to address an anticipated emergency" (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15269, subd. (b)). As a result, CDFW finds that no additional subsequent or supplemental environmental review is required by CEQA as part of CDFW's approval of this Amendment No. 1.

CDFW finds that Amendment No. 1 is a Minor Amendment, as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 783.6, subdivision (c)(4).

Discussion: Amendment No. 1 updates the Contact Person and extends the expiration date of the ITP from January 31, 2023 to July 31, 2023. These changes to the ITP will not: (1) increase the level of take or other Project impacts on Covered Species previously analyzed and authorized by the ITP, (2) affect Permittee's substantive mitigation obligations under the ITP, (3) require further environmental review under

CEQA, or (4) increase temporal impacts on the Covered Species. Therefore, Amendment No. 1 will not significantly modify the scope or nature of the permitted Project or activity, or the minimization, mitigation, or monitoring measures in the ITP. CDFW has determined that the change to the ITP constitutes a Minor Amendment as defined in California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 783.6, subdivision (c)(4).

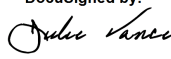
The authorization provided by Amendment No. 1 is not valid until Permittee signs and dates the acknowledgement below, and returns one of the duplicate originals of Amendment No. 1 by registered first class mail to CDFW at:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
Attention: CESA Permitting Program
Post Office Box 944209
Sacramento, California 94244-2090

Alternatively, the Permittee shall e-mail the digitally signed Amendment No. 1 to CESA@wildlife.ca.gov. Digital signatures shall comply with Government Code section 16.5. Digital signatures facilitated by CDFW will be automatically returned.

APPROVED BY THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

on 2/22/2023

DocuSigned by:

FA83F09FE08945A...

Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager
CENTRAL REGION

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The undersigned: (1) warrants that he or she is acting as a duly authorized representative of the Permittee, (2) acknowledges receipt of the original ITP and this Amendment, and (3) agrees on behalf of the Permittee to comply with all terms and conditions of the ITP as amended.

By: Erika Esparza Date: 2/22/2023
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Printed Name: Erika Esparza Title: Project Manager

Minor Amendment No. 1
Incidental Take Permit 2081-2021-007-04
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY
PIPELINE RECOAT AND ANODE INSTALL PROJECT