

Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Date: April 17, 2025

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: SMUD Headquarters Building, Auditorium
6201 S Street, Sacramento, California

AGENDA

SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SMUD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING AUDITORIUM – 6201 S STREET SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Remote Telephonic Location:

**2800 Opryland Drive
Nashville, TN 37214**

April 17, 2025 – 6:00 p.m.

Virtual Viewing or Attendance:

Live video streams (view-only) and indexed archives of meetings are available at:

<https://www.smud.org/Corporate/About-us/Company-Information/Board-Meetings/Watch-or-Listen-online>

Zoom Webinar Link: [Join SMUD Board of Directors Meeting Here](#)

Webinar/Meeting ID: 161 949 6874

Passcode: 437960

Phone Dial-in Number: 1-669-254-5252 or 1-833-568-8864 (Toll Free)

Verbal Public Comment:

Members of the public may provide verbal public comment by:

- Completing a sign-up form at the table outside of the meeting room and giving it to SMUD Security.
- Using the “Raise Hand” feature in Zoom (or pressing *9 while dialed into the telephone/toll-free number) during the meeting at the time public comment is called. Microphones will be enabled for virtual or telephonic attendees when the commenter’s name is announced.

Written Public Comment:

Members of the public may provide written public comment on a specific agenda item or on items not on the agenda (general public comment) by submitting comments via email to PublicComment@smud.org or by mailing or bringing physical copies to the meeting. Email is not monitored during the meeting. Comments will not be read into the record but will be provided to the Board and placed into the record of the meeting if received within two hours after the meeting ends.

Call to Order.

a. Roll Call.

1. Approval of the Agenda.

2. Committee Chair Reports.

- a. Committee Chair report of April 15, 2025, Finance & Audit Committee
- b. Committee Chair report of April 16, 2025, Energy Resources & Customer Services Committee

Item 5 was reviewed by the March 12, 2025, Policy Committee. Items 6 through 9 were reviewed by the April 15, 2025, Finance and Audit Committee.

Comments from the public are welcome when these agenda items are called.

Consent Calendar:

3. Approve Board member compensation for service rendered at the request of the Board (pursuant to Resolution No. 23-06-02) for the period of March 16, 2025, through April 15, 2025.
4. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2025.
5. Approve proposed revisions to **Governance Process GP-12, Board Compensation and Benefits**. Policy Committee 3/12. (Laura Lewis)
6. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to negotiate and execute a sole source contract with **Cooper Power Systems, LLC, a subsidiary of Eaton Corporation**, to provide network protectors for the five-year period from April 21, 2025, to April 20, 2030, in an amount not to exceed \$40 million. Finance and Audit Committee 4/15. (Frankie McDermott)
7. Approve Contract Change No. 3 to Contract No. 4500147369 with **Utility Partners of America, LLC**, to add meter battery replacement scope of work and to increase the contract not-to-exceed amount by \$3.5 million, from \$22,442,000 to \$25,942,000. Finance and Audit Committee 4/15. (Frankie McDermott)
8. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to negotiate and award contracts to **United Trs Electric, Inc., OneSource Supply Solutions, LLC, Hyundai, Eaton Corporation, PulseMac Solutions, LLC, PE Transformer Corp., and Klein Group America, Inc.** (collectively, the **Contracts**) for supply of distribution transformers for a five-year period from May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2030, with one optional two-year extension, for a total aggregate contract not-to-exceed amount of \$175 million. Finance and Audit Committee 4/15. (Laura Lewis)
9. Authorize the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to enter into a contract with **Powerhouse Science Center** to extend SMUD's naming rights of the **SMUD Museum of Science & Curiosity (MOSAC)** for an additional two-year term through December 2039, in an amount not-to-exceed \$700,000 (\$350,000 per year). Finance and Audit Committee 4/15. (Farres Everly)

* * * * *

Public Comment:

10. Items not on the agenda.

Board and CEO Reports:

11. Directors' Reports.
12. President's Report.
13. CEO's Report.
a. Board Video

Summary of Board Direction

* * * * *

FOLLOWING ADJOURNMENT OF THE FOREGOING SMUD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE FOLLOWING JOINT POWERS AGENCIES WILL CONVENE:

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ENERGY AUTHORITY
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS AUTHORITY NUMBER 1
SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT FINANCING AUTHORITY**

* * * * *

Board Committee Meetings and Special Meetings of the Board of Directors are held at the SMUD Headquarters Building, 6201 S Street, Sacramento

April 15, 2025	Finance and Audit Committee and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting	Auditorium*	6:00 p.m.
April 16, 2025	Energy Resources & Customer Services Committee and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting	Auditorium	6:00 p.m.
May 13, 2025	Finance and Audit Committee and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting	Auditorium	6:00 p.m.
May 13, 2025	Policy Committee and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting	Auditorium	Immediately following the Finance and Audit Committee and Special SMUD Board of Directors Meeting scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m.

May 14, 2025

Energy Resources & Customer
Services Committee and Special
SMUD Board of Directors Meeting

Auditorium

6:00 p.m.

* * * * *

**Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors are held at the SMUD Headquarters Building,
6201 S Street, Sacramento**

May 15, 2025

Auditorium*

6:00 p.m.

****The Auditorium is located in the lobby of the SMUD Headquarters Building, 6201 S Street, Sacramento, California.***

Members of the public shall have up to three (3) minutes to provide public comment on items on the agenda or items not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of SMUD. The total time allotted to any individual speaker shall not exceed nine (9) minutes.

Members of the public wishing to inspect public documents related to agenda items may click on the Information Packet link for this meeting on the smud.org website or may call 1-916-732-7143 to arrange for inspection of the documents at the SMUD Headquarters Building, 6201 S Street, Sacramento, California.

ADA Accessibility Procedures: Upon request, SMUD will generally provide appropriate aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so that they can participate equally in this meeting. If you need a reasonable auxiliary aid or service for effective communication to participate, please email Toni.Stelling@smud.org, or contact by phone at 1-916-732-7143, no later than 48 hours before this meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

That this Board hereby approves Board member compensation for service rendered at the request of the Board (pursuant to Resolution No. 23-06-02) for the period of March 16, 2025, through April 15, 2025.

Sacramento, California

March 20, 2025

The Board of Directors of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District met in regular session simultaneously in the Auditorium of the SMUD Headquarters Building at 6201 S Street, Sacramento, and via virtual meeting (online) at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call:

Presiding: President Fishman

Present: Directors Rose, Bui-Thompson, Kerth, Tamayo, and Sanborn

Absent: Director Herber

Present also were Frankie McDermott, acting Chief Executive Officer and General Manager; Laura Lewis, Chief Legal & Government Affairs Officer and General Counsel and Secretary, other members of SMUD's executive management; and SMUD employees and visitors.

Director Sanborn shared the 2030 Climate Action Tip.

President Fishman called for approval of the agenda. Director Kerth moved for approval of the agenda, and Vice President Tamayo seconded.

Director Rose requested to move Consent Calendar Item 3 pertaining to Board compensation from Consent Calendar to Discussion Calendar.

General Counsel Lewis asked to clarify whether the motion was to approve the agenda as revised, and Director Kerth confirmed the motion was to approve the agenda as revised. The agenda, as revised, was approved by a vote of 6-0, with Director Herber absent.

Director Bui-Thompson, Chair, presented the report for the Strategic Development Committee meeting held on March 11, 2025.

Director Sanborn, Chair, presented the report on the Policy Committee meeting held on March 12, 2025.

Director Kerth, Chair, presented the report for the Finance & Audit Committee meeting held on March 18, 2025.

Director Rose, Chair, presented the report for the Energy Resources & Customer Services Committee meeting held on March 18, 2025.

President Fishman then called for public comment for items on the agenda, but none was forthcoming.

President Fishman then addressed the Consent Calendar consisting of Items 4 through 11. Director Sanborn moved for approval of the Consent Calendar, Director Tamayo seconded, and Resolution Nos. 25-03-01 through 25-03-07 were approved by a vote of 6-0, with Director Herber absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-01

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

This Board approves the revisions to **Governance Process GP-5, Election of Board President and Vice President**, substantially in the form as set forth in **Attachment A**.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR TAMAYO				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

SMUD BOARD POLICY



Category: Governance Process
Policy No.: GP-5
Title: Election of Board President and Vice President

The Board shall elect each year a president and vice president to preside over it, under the following terms and conditions:

- a) The nominations for and selection of president and vice president for the ensuing year shall be accomplished by the Board no later than the first regularly scheduled meeting in January.
- b) The president and vice president shall be elected upon a vote of four or more Board members voting in approval.
- c) The terms of president and vice president shall be for a period of one year or until such time as a successor has been selected pursuant to these rules.
- d) The president may serve no more than one full term in succession.
- e) During the absence of the president, the vice president will preside, and, in the event that both the president and vice president are absent, the members present shall select one of their members to act as president pro tem.
- f) In the event that the office of either president or vice president becomes vacant, the Board, within 30 days from the date of such vacancy, will select one of its members to fill the remainder of the term of that office. A member that fills the remainder of a term of the office of president or vice president shall be eligible to serve one full term in that same office the following year if so nominated and selected.
- g) The president and/or vice president shall be recalled upon a vote of four or more Board members voting to recall. Nomination and election of a new president and/or vice president shall occur within 30 days from the date of the vote to recall.

Monitoring Method: Board Report

Frequency: Annual

Versioning:

December 19, 2002	Resolution No. 02-12-14	Date of Adoption.
October 16, 2003	Resolution No. 03-10-14	Date of Revision.
September 21, 2023	Resolution No. 23-09-02	Date of Revision.
February 15, 2024	Resolution No. 24-02-02	Date of Revision.
March 20, 2025	Resolution No. 25-03-01	Date of Revision. [Current Policy]

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-02

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

This Board accepts the monitoring report for **Strategic Direction SD-6, Safety Leadership**, substantially in the form set forth in **Attachment B** hereto and made a part hereof.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR TAMAYO				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

DATE: February 26, 2025

FROM: Claire Rogers *CR 2/26/25*

SUBJECT: Audit Report No. 28007862
Board Monitoring Report; SD-6: Safety Leadership

Internal Audit Services (IAS) received the SD-6 *Safety Leadership* second-half 2024 Biannual Board Monitoring Report and performed the following:

- Selected a sample of statements and assertions in the report for review.
- Interviewed report contributors and verified the methodology used to prepare the statements in our sample.
- Validated the reasonableness of the statements in our sample based on the data or other support provided to us.

During the review, nothing came to IAS' attention that would suggest the items sampled within the SD Board Monitoring report did not fairly represent the source data available at the time of the review.

CC:

Paul Lau

Board Monitoring Report 3rd and 4th Quarters, 2024 Strategic Direction SD-6, Safety Leadership



1. Background

Strategic Direction (SD) 6, Safety Leadership states that:

Creating a safe environment for employees and the public is a core value of SMUD.

Through best practice methods and continuous improvement, SMUD will be recognized as a leader in employee safety while also assuring the safety of the public related to SMUD operations and facilities. SMUD commits to a proactive approach, including the active involvement of SMUD leadership, employees, contractors, and the community, as well as comprehensive monitoring of organizational and public safety performance.

Therefore, SMUD will continue to improve safety results to:

a) Workplace Safety

- i. Reduce SMUD's injury severity incidents to 13 or less than by the end of 2025, as measured by OSHA's Days Away Restricted Time (DART), a rate that demonstrates top quartile safety performance for similar size utilities using the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) work-related safety data.
- ii. Provide timely, quality health care for injured employees that aids their recovery while maintaining positive financial performance of the workers' compensation program.

b) Contractor Safety

- i. Support contractors to reduce and eliminate potential hazards for Serious Injuries and/or Fatality (SIF) when conducting high risk work.

c) Public Safety

- i. Track and report injuries to the public related to SMUD operations or facilities.
- ii. Implement measures to protect the public from injuries related to SMUD operations or facilities.

2. Executive Summary

SMUD is in compliance with SD-6 and is in alignment with SMUD's 5-year strategy of working toward a zero-incident culture.

Workplace Safety

In 2024, SMUD recorded 16 DART and 12 Other OSHA Recordable cases (28 total OSHA Recordables). This is a 33% decrease when compared to the total OSHA Recordable cases in 2023, when we had 17 DART and 25 Other OSHA Recordable cases (42 total OSHA Recordables). In addition to the decrease in cases, SMUD has seen a 61% decrease in the amount of time injured employees spent away from their normal job duties.

SMUD continues to see a decrease in DART and OSHA recordable injuries which is trending downward to meet our 2025 Target. (See Appendix A).

SMUD Workers' Compensation program is assessed annually by an independent actuary. SMUD continues to have a reduction in indemnity benefits (rates per \$100 payroll) over the past five years as presented below.

Fiscal Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
No. of Claims (Medical & Indemnity)	89	59	54	46	63
Incident rate per 100 employees	2.3	2.4	2.2	1.8	2
Rates per \$100 payroll	.94	.85	.67	.58	.50

Contractor Safety

SMUD continues to use ISN to evaluate safety records and performance for high-risk contractors. This evaluation focuses on Contractor Fatality History, OSHA Citation History, DART and Total Recordable Incident Rates (TRIR), Insurance Experience Ratio, Safety Culture Questions, and Safety Program Review. Currently SMUD has **146** contractors in the ISN system.

This year we have increased the number of site safety evaluations for high-risk contractors to validate safety performance on the jobsites. Safety completed **424** site safety visits in 2024 and exceeded our 2024 goal of 250 evaluations. These visits focus on SMUD contractors who work with Power Generation, Line, Substation, Facilities, Vegetation Management and Environmental Services on projects where high-risk work is performed. This work includes high voltage work, working at heights, vegetation management, confined spaces, excavations, etc. Additionally, we have fully integrated the use of the Safety Management System (SMS) system for inspections, incident tracking, reporting and investigations of SMUD contractors. This allows SMUD to verify safe working practices by our contractors to reduce the potential for serious injuries or property damage. Contractor reported incidents require an investigation to be completed and typically will warrant additional site safety visits to verify corrective measures have been put into place to reduce further occurrences.

The Contractor Safety Team is now using the ISN safety training qualifications tool. This tool will allow a more efficient method of verifying Contractor Employee qualifications. This tool allows SMUD to verify individual Contractor Employee qualifications and assures appropriate competence for the high hazard work. An example of this would be the SMUD Specific Vegetation Safety Orientation that will allow SMUD to communicate safe work practice expectations to our contractors through the ISN platform. The Contractor Safety Team also partnered with the Vegetation Management Team for the 2024 Contractor Safety Day. This event is an effective way to reach and set expectations for our Vegetation Contractor employees doing high risk work.

In addition, SMUD Procurement and Safety have partnered to enhance contract language as it relates to contractor safety requirements, Request for Proposal (RFP) templates for high-risk work and incorporating contractor safety as part of the onboarding process. The Contractor Safety Team is currently working closely with Procurement on the RFP Reviews for high stake Contracts such as the Folsom Administrative Office Building, Substation Builds, Vegetation Management Line Clearance, Line Pole Replacement, and Cable Replacement RFPs.

Public and Community Safety

Public Safety Statistics

SMUD tracks public and community incidents in the Safety Incident Tracking System (SITS) involving car-pole, electrical contacts, dig-in incidents, and injuries to the public that are related to SMUD's operations or facilities. The following statistics are reported for the 2nd half 2024:

- There have been 119 incidents where the public struck a SMUD asset with a vehicle, with one fatality from such events.
- Five electrical contact incidents were reported with one fatality and two reported injuries. These injury claims are currently pending further investigation.
- There have been 37 dig-in incidents reported with no injuries. In response to these dig-ins, SMUD's public safety team has sent out 5 notification letters to contractors and customers responsible for the dig-in occurrence as a proactive effort to provide further awareness and education on best practices to avoid future occurrences. This is a new practice that was started to support this program.

Public Safety Events

SMUD's Safety team and the Downtown Network department worked with Sacramento City Fire Department (SFD) to support a three-day awareness training to teach first responders about the equipment characteristics and enclosed space areas of our manholes and vaults. This training included fire department leadership, safety leadership, and Network leadership teams discussing response techniques, equipment specifics, and SMUD's expectations when working near the equipment during an emergency.

New Public Safety Initiatives

The public safety team has partnered with Culver Communications to upgrade the smudsafety.com website geared toward third-party contractors, agricultural workers, and educators. The site functionality and aesthetics have been improved. Also, additional language options have been added to the smudsafety.com website in order to represent the diverse community SMUD continues to serve.

SMUD's Marketing department and public safety team have partnered together to build out a campaign in support of public safety and workplace safety. This new campaign initiative involves building awareness on preventing obstructions near SMUD's infrastructure. The broad campaign was developed based upon the labor requests from the Joint Labor Management Safety Committee (JLMSC). The campaign message will be delivered to the general public in several formats, including social media, Connections Newsletters, and bill inserts in the remainder of 2024.

3. Additional Supporting Information

The new SD-6 Safety Direction became effective April 2021. Our goal is to achieve the desired performance objectives by year-end 2025. This report summarizes the second half of the 2024 safety performance.

Safety Leadership

The Safety Team continues with its integration efforts to support Executive Leadership's 5-year plan that emphasizes zero incidents and injuries and a focus on a zero-accident safety culture. SMUD's Executive Leadership team continue to emphasize our Safety priority with all personnel, contractors and in the public. We continue to grow our Safety for Life culture by reducing the risk of serious injuries and fatalities, targeting messages to staff on topics beyond work related risks, and looking for new way to maintain engagement. These goals are outlined in SMUD's Safety Road Map that will be updated in February 2025.

Safety Management System (SMS)

During 2024, optimization of Benchmark Gensuite, SMUD's SMS continued. Artificial Intelligence (AI) functionalities within SMS were explored and are currently being piloted in the ergo evaluation application. Supervisor employee interactions were a targeted focus with office personnel. Forms were updated and new forms created to insure that frequently performed tasks are being observed during these interactions. A new incident type and log was created in the Incident & Measurements application to meet the new OSHA regulation on Workplace Violence. Enhancements to the ACE Forms, Concern Report and ATS application have been implemented to better align with SMUD's processes and Core Competencies. Electronic tailboards continue to be enhanced with human performance (HP) being utilized in the process. New projects and process improvements continue to evolve with increased utilization and visibility among the workforces.

Safety Standards Development

The Safety Team is actively engaged in updating SMUD's Health & Safety Standards to support the organization's World Class Safety initiatives. The Core Standards Team has adopted a streamlined review routing process utilizing SharePoint. This approach has reduced the amount of time required from review to final signature. Additionally, the Standards Team is piloting using AI for standards reference regulatory updates, and procedural alignment.

Supervisor-Employee Interactions

The Safety Team achieved significant progress in strengthening the quality and impact of the Supervisor-Employee Interaction Program by streamlining and integrating inspections into the SMS. A targeted focus was placed on high-hazard field operations, prioritizing proactive engagement during field visits to address safety concerns, processes, procedures, and equipment. Team members conducted comprehensive safety visits with various crews across SMUD, providing tailored guidance and support to improve workplace safety practices. For office personnel, the program emphasized identifying and mitigating ergonomic risks and slip, trip, and fall hazards in walking areas. Additionally, hybrid and remote employees received focused attention to address ergonomic challenges and safety risks in home office environments, such as workstation setups, proper posture, and minimizing potential hazards like electrical safety or clutter-related trip risks. This ensured that safety improvements extended across all work environments, whether on-site, hybrid, or remote. To support business units and leaders, the Safety Team continues to facilitate Q&A sessions, offering clear guidance on navigating SMS ACE forms and leveraging data-mining reports to monitor progress effectively. Safety staff attended department leadership meetings to provide leaders with step-by-step tutorials, set actionable safety targets, and ensure thorough discussions on the SMS Supervisor-Employee Interactions process. This concerted effort led to the completion of a **5,900 Supervisor-Employee Interactions**, achieving **135% of the interaction target**. This accomplishment underscores the team's dedication to fostering a robust safety culture, improving communication, and driving meaningful engagement across all levels of the organization, regardless of work location.

Near Miss and Positive Observation/Good Catch Reporting

Leadership continues to support and encourage near miss and positive observation/good catch reporting. The goal of this process is to identify opportunities for learning, prior to an incident occurring. One hundred and thirty-six near miss and positive observation/good catch reports have been reported and recorded in the SMS in 2024. Ninety-eight have been recorded using the Concern Reporting application and 38 in Incident & Measurements application.

4. Challenges

Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (WMSDs)

The SMUD Safety Team has made significant strides in partnering with business units to reduce workplace musculoskeletal disorders (WMSDs) and soft tissue injuries. In alignment with SMUD's hybrid work environment, the Safety Team continues to deliver comprehensive ergonomic evaluations tailored to meet the diverse needs of the workforce, whether in the office, field, or home offices for remote workers. These evaluations are conducted on-site, virtually, and in the field to ensure inclusive and adaptable safety practices. To further enhance the Ergonomics Program, the Safety Team is actively consulting with ergonomic experts and vendors to explore innovative tools, technology, and equipment that can mitigate ergonomic risks. A Request for Proposal (RFP) has been initiated to identify and engage service providers specializing in soft tissue injury reduction programs and solutions. This effort includes a focus on advanced technologies such as AI-powered assessment tools and data collection systems, particularly through the forward momentum of the Gensuite AI tool integrated into the SMS. The Field Ergonomics Committee has been instrumental in conducting detailed ergonomic assessments with substation crews, field metering teams, and hazmat operations. These assessments aim to identify opportunities for improvement, recommend solutions, and support the implementation of ergonomically optimized tools and techniques. A key initiative has been the collaborative partnership between Safety and Substation leadership to launch a pilot strength and physical conditioning program for Substation Apprentices. This program, developed in consultation with ergonomic experts, has yielded favorable results, highlighting its potential to reduce soft tissue injuries and improve physical readiness. Additionally, field visits have increased to identify and assess tools, equipment, and technology that can further enhance ergonomic safety. These visits allow the team to gain firsthand insights into the specific challenges faced by crews and provide immediate recommendations for ergonomic improvements. These combined efforts reflect the SMUD Safety Team's commitment to fostering a proactive safety culture, leveraging advanced technology, and ensuring the workforce is equipped to work safely and efficiently in every environment. The initiatives underscore the organization's dedication to reducing injuries, promoting well-being, and driving continuous improvement across all operational areas.

5. Recommendation

SMUD is committed to becoming a recognized leader in safety. Both SMUD's leadership team and employees recognize that to achieve success we must integrate safety into all that we do. It is recommended that the Board accept the Monitoring Report for SD-6.

6. Appendices - World Class Safety Program Improvements & Supporting Information

Safety for Life

Safety and Environmental Day was held at Safety Center's Safetyville in October, 2024 and welcomed all SMUD employees and their families. It was Harvest themed with haystacks and plenty of decorations; kids were encouraged to dress up. Some of the events included pedestrian safety, bicycle safety, and a CPR class along with multiple vendors and SMUD booths like CalTrans, SCORCH, Fleet Feet, Environmental team, Sac Metro Fire, and much more!

Sparky's Crew continues to get families involved in safety by sending safety postcards and quarterly newsletters to SMUD children enrolled.

Our Safety for Life communications continue. This year we have placed emphasis on doing "About Me's" for the SMUD Safety team so employees can get to know all of the Safety Team members.

Driver Safety

In 2024 Safety hosted 11 driving rodeos for four separate teams: Line, Facilities, Energy Specialist, and the Meter Shop. The preventable vehicle accident review team continues to review SMUD's PVAs regularly, looking for trending data, which is used during the rodeos, to have discussions with the employees, and during safety meetings, to prevent further PVA's. Safe driving behaviors are being emphasized in vehicle reports that are provided to directors, managers, and key contacts for participating business units. The reports capture speeding data as well as seat belt use. Leaders are able to use this information in their interactions to reinforce safe driving behaviors and help mitigate unsafe driving behaviors. Modifications to the report continue to be made based on feedback from leaders and their business unit.

SMITH training continues to be provided to new hires, as well as existing employees due for a refresher, continuing to elevate their driving performance. This is performed by both internal trainers and SMITH corporate instructors. The Safety team also trained additional leadership under ED&O to perform driving-based SCORCH observations on their staff, adding value and focus to their observations.

Highly visible banners with safe driving messages were deployed in the ECOC Yard, while opportunities for HQ Campus and Fresh Pond continue to be evaluated. Digital messaging with the same content is on rotating display on the monitors in the ECOC buildings. This campaign offers simple, straightforward reminders of key safe driving behaviors while employees are at their vehicle, or on their way to it. Messaging in regular safety meetings has been tailored to target specific trends observed in internal accident data. Meanwhile, the Fleet department continues to install our recently refreshed safe driving decals on the driver's window in Fleet vehicles. This adds an additional layer of safety messaging right before the driver gets behind the wheel.

Workplace Violence

The Safety team continues to partner with PS&S, Security and the PMO staff to refresh the Workplace Violence Prevention Plan (WVPP) to meet new SB-553 and Cal/OSHA requirements. A few significant changes include:

- Workplace Violence Specialist (working title), which is supported by Security, People, Services, & Strategies (PS&S) and Safety.
- Incorporated in SMUD's Safety Management System a Violence Incident Log

- Learning & Development created LMS training to build awareness throughout the organization.

COVID-19 Support

The safety of our employees is of utmost importance, so we continue to perform contact tracing and ensure employees report SMUD COVID-19 cases. As they are reported, a dedicated team ensures that state requirements are followed. Our third-party vendor Axiom Medical continues to provide staff with illness leave guidance. Our process continues to be followed and has prevented large outbreaks or work stoppages to critical areas of operations. As we approach the sunset of the Cal-OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard on February 3rd, 2025, the reporting of COVID cases at SMUD has dropped dramatically in the last quarter of 2024.

Wildfire Smoke

There was a review and update of the Wildfire Smoke Training to ensure field crew members received information on how to access resources, should a Wildfire Smoke event occur. The training was delivered to all field crew personnel in 2024. Examples of resources available to SMUD employees are the use of the Purple Air monitoring system, in cab vehicle HEPA air filters, PPE, and work scheduling. No wildfire smoke events occurred within SMUD territory in 2024.

Fire Retardant Clothing

All employees who work on or around energized equipment are allotted a yearly fire retardant (FR) clothing allowance to ensure they are adequately protected. SMUD works with an FR Vendor to ensure employees have access to clothing which meets the Arc Flash requirements of SMUD equipment and the latest FR material technologies to improve their level of comfort in various types of weather conditions (i.e., storms, cold, rain, or heat). Safety works with the FR Vendor and a sample of affected SMUD employees to host an annual review to show the latest offerings from the top FR Clothing manufacturers; this review occurred in November 2024. New electrical trades employees will receive FR Clothing training by a Safety Representative and ensure they are added to the FR Clothing portal and are apprised of the proper care and maintenance of their clothing.

Joint Labor Management Safety Committees

Hydro JLMSC – Communications and preparations are being made to ensure support of the upcoming Cal OSHA Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) recertification audit. Safety Risk Assessments (SRAs) have been assigned to teams regarding confined space entries in Scroll cases, Draft tubes and Intake structures. Emergency Drills committee to start planning exercises for 2025. Self-retrieval kits for vehicles fitted with winches have been received and distributed.

Line Assets JLMSC – A variety of safety improvements are in progress or already completed through the Line Assets JLMSC. Key improvements to highlight are: 1) Distribution of communication plans to customers regarding the importance of maintaining clear access to SMUD equipment on customer properties for both customer reliability and safety of our employees. 2) Helicopter Communication device is currently being built to assist employees performing work in remote locations. 3) Non-FR Raingear was updated to provide additional sizes as well as SMUD branding to accommodate employees of different sizes and increase employee safety by making it clear they are SMUD employees. 4) A new model of hydro-vac trailer was tested and selected for use which is quieter and much better ergonomically compared to other models.

Substation JLMSC – A Substation emergency response procedure was established and implemented. Tabletop and on-site exercises were conducted with both the work group personnel and the Emergency Preparedness Team to verify validity of this procedure and process.

The Substation Emergency Response Information Boxes at the Bulk Substations have recently been added as a checklist item to the Bulk Substation Quarterly Housekeeping Inspection form within the Inspection Tool app in SMS to ensure that the box remains, and its contents are maintained. Contents include a QR code to access the SDS app within SMS, the Emergency Response Procedure, and the Hazardous Materials Business Plan (see Appendix B).

These quarterly housekeeping inspections also serve as a safety inspection to identify unsafe working conditions in the workplace and non-compliant items. When these conditions or items are found they are documented within the Action Tracking System in SMS and assigned to the proper areas and persons of responsibility for correction.

Current Initiatives and sub committees include the Substation Arc Flash subcommittee which recently completed its objectives to identify hazards of equipment, establish future or updated standards for 480/240-volt cabinets, inspections & operations, and removing or isolating equipment. The Network Grounding subcommittee intends to finalize Network Grounding procedures for both Network and 21kV Downtown Underground. Their current initiative is to form a cross – functional committee. The Substation workgroup also has a current subcommittee for Human Performance Indicators and Improvements (HPI); they intend to identify and implement at least 2 HPI metrics for our world class safety scorecard, help employees understand what HP is and how it can improve safety and reduce errors and to reinforce the knowledge and usage of HP tools so that they become commonplace in the daily work environment.

Current Near misses and Safety Alerts are shared at the beginning of the Quarterly JLMSC meetings to remain current on conditions, incidents, or accidents and possibly discuss solutions.

Safely Conducted Observations Reduce Common Hazards (SCORCH) Observation Engagement & Behavior Trends

Throughout the second half of 2024, a total of 2,687 employees were observed under the **Office & Professional** process. Safety awareness campaigns related to **Hips/Legs/Feet Posture** as the top at-risk behavior were implemented to positively influence employee ownership to a change in behavior. Based on observation feedback comments, employee exposure was tied to incorrect seat pan depth, and prolonged sustained/awkward postures. (Note: Risk Reduction Reminders for maintaining a two to three fingers gap of space from the back of the knees and the front edge of the chair to reduce pressure and maintain good blood flow circulation was provided. Highlighted the enabled behaviors of being mindful of frequency and duration when sitting with legs crossed or with a single leg tucked under the body and the health benefits of regular use of sit to stand desk feature.)

Awareness campaigns were also used to reinforce the applied awareness for **Head/Neck Posture and Wrist Posture** our top observed safe behaviors. Employees did a great job keeping the head and a neutral posture with ears over shoulders. Their awareness for avoiding awkward postures of looking downward (chin to chest), looking upward (chin to sky), or craning

of the neck to one side or the other. Feedback comments related to increased awareness for movement and more frequent micro brakes are a few of the effective ways employees are displaying ergonomic awareness.

A total of 1,678 field employees under the **CFAS-Field and Electrical Trades** process, were observed over the second half of 2024. Observation feedback displayed the consistency in which **Hand Protection** was worn, making it the top observed safe behavior for CFAS. Observation feedback highlighted the consistency in which employees took steps for minimizing exposure by wearing the proper type of glove per task, and the importance of proactively testing and making sure gloves are free of holes and tears. ET's employees showed their commitment to minimizing exposures by consistently wearing a **Hard Hat**, making the top observed safe behavior. The ability to minimize the severity of injury from a strike to the head by routinely wearing the hard hat is a behavior employees see life-impacting value in.

The opportunity for improvement was related to the top at-risk behaviors of **Tailboard and Back Posture (non-lifting related)**. Employees displayed a low perception of risk for ensuring all employees were “cut in” on the scope of work/task prior to start of task or when work conditions changed. Risk Reduction Reminders highlighted the value of performing a Tailboard and taking steps to ensure everyone goes home safely by seeking alignment of roles and responsibilities in completing all tasks, combined with proactive conversations for identifying and discussing potential safety concerns at any time on the work site, not just at the start. To elevate awareness for good Back Posture when performing job task, SCORCH emphasized how beneficial maintaining a healthy back is to a good work life and personal quality of life. Avoiding sustained awkward postures of the back, combined with daily stretching are steps every employee was encouraged to implement to reduce potential soft-tissue related injury.

SCORCH Behavior Influencing Highlights:

- **Internal/Safety for Life Engagement** – SCORCH continues to keep employees engaged in the identification of safe and at-risk behaviors through the completion of monthly/quarterly safety observations. The SCORCH photo contest is used to display SMUD's cultural commitment to Safety for Life and behavior-based safety as a lifestyle choice that intentionally engages family and friends. This proves to be a highly effective way for SMUD employees to showcase the variety of activities or hobbies they are engaged in. It also creates a format for having conversations about safety in the at-home and at-play areas of life. Activity trends, observed/marked behaviors and comment feedback will be used to create seasonal opportunities of engagement and “Best Practice” shares to further expand our influencing reach. SCORCH used the Safety and Environmental day event as an opportunity to demonstrate how behavior awareness and fun can go together. One of its engagement activities is centered around certifying employee's kids as at-home safety observers. It prompts observing a family member performing an at-play or at-home task and identifying if it is being performed in a safe or at-risk fashion. Home observation cards are provided, allowing SCORCH to again expand its influencing ability to incorporate the entire family, and possibly the next generation of SMUD employees.
- **External Engagement** – SCORCH with its 23 years of behavior influencing success was asked to present and provide its behavior-based best practice shares at multiple safety events. This encompassed presentations at the National Safety Council (NSC) Western Occupational Safety & Health network meeting, California Utilities Roundtable, Safety in Action Conference (DEKRA), American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)

and the Region IX Voluntary Protection Program Participants Association (VPPPA), Safety Summit. Presentations highlight the creative ways in which behavior awareness can expand beyond the workplace and easily inserted into employees at-home and at-play environments. This displays SMUD's cultural commitment to Safety for Life and behavior-based safety as a lifestyle choice that intentionally engages family and friends.

Confined Space Rescue

In the latter half of 2024, the Safety team updated the safety training material for confined space entry and confined space rescue topics. As part of this, new confined space rescue tools were tested for compatibility with SMUD's field operations. From this testing, we were able to deploy two new solutions to the field and incorporate them to our training materials. Both solutions increase flexibility for field crews while reducing the complexity of entry and rescue operations. Efforts will continue in 2025 to provide better more focused training for the work groups involved.

Heat Illness

SMUD continues to identify heat as one of the main hazards our employees face during the hot summer months. SMUD continues to train field-based employees each year on the signs/symptoms of heat illness, appropriate measures to reduce the potential for heat illness, as well as how to respond appropriately in the event of a heat-related emergency. SMUD's Tool Room continues to offer a variety of solutions to combat working in the heat, including: water, ice, coolers, electrolyte supplements for water, portable shade structures, and shade visors for hard hats.

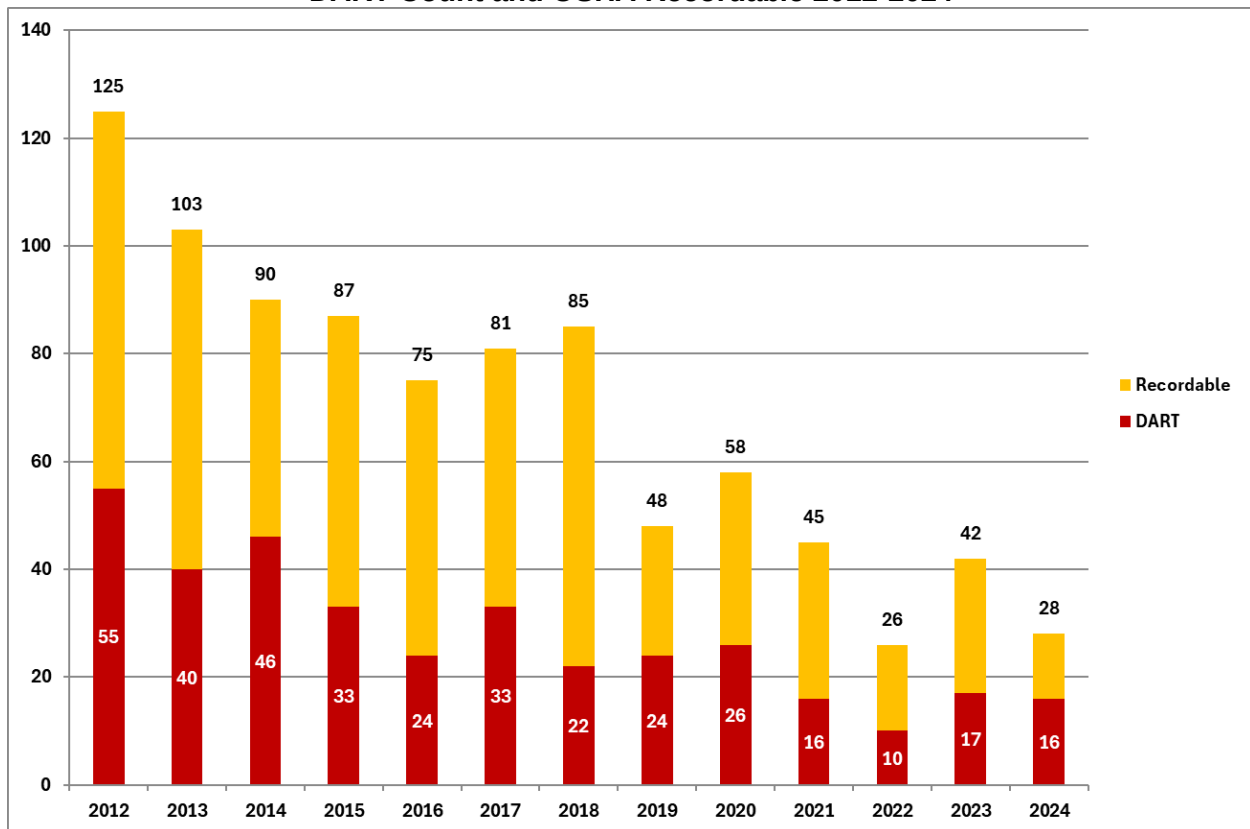
The Network/Underground work group purchased and deployed an additional cooling trailer unit that can be used to provide both confined space ventilation as well as cooling of the air inside hot underground facilities during summer months. This reduces potential heat stress to the employees and allows for a safer work environment.

Medical Monitoring

The Safety team has continued to migrate services to new vendors. The Safety team worked with foreman, supervisors, and managers to ensure that all required employees were in the appropriate Medical Monitoring Program(s). SMUD took over the task of organizing, coordinating and scheduling employees for their medical exams. There were 2 onsite "pop-up clinics" for our medical surveillance vendor at the ECOC, 2 Hearing Exam events at Fresh Pond, 2 Hearing Exam events at ECOC and 1 Hearing Exam event at Headquarters. There are approximately 230 employees that participated in the Medical Monitoring Program. Safety will continue to ensure all employees are current on their medical monitoring.

Appendix A

DART Count and OSHA Recordable 2012-2024



Appendix B

Hazardous Materials Business Plan



RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-03

WHEREAS, the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager filed with this Board the **Chief Executive Officer and General Manager's Report and Recommendation (CEO & GM Report) on Rates and Services (Volumes 1 and 2)** dated March 20, 2025, and the **CEO & GM Report on Open Access Transmission Tariff (Volume 1)** dated March 20, 2025; and

WHEREAS, section 14403 of the Public Utilities Code requires that within ninety (90) days after the **CEO & GM Report** is filed, this Board shall hold a public hearing on said **CEO & GM Report**; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

A public hearing date of June 4, 2025, is hereby scheduled to consider the **Chief Executive Officer and General Manager's Report and Recommendation (CEO & GM Report) on Rates and Services (Volumes 1 and 2)** dated March 20, 2025, and the **CEO & GM Report on Open Access Transmission Tariff (Volume 1)** dated March 20, 2025.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR TAMAYO				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-04

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 23-05-04, adopted on May 18, 2023, this Board authorized the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to award Contract No. 4600001745 with **AECOM Technical Services, Inc.**, Contract No. 4600001746 with **Ascent Environmental, Inc.**, Contract No. 4600001747 with **Environmental Science Associates**, and Contract No. 4600001748 with **GEI Consultants, Inc.** (collectively, the **Contracts**) for environmental and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) support services for a term of three years from June 1, 2023, to May 31, 2026, with one optional two-year extension for a total aggregate contract not-to-exceed amount of \$10,000,000; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 increased the aggregate not-to-exceed amount for the **Contracts** by the allowed contingency amount of \$1,000,000 to \$11,000,000; and

WHEREAS, additional funds are required because more sensitive cultural and Tribal cultural resources than expected were encountered on one of the projects, resulting in staff needing additional resources including heavier reliance on consultants for extensive data recovery efforts, processing, and other related, unforeseen tasks beyond what was contemplated for the aggregate not-to-exceed amounts for the original Contracts; and

WHEREAS, increasing the aggregate not-to-exceed amount for the **Contracts** and extending the **Contracts** term will provide continuity of support through 2028 for critical 2030 Zero Carbon Plan projects while also continuing to support operations, maintenance, and safety and reliability projects through May 31, 2028; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:

Section 1. That this Board hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, to execute Contract Change No. 2 to Contract No. 4600001745 with **AECOM Technical Services, Inc.**, Contract No. 4600001746 with **Ascent Environmental, Inc.**, Contract No. 4600001747

with **Environmental Science Associates**, and Contract No. 4600001748 with **GEI Consultants, Inc.** (collectively, the **Contracts**) for environmental and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) support services to increase the aggregate contract not-to-exceed amount by \$5,000,000, from \$11,000,000 to \$16,000,000, and to extend the expiration date of the **Contracts** by two years to May 31, 2028.

Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the **Contracts** that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the **Contracts**; (b) are intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) do not exceed the authorized **Contracts** amounts and applicable contingencies.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR TAMAYO				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-05

WHEREAS, the **Folsom Administrative Operations Building Project (Project)** would replace the existing administrative operations facility at the SMUD Headquarters campus and contribute to SMUD's goals for ensuring electrical service reliability and will provide safe and reliable electrical service to existing and proposed development in SMUD territory; and

WHEREAS, **Request for Qualifications No. Doc4380221278 (RFQ)** was issued in January 2024 to technically qualify design build entities (DBEs) for a subsequent Request for Proposals for design build services for the **Project**; and

WHEREAS, SMUD received eight proposals in response to the **RFQ** and qualified three DBEs to participate in the subsequent Request for Proposals; and

WHEREAS, **Request for Proposals No. Doc4541410560 (RFP)** was issued in June 2024 to solicit for qualified DBEs to provide design build services for the **Project**; and

WHEREAS, three proposals were received in response to the **RFP** and evaluated in accordance with the advertised criteria taking a best value approach and found to be responsive; and

WHEREAS, SMUD initiated negotiations with the top ranked proposer, **Hensel Phelps Construction Co. (Hensel Phelps)**; and

WHEREAS, in August 2024, SMUD issued a Notice of Intent to Award for *Phase I* services for a NTE value of \$8,408,162; and

WHEREAS, in September 2024, SMUD entered into a non-standard professional services contract with **Hensel Phelps** solely for validation services for the **Project** in an amount not to exceed \$1,642,845 (**Hensel Professional Services Contract**) to ensure that the criteria were accurate and tailored to SMUD's goals for the **Project** while awaiting completion of procurement and regulatory requirements; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 to the **Hensel Professional Services Contract** extended the term to February 28, 2025, and increased funds

by \$1,346,547, from \$1,642,845 to \$2,989,392 (36% of the costs associated with *Phase I*), for extended validation services; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 2 to the **Hensel Professional Services Contract** extended the term to March 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 25-02-08, adopted on February 20, 2025, this Board adopted the **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND)** for the **Project**, adopted the **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**, and approved the **Project**; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorizing the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to negotiate and award a contract to **Hensel Phelps** to perform *Phase I* pre-construction services and authorize procurement of equipment with long lead times, including emergency generators and main switchboards, for the **Project** for a not-to-exceed amount of \$13,068,600 (consisting of \$5,418,770 for *Phase I* pre-construction services and \$7,649,830 for equipment procurement); **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. As a result of such examination, **Hensel Phelps Construction Co. (Hensel Phelps)** is hereby determined and declared to be the highest evaluated proposer to provide design build services for the **Folsom Administrative Operations Building Project (Project)**.

Section 2. That this Board hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, to negotiate and award a contract to **Hensel Phelps** to perform *Phase I* pre-construction services and equipment procurement for the **Project** in an amount not to exceed \$13,068,600.

Section 3. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the contract that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the

contract; (b) are intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) do not exceed the authorized contract amounts and applicable contingencies.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR TAMAYO				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-06

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 20-01-04, adopted on January 16, 2020, this Board authorized the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to award Contract No. 4600001348 with **The Okonite Company (Okonite Contract)**, Contract No. 4600001349 with **Frase Enterprises, Inc. (Frase Contract)**, Contract No. 4600001350 with **Southwire Company, LLC (Southwire Contract)**, and Contract No. 4600001351 with **Anixter, Inc. (Anixter Contract)** (collectively, the **Contracts**) to provide medium voltage, secondary, overhead, underground, and other miscellaneous wire and cable for a contract term of seven years from approximately January 30, 2020, through January 29, 2027, for an aggregate contract not-to-exceed amount of \$55,000,000; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 to the **Okonite Contract** added paper insulated lead sheath (PILC) cable to the contract; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 to the **Frase Contract** increased the base unit price by five percent; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 to the **Southwire Contract** increased the base unit price by five percent; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 2 to the **Frase Contract** increased the base unit price by 11 percent; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 2 to the **Southwire Contract** increased the base unit price by five percent; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 3 to the **Frase Contract** was a novation from **Frase Enterprises, Inc.** to **Kortick Manufacturing, LLC**, whereby the **Frase Contract** was closed and replaced by Contract No. 4600001771 with **Kortick Manufacturing, LLC (Kortick Contract)**; and

WHEREAS, additional funds are needed for anticipated SMUD demand for ethylene propylene rubber (EPR) cable through September 30, 2030, and the revised rates proposed align with market escalation trends and expert cost models and benchmarking; and

WHEREAS, increasing the aggregate not-to-exceed amount and extending the term for the **Contracts** to September 30, 2030, will provide cost surety and ensure continuity of necessary work; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. That this Board hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, to increase the aggregate contract not-to-exceed amount for medium voltage, secondary, overhead, underground, and other miscellaneous wire and cable by \$85,400,000, from \$55,000,000 to \$140,400,000, for Contract No. 4600001348 with **The Okonite Company**, Contract No. 4600001771 with **Kortick Manufacturing, LLC**, Contract No. 4600001350 with **Southwire Company, LLC**, and Contract No. 4600001351 with **Anixter, Inc.** (collectively, the **Contracts**), and to extend the **Contracts** to September 30, 2030.

Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the **Contracts** that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the **Contracts**; (b) are intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) do not exceed the authorized **Contracts** amounts and applicable contingencies.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR TAMAYO				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-07

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 13-10-12, adopted on October 17, 2013, this Board authorized the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to award Contract No. 4500083213 with **KUBRA America West, Inc.** for SMUD's bill presentment and payment solutions in the amount of \$16,679,210, for a five-year period with an option to extend annually in one-year increments for a total term not to exceed 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the original contract commenced upon go-live on September 12, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 amended the Scope of Services of the contract; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 2 amended the Scope of Services and updated the Fee Schedule of the contract; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 3 extended the contract expiration date to September 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 4 extended the contract expiration date to September 13, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 5 modified the Terms and Conditions of the contract to replace the Partial Exclusive Agreement provision with a Non-Exclusive Agreement provision; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 6 extended the contract expiration date to September 13, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 7 extended the contract expiration date to September 13, 2024, amended the contract scope, and added a fee schedule for 2023-2024; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 8 extended the contract expiration date to December 31, 2025, and increased the contract by the allowed contingency amount of \$1,667,921 to \$18,347,131; and

WHEREAS, increasing the contract amount and extending the contract term will ensure continuity and minimize disruption of bill payment and

presentment services during two major technology transitions; **NOW,**
THEREFORE,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. That this Board hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, to execute Contract Change No. 9 to Contract No. 4500083213 with **KUBRA America West, Inc.** for SMUD's bill presentment and payment solutions to extend the contract expiration date by five years from December 31, 2025, to December 31, 2030, and to increase the contract amount by \$10 million, from \$18,347,131 to \$28,347,131.

Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the contract that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the contract; (b) are intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) do not exceed the authorized contract amount and applicable contingencies.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR TAMAYO				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

President Fishman then addressed Discussion Calendar Item 3, to approve Board member compensation for service rendered at the request of the Board (pursuant to Resolution No. 23-06-02) for the period of February 16, 2025, through March 15, 2025.

Director Rose stated he needed to pull an item from his compensation sheet for the period February 16-28, 2025. He stated the item labeled as "Sacramento Hydrogen Workshop" was an excellent event but should not have been included on the compensation sheet, and he requested to make that amendment.

No public comment was forthcoming for Discussion Calendar Item 3.

There being no discussion, Director Rose moved for approval of Discussion Calendar Item 3, Director Kerth seconded, and Resolution No. 25-03-08 was approved by a vote of 6-0, with Director Herber absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-08

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

That this Board hereby approves Board member compensation for service rendered at the request of the Board (pursuant to Resolution No. 23.06-02) for the period of February 16, 2025, through March 15, 2025.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR ROSE				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR KERTH				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

President Fishman then turned to Discussion Calendar Item 12, to certify the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project (Project) Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR), including adoption of the Findings; adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Project; and approve the Project.

Emily Bacchini, Interim Director of Environmental, Safety & Real Estate Services, gave a presentation regarding Discussion Calendar Item 12. A copy of the slides used in her presentation is attached to these minutes.

No public comment was forthcoming for Discussion Calendar Item 12.

There being no discussion, Director Kerth moved for approval of Discussion Calendar Item 12, Director Sanborn seconded, and Resolution No. 25-03-09 was approved by a vote of 6-0, with Director Herber absent.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-03-09

WHEREAS, this Board has adopted policies stating this Board is committed to meeting customers' electrical energy needs (SD-4); demonstrating energy reliability and environmental leadership (SD-7); and ensuring high levels of customer satisfaction (SD-5); and

WHEREAS, SMUD's primary purpose is to supply electrical energy to customers in the Sacramento area; and

WHEREAS, the **Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project (Project)** was prepared to demolish existing on-site structures and construct new infrastructure to support up to five 40 megavolt amperes (MVA) 115/21 kilovolt (kV) transformers for a total of up to 200 MVA, including up to eight miles of overhead and underground 115 kV and 21 kV connections into the substation from nearby existing SMUD facilities and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the **Project** would be located on a 10.3-acre site at 1220 North B Street in a developed area of downtown Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, the **Project** site is bordered by North B Street to the north, North 14th Street to the east, Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks to the south, and North 12th Street to the west and is relatively flat and sparsely vegetated with a limited number of trees along the southern perimeter; and

WHEREAS, a **Notice of Preparation** was made available for public review from February 22, 2023, to March 27, 2023, and a public meeting was held on March 9, 2023, that was attended by no members of the public; and

WHEREAS, SMUD prepared the draft **Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**, which provides the **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)** analysis for the **Project**, and the **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program** incorporated environmental avoidance, mitigation and improvement measures; and

WHEREAS, the **EIR** and **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program** were posted on the SMUD website, distributed to approximately 500 interested parties including agencies and the public, inviting public comment; the comment period was open for a 45-day period from October 4, 2023, through

November 17, 2023; a public meeting was held on October 24, 2023, that was attended by one member of the public (The Salvation Army); and comment letters were received from Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality District (SMAQMD), the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and The Salvation Army; and

WHEREAS, prior to completing the **Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)**, additional **Project** details were added to the **Project** description including an additional 40 MVA 115/21 kV transformer and up to one additional mile of underground 115 kV and 21 kV connections into the substation; and

WHEREAS, an updated **Notice of Availability and Recirculated Draft EIR** that included the updated **Project** description was released on November 18, 2024, for a 45-day public comment period ending on January 6, 2025; a public meeting was held on December 11, 2024, that was attended by a member of the River District Improvement District and a member of the Alkali/Mansion Flats Historic Neighborhood Association; and no comment letters were received during the comment period; and

WHEREAS, the **Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)** included mitigation measures for air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards and hazardous materials, noise, and Tribal cultural resources to reduce impacts to a less-than-significant level and concluded the **Project** would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts; and

WHEREAS, all comments received during the public review period have been responded to as appropriate and incorporated into the **FEIR** and **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**, which was made available for comments on March 10, 2025, and will require certification by the SMUD Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the **FEIR** and **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program** are located in the records of SMUD under the custody of the Environmental Management Department; **NOW THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. This Board has reviewed and considered information in the **Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project (Project) Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)** and **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program** and (1) adopts the **Findings** as set forth in **Attachment C**; (2) certifies that the **Project FEIR** complies with the **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**; (3) adopts the **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**, as set forth in **Attachment D**; and (4) approves the **Project**.

Section 2. This Board, exercising its independent judgment, finds, on the basis of the **Project FEIR** and **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program**, and comments received during the public review period that there is no substantial evidence that the **Project** will have a significant effect on the environment.

Section 3. The Environmental Services Department is directed to file with the County Clerk of Sacramento County a Notice of Determination, which shall set forth the information required by **CEQA**.

Approved: March 20, 2025

INTRODUCED: DIRECTOR KERTH				
SECONDED: DIRECTOR SANBORN				
DIRECTOR	AYE	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
FISHMAN	X			
ROSE	X			
BUI-THOMPSON	X			
HERBER				X
KERTH	X			
TAMAYO	X			
SANBORN	X			

**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT FINDINGS
IN CONNECTION WITH**

Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project

**SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT, STATION J BULK TRANSMISSION
SUBSTATION PROJECT**

I. Introduction

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) is lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for purposes of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project, hereafter the Project. CEQA prohibits an agency from approving or carrying out a project for which significant effects have been identified, unless the agency can make one or more of a set of three findings set forth in Public Resources Code (PRC) section 21081, subdivision (a):

(1) Changes or alterations have been required in, or incorporated into, the project which mitigate or avoid the significant effects on the environment.

(2) Those changes or alterations are within the responsibility and jurisdiction of another public agency and have been, or can and should be, adopted by that other agency.

(3) Specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other considerations, including considerations for the provision of employment opportunities for highly trained workers, make infeasible the mitigation measures or alternatives identified in the environmental impact report. (See also California Code of Regulations [CCR] Title 14, section 15091.)

When significant effects are subject to a finding under paragraph (3) of subdivision (a), it means that a significant and unavoidable environmental impact would result from project implementation. If this occurs, the public agency must find that specific overriding economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits of the project outweigh the significant effects on the environment, if the agency approves the project. (PRC section 21081, subd.(b).)

CEQA requires public agencies to prepare a program for monitoring or reporting on the revisions which it requires in the project and the measures it has imposed to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects. (CCR Title 14, section 15097, subd. (a).)

Under PRC section 21002.1, subdivision (d), when issuing an approval for an aspect of a project for which a lead agency has performed CEQA review, a responsible agency considers only the aspects of the project that the agency is required by law to carry out or approve. SMUD therefore provides the following CEQA findings and mitigation monitoring and reporting plan (MMRP) (Attachment 1) that concern potentially significant impacts to resources identified by the lead agency as part of the CEQA review and in fulfillment of CCR Title 14, section 15097, subd. (a).

II. CEQA Compliance

SMUD, as the lead agency pursuant to CEQA, has prepared a Draft and Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the proposed Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project (Project). The SMUD Board of Directors (Board) hereby issues these Findings and concurrently certifies the EIR.

The Final EIR has been assigned State Clearinghouse Number 2023020549. The Final EIR consists of both the Draft EIR, as amended through the Final EIR, and an MMRP. The Final EIR assesses the potential environmental effects of implementation of the Project, identifies the means to eliminate or reduce potentially significant adverse environmental impacts, and evaluates a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project. The Final EIR explains Project updates and includes an MMRP that outlines the substance and timing of mitigation measures required for the Project.

Pursuant to PRC section 21081 and CCR Title 14, section 15090, the Board hereby certifies that it completed the following activities prior taking action related to activities/phases evaluated under the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project EIR: the Board has received the Final EIR; the Board has reviewed and considered the information contained in the Final EIR and received through public comments; and the Board has considered all additional written and oral statements received prior to or at its public hearing on the Final EIR. The Board additionally certifies that the Final EIR was completed in compliance with CEQA (PRC section 21000 et seq.), the CEQA Guidelines (CCR Title 14, section 15000 et seq.), and SMUD's policies and procedures for the implementation of CEQA and that the Final EIR reflects SMUD's independent judgment and analysis. The conclusions presented in these Findings are based on the Final EIR and other evidence in the administrative record.

The findings set forth below pertain to the certification of the EIR for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project.

Findings

Having received, reviewed, and considered the Final EIR and all other information in the administrative record, the Board hereby adopts the following Findings for the Station J

Bulk Transmission Substation Project EIR in compliance with CEQA, the CEQA Guidelines, and SMUD's procedures for implementing CEQA. The Board adopts these Findings in conjunction with its approval of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project EIR, as set forth below.

a. Project Description and Background

Project Background

The project site has historically been used for a variety of commercial and industrial uses. In the early 1960s, the northwestern portion of the project site transitioned from residential to commercial (tire storage and repair facility) and the northeastern portion of the project site was developed with a commercial produce cold storage and distribution warehouse and office building. The southern portion of the project site was historically owned by Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR). UPRR used a portion of their property for bunk houses (presumably for UPRR workers) and leased a portion to an oil reprocessing and distribution company (Purity Oil). In the 1990s, the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) used the former UPRR property for temporary housing and recreation. SHRA structures were demolished in 2001. The Purity Oil portion of the project site was subject to remedial activities under the oversight of the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and received a no further action determination by the DTSC in 2008.

Most recently, the project site was owned by C&J Warehouse LLC and operated by General Produce for commercial produce cold storage and distribution. Portions of the existing buildings at the site were constructed between 1957 and 1964. The project site is within the City of Sacramento's River District Specific Plan area. The zoning designation of the property is C-4 – SPD, Heavy Commercial – Special Planning District. There is also currently an easement for North A Street that partially bisects the property.

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment and subsequent Phase II Site Investigation were completed in 2021 and 2023, respectively, in preparation for property redevelopment to evaluate areas where past and/or current activities may have chemically impacted soil, soil gas, or groundwater that could be encountered during future construction activities. Based on the age of the buildings at the project site, the potential exists for asbestos containing materials (ACM) and or lead-based paint (LBP) to be present in the structures. The Phase II Site Investigation identified residual levels of lead and petroleum hydrocarbons in soil at the project site. The project would require demolition of all existing on-site structures and excavation of soil may be required prior to construction.

Project Description

The proposed substation site would include demolition of all existing on-site structures and construction of new infrastructure to include sizing for six 40 MVA 115/21kV transformers (240 MVA). The proposed substation would house electrical equipment, including power transformers, gas insulated equipment, switchgear, capacitors, instrument transformers, control and relay equipment, remote monitoring equipment, telecommunications equipment, batteries, steel structures, switches, underground conductor and cable, an electrical bus, and a control building. Station J would include up to six 40 MVA 115/21kV transformers to serve the SMUD network. Each power transformer would contain up to 10,000 gallons of insulating oil. Typically, mineral oil is used in the transformers. Each transformer would have a secondary containment system to collect and hold any oil leaks from the transformer. The maximum average sound level for each transformer would not exceed 80 decibel A-weighting (dBA) measured at a distance of 6 feet around the periphery of the transformer (Note that these measurements are usually made at one-third and at two-thirds height of the transformer tank). The proposed substation site would be surrounded by an 8- to 12-foot-tall concrete masonry unit (CMU) walls to provide visual screening from nearby uses. The 12-foot-tall portion will be installed along the northwest property boundary adjacent to the Salvation Army's Center of Hope homeless shelter.

Initial installation of three 40 MVA transformers is anticipated to occur by 2028. The project would also include up to 9 miles of overhead and underground 115kV and 21kV connections into the substation from nearby existing SMUD facilities and infrastructure. The site also includes space for expansion as future needs are identified.

The new substation would be connected to SMUD's bulk electric system via three new 115kV transmission lines and nine new 21kV distribution lines, described below:

- One of the 115 kV transmission lines would connect to SMUD's Station G downtown substation. This would be an underground transmission line. This line would start at the corner of 7th Street and G Street and route north along 7th Street. The line would then head east along North B Street and enter the Station J from the north side. This line would be encased in a concrete duct bank.
- An underground 21 kV transmission line would parallel the proposed 115 kV line from Station G to Station J. Beginning at the corner of North B Street and 7th Street, a second underground 21 kV transmission line would be installed parallel to the 115 kV line and the other 21 kV line. The second 21 kV line would be installed on the opposite side of North B Street and would also enter Station J at the north side. These lines would be encased in concrete duct banks.
- The other two 115 kV transmission lines would loop in an existing overhead transmission line that currently connects SMUD's Elverta and Station E bulk substations. By looping in the line two new lines would be created. Both lines would be located in a combination of overhead and underground alignments. The

lines would begin at Station E where SMUD would install up to three new steel pole structures to intercept the existing line. From these structure(s) the lines would head west overhead approximately 900 feet to a set of steel riser poles. Pole structures would be approximately 100 feet tall. Concrete foundations for poles are typically nine feet in diameter to a depth of 25 to 30 feet below ground surface (bgs). These poles would be used to transition the line from overhead to underground. The riser poles would be installed just north of Basler Street and North 18th Street. From here the lines would transition to underground duct bank and head south along North 18th Street to Thornton Avenue. On Thornton Avenue the lines would continue underground heading west until reaching North 16th Street. At North 16th Street the lines would head south until reaching North B Street. At North B Street the lines would head west to Ahern Street. At Ahern Street the lines would head south to North A Street and enter the Station J to the west from North A Street. The lines would be encased in a concrete duct bank.

- For the initial installation of three 40 MVA transformers, nine 21 kV distribution lines will be constructed.
 - This includes seven underground lines along North B Street from Station J west to North 7th Street in new underground duct banks. Four underground distribution lines will continue south along North 7th Street to G Street. Three of these lines will then continue west along G Street tying into existing SMUD 21 kV infrastructure located at 7th and G Streets; the fourth line will continue to L Street and Kayak Alley in existing underground infrastructure (no new duct bank excavation). Two of the seven underground distribution lines along North B Street will continue west, stopping at the west side of North 7th Street for future construction. The final or seventh underground distribution line will continue north along North B Street in existing underground infrastructure (no new duct bank excavation) to Richards and North 5th Streets.
 - The eighth 21 kV distribution line will intercept existing overhead distribution via a new riser pole located at the north side of North B Street across from the Station J substation site.
 - The 9th and final 21 kV distribution line will be overhead, rebuilding an existing overhead circuit from a single to double overhead circuit with approximately 20 new replacement poles, running east along North B Street from Station J to North 14th Street, then south to C and D Alley.

The substation would be operated remotely and continuously. The new control building and substation site would remain unoccupied except for periodic weekly visits by SMUD personnel and maintenance employees to conduct routine checks and perform maintenance activities. Maintenance workers and other SMUD employees would

access the site through North B Street or North 14th Street. Maintenance activities would also include annual inspections of duct bank vault structures.

Project construction would include excavations for new connections and installation of new equipment to a depth of 15 to 30 feet bgs; however, piles needed for seismic stability/support could reach a depth of approximately 55 feet bgs or more, pending geotechnical study results. Duct bank trenching would total approximately 13,820 linear feet, including parallel trenches in 7th Street and North B Street, to a depth of up to 6 feet and width of 4 feet.

Construction equipment and materials staging would generally occur within the project site. While offsite staging areas have not yet been identified and would be identified by the contractor based on availability at the time, it is assumed that any offsite staging areas would be within one mile of the project site. During construction, access to the project site would be maintained, with the primary access point for construction equipment, deliveries, and workers located from North B Street or North 14th Street. Temporary roadway lane closures could occur during construction of the underground duct bank and would vary in location and duration based on construction requirements. Additionally, the majority of construction activities would occur during daylight hours; however, there may be a need for evening or nighttime work for specific tasks (such as concrete pours and/or material deliveries) that cannot be performed during the day. Nighttime work would be limited to two consecutive days or less at a time. Project staff will communicate with neighboring facilities when nighttime work would need to occur.

Construction would require an average daily worker population of approximately 20 workers, with approximately 40 workers during peak construction activities associated with on-site demolition, excavation, and heavy equipment deliveries and installations.

b. Absence of Significant New Information

CEQA Guidelines section 15088.5 requires a lead agency to recirculate an EIR for further review and comment when significant new information is added to the EIR after public notice is given of the availability of the draft EIR but before certification. New information includes: (i) changes to the project; (ii) changes in the environmental setting; or (iii) additional data or other information. CEQA Guidelines section 15088.5 further provides that “[n]ew information added to an EIR is not ‘significant’ unless the EIR is changed in a way that deprives the public of a meaningful opportunity to comment upon a substantial adverse environmental effect of the project or a feasible way to mitigate or avoid such an effect (including a feasible project alternative) that the project’s proponents have declined to implement.”

During the public review of the Draft EIR between October 4, 2024, and November 17, 2023, three comment letters were received on the Draft EIR from the Department of Toxic

Substances Control, the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (AQMD), and the Salvation Army. Revisions were made to the Draft EIR at that time to clarify information regarding nearby land uses and distances to sensitive uses, verify the noise and vibration analysis and mitigation measures, make updates to cultural mitigation measures for consistency with separate feedback from tribal representatives as part of the Assembly Bill 52 tribal consultation, and correct minor typographical errors. However, SMUD also made revisions to the project description and revised and recirculated the Draft EIR from November 18, 2024, through January 6, 2025, to address the new project information. One comment letter was received from the AQMD indicating that the AQMD did not have any additional comments. No further comments were received during the public review of the recirculated Draft EIR. No further revisions were made to the recirculated Draft EIR.

Having reviewed the information contained in the Draft and Final EIR, and in the administrative record, including all comments received, as well as the requirements under CEQA Guidelines section 15088.5 and interpretive judicial authority regarding recirculation of draft EIRs, the Board hereby finds that no significant new information was added to the recirculated Draft EIR after the public review period. The Board specifically finds that: no new significant environmental impact would result from the Project or from the implementation of a mitigation measure; no substantial increase in the severity of an environmental impact would result, or if such an increase would result, SMUD has adopted mitigation measures to reduce the impact to a level of insignificance; SMUD has not declined to adopt any feasible Project alternative or mitigation measures considerably different from others previously analyzed that would clearly lessen the environmental impacts of the Project; and the recirculated Draft EIR is not so fundamentally and basically inadequate in nature that it precluded meaningful public review.

Having reviewed the information in the recirculated Draft EIR, Final EIR, and administrative record, the Board finds that no new significant information was added to the EIR following public review, and further recirculation of the EIR is therefore unnecessary and not required by CEQA.

c. Environmental Impacts Summary

As required by CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, the following section summarizes the direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental impacts of the Project identified in the Final EIR and includes the Board's Findings regarding those impacts and any mitigation measures set forth in the Final EIR, adopted by the Board, and incorporated as requirements of the Project. These Findings summarize the determinations of the Final EIR with respect to the Project's impacts before and after mitigation and do not attempt to describe the full analysis of each environmental impact considered in the Final EIR. Instead, the Findings provide a summary of each impact, describe the applicable mitigation measures identified in the Final EIR and adopted by the Board, and state the

Board's Findings regarding the significance of each impact with the adopted mitigation measures. The Final EIR contains a full explanation of each impact, mitigation measure, and the analysis that led SMUD to its conclusions on that impact. These Findings hereby incorporate by reference the discussion and analysis in the Final EIR, which support the Final EIR's determinations regarding the Project's environmental impacts and mitigation measures. In making these Findings, the Board ratifies, adopts, and incorporates by reference the Final EIR's analysis, determinations, and conclusions relating to environmental impacts and mitigation measures. The substantial evidence supporting these findings and conclusions is set forth in the Final EIR and the record of proceedings.

The Board hereby adopts, and incorporates as conditions of approval, the mitigation measures set forth in the findings below to reduce or avoid the potentially significant impacts of the Project. In adopting the mitigation measures described below, the Board intends to adopt each of the mitigation measures recommended in the Final EIR. Accordingly, in the event that a mitigation measure recommended in the Final EIR has been inadvertently omitted from these Findings, that mitigation measure is hereby adopted and incorporated by reference in the Findings. Additionally, in the event that the description of mitigation measures set forth below fails accurately to capture the substance of a given mitigation measure due to a clerical error (as distinct from specific and express modification by the Board through these Findings), the language of the mitigation measure as set forth in the Final EIR shall govern.

1. Significant and Unavoidable Adverse Impacts and Related Mitigation Measures

Pursuant to PRC section 21081(b) and CEQA Guidelines section 15093, where the lead agency identifies significant adverse environmental impacts that cannot feasibly be mitigated to a less-than-significant level, the lead agency may nonetheless approve the project if it finds that specific economic, legal, social, technological, or other benefits of the project outweigh the unavoidable significant environmental impacts.

As detailed in the Draft EIR and Final EIR, there are no significant and unavoidable impacts associated with the Project. Therefore, there are no findings required for significant and unavoidable impacts.

2. Issues for which the Project would have a Less-than-Significant Impact with Project-specific Mitigation Measures Incorporated

Pursuant to PRC section 21081(a)(1) and CEQA Guidelines section 15091(a)(1), the following potentially significant impacts identified in the Final EIR will be reduced to less-than-significant impacts through the implementation of the mitigation measures hereby incorporated into the Project.

Air Quality

Impact 3.2-1: Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

Project construction and operation would not generate emissions in excess of the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) thresholds of significance. However, because the project would generate particulate matter (PM) emissions during construction activities and routine maintenance activities, implementation of best management practices would be required in order to use the SMAQMD non-zero thresholds of significance for PM. Therefore, without implementation of SMAQMD best management practices, project emissions have the potential to conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plans related to PM. Therefore, this impact would be potentially significant.

Mitigation Measure 3.2-1a: SMAQMD Basic Construction Emission Control Practices.

The construction contractor shall include as a condition in the grading, improvement, and demolition plans, the following basic construction emissions control practices (best management practices) to be initiated at the start and maintained throughout the duration of construction.

- Control of fugitive dust as required by SMAQMD Rule 403.
- Water all exposed surfaces two times daily. Exposed surfaces include, but are not limited to soil piles, graded areas, unpaved parking areas, staging areas, and access roads.
- Cover or maintain at least two feet of free board space on haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material on the site. Any haul trucks that would be traveling along freeways or major roadways should be covered.
- Use wet power vacuum street sweepers to remove any visible track out mud or dirt onto adjacent public roads at least once a day. Use of dry powered sweeping is prohibited.
- Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 miles per hour (mph).
- All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used.
- Minimize idling time either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the time of idling to 5 minutes [required by California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d) and 2485]. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site.

- Provide current certificate(s) of compliance for CARB's In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulation [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449 and 2449.1]. For more information contact CARB at 877-593-6677, doors@arb.ca.gov, or www.arb.ca.gov/doors/compliance_cert1.html
- Maintain all construction equipment in proper working condition according to manufacturer's specifications. The equipment must be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition before it is operated.

Mitigation Measure 3.2-1b: SMAQMD PM Operation Best Management Practices

The applicant shall include as a condition of the Transmission Facilities Permit, the following best management practices for fugitive dust control during operational and maintenance activities associated with the project:

- Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 mph.
- Minimize idling time either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the time of idling to 5 minutes [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485]. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site.
- Compliance with anti-idling regulations for diesel powered commercial motor vehicles (greater than 10,000 gross vehicular weight rating). The current requirements include limiting idling time to 5 minutes and installing technologies on the vehicles that support anti-idling. Information can be found on the California Air Resources Board's website:
<https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/ourwork/programs/idle-reduction-technologies/idle-reduction-technologies>.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project would result in the generation of air pollutant emissions during construction and operation that would be potentially significant without implementation of applicable SMAQMD best management practices. Adoption and incorporation of Mitigation Measures 3.2-1a and 3.2-1b into the Project will reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, the Project with mitigation will not cause significant cumulative air quality impacts during construction and operation activities.

Impact 3.2-2. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?

Project construction and operation would not generate emissions in excess of the SMAQMD thresholds of significance; however, the Sacramento Valley Air Basin (SVAB) is in nonattainment with respect to ozone, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5}. Contribution of construction and operation-related emissions from the project would have the potential to be cumulatively considerable without implementation of the SMAQMD's Basic Construction Emission Control Practices and PM Best Management Practices. Therefore, this impact would be potentially significant.

Mitigation Measure 3.2-1a: SMAQMD Basic Construction Emission Control Practices. (described above)

Mitigation Measure 3.2-1b: SMAQMD PM Operation Best Management Practices (described above)

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project would result in the generation of air pollutant emissions during construction and operation that would be potentially significant without implementation of applicable SMAQMD Basic Construction Emission Control Practices and Best Management Practices. Adoption and incorporation of Mitigation Measures 3.2-1a and 3.2-1b into the Project will reduce the impact to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, the Project with mitigation will not cause significant cumulative air quality impacts during construction and operation activities.

Biological Resources

Impact 3.3-1: Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

Project implementation would occur within an area with low potential for valley elderberry longhorn beetle (VELB). The Project could impact this special-status species if present, either directly through construction activities or indirectly through habitat modifications or disturbance adjacent to suitable habitat. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation Measure 3.3-1a: Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle (VELB)

- Elderberry shrubs within 150 feet of the project disturbance area shall be mapped and avoided to the extent possible. Shrubs to be avoided shall be identified and flagged by a qualified biologist.
- A 20-foot minimum avoidance buffer shall be established from the dripline of each avoided shrub. No work shall occur within the buffer area.

- High-visible construction fencing shall be installed along the 20-foot avoidance buffer.
- If feasible, construction activities within 150 feet of an elderberry shrub shall not occur during the VELB flight season (March through July).

Additionally, nesting birds maybe found on or adjacent to the Project site due to the presence of limited vegetation, including mature trees and shrubs. The proposed project has the potential to affect nesting birds through vegetation removal and ground disturbance adjacent to potential nesting sites. If any active nests are present adjacent to construction activities, this could result in nest abandonment by adult birds and mortality of chicks and eggs. Nesting birds are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and California Fish and Game Code. Any loss of fertile eggs, nesting birds, or any activities resulting in nest abandonment would be a violation of these regulations. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation Measure 3.3-1b: Nesting Birds

- A nesting bird survey shall be conducted within the project site (for raptors and non-raptors) and a 500-foot buffer (for raptors only) prior to commencing with earth-moving or construction work if this work would occur during the typical nesting season (between February 1 and August 31).
- If nesting birds are identified during the surveys, a qualified biologist will determine an appropriate disturbance-free buffer zone and clearly demarcate the buffer zone in the field for avoidance by construction activities.
- The size of an established buffer may be altered if a qualified biologist conducts behavioral observations and determines the nesting birds are well acclimated to disturbance. If this occurs, the biologist shall prescribe a modified buffer that allows sufficient room to prevent undue disturbance/harassment to the nesting birds. If the buffer is reduced, the qualified biologist shall remain on site to monitor the behavior of the nesting birds during construction in order to ensure that the reduced buffer does not result in take of eggs or nestlings.
- No construction or earth-moving activity shall occur within the established buffer until it is determined by a qualified biologist that the young have fledged (are no longer dependent on the nest or the adults for feeding) and have attained sufficient flight skills to avoid project construction zones. This typically occurs by August 31. This date may be earlier or later and shall be determined by a qualified biologist. If a qualified biologist is not hired to monitor the nesting raptors, then the full buffer(s) shall be maintained in place

from February 1 through the month of August. The buffer may be removed, and work may proceed as otherwise planned within the buffer on September 1.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could potentially impact special-status species, including VELB and nesting birds. With implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.3-1a and 3.3-1b, potential impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

Impact 3.3-5: Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?

The proposed Station J site contains limited intact vegetation, including mature trees along the site periphery, which would be removed to accommodate the proposed project. Additionally, limited areas of tree trimming and/or removal may be required to facilitate the overhead transmission line interconnection with Station E. Some of the trees planned for removal may meet the definitions of City Trees or private protected trees, as specified in Chapter 12.56 of the Sacramento City Code. The potential loss of these trees due to construction activities would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation Measure 3.3-5: Tree Removal

- To the maximum extent feasible, the project design shall avoid the loss of any protected tree (City or private). SMUD shall retain a certified arborist to survey trees in the project area including potential laydown areas and identify and evaluate trees that will be removed. If the arborist's survey does not identify any protected trees that would be removed or damaged as a result of the proposed project, no further mitigation is necessary.
- If protected trees or their canopy are identified within the affected area, measures shall be taken to avoid impacts on protected trees as detailed in the City's tree ordinance. Protected trees that are lost as a result of the project shall be replaced according to the provisions of the ordinance and in alignment with an approved tree replacement plan (Section 12.56.060). Removed trees will generally require replacement at a 1:1 ratio. Tree replacement shall occur after project construction and will be monitored by a qualified arborist.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could conflict with an existing tree ordinance. The Board finds that implementation of Mitigation Measure 3.3-5 would ensure the proposed project does not conflict with the City of Sacramento Tree Ordinance. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant with mitigation.

Cultural Resources

Impact 3.4-2: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?

Project-related ground-disturbing activities could result in discovery or damage of yet undiscovered archaeological resources as defined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. These activities could damage or destroy previously undiscovered archaeological resources. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation Measure 3.4-2: Halt ground-disturbing activity upon discovery of subsurface archaeological features.

In the event that any pre-contact or historic-era subsurface archaeological features or Tribal Cultural Resources (TCRs) or cultural deposits, including locally darkened soil (“midden”), that could conceal cultural deposits are discovered during construction, all ground-disturbing activity within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and a qualified professional archaeologist and a Tribal Representative from the consulting Tribe shall be retained to assess the significance of the find. If the find is determined to be significant by the qualified archaeologist or Tribal Representative (i.e., because it is determined to constitute either an historical resource, a unique archaeological resource, or a tribal cultural resource), the archaeologist or Tribal Representative shall develop appropriate procedures to protect the integrity of the resource and ensure that no additional resources are affected. Procedures could include, but would not necessarily be limited to, preservation in place (which shall be the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to archaeological sites and TCRs), archival research, subsurface testing, or contiguous block unit excavation and data recovery (when it is the only feasible mitigation, and pursuant to a data recovery plan). If the discovery constitutes a TCR, any data recovery shall be in coordination with Tribes. Curation of resources is not recommended under Tribal protocol and reburial of resources where, or in close proximity to where they were excavated, is preferred.

Note that all archaeologists, Tribal Representatives, and Tribal Monitors shall meet the appropriate level of safety training (e.g., confined spaces, hazardous material exposure, etc.) in compliance with California Division of Occupational Safety and Health State and federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements prior to entering construction work areas.

Impact 3.4-3. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

Project-related ground-disturbing activities could result in disturbance of human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation Measure 3.12-1a: TCRs and Human Remains

Although surface level TCRs, including human remains, have not been identified for this project, Tribal consultation has shown that there is the potential for unidentified sites of cultural significance to be present in subsurface context. The following mitigation measure was provided by the United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) and is intended to address the evaluation and treatment of inadvertent/unanticipated discoveries of potential TCRs, archaeological, or cultural resources during a project's ground-disturbing activities.

If any suspected TCRs or resources of Tribal cultural significance, including but not limited to features, anthropogenic/cultural soils, cultural belongings or objects (artifacts), shell, bone, shaped stones or bone, or ash/charcoal deposits are discovered by any person during construction activities including ground disturbing activities, all work shall pause immediately within 100 feet of the find, or an agreed upon distance based on the project area and nature of the find. Work shall cease in and within the immediate vicinity of the find regardless of whether the construction is being actively monitored by a Tribal Monitor, cultural resources specialist, or professional archaeologist. A Tribal Representative from a California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area shall be immediately notified and shall determine if the find is a TCR (PRC §21074). The Tribal Representative will make recommendations for further evaluation and treatment as necessary.

When avoidance is infeasible, preservation in place is the preferred option for mitigation of TCRs under CEQA, and every effort shall be made to preserve the resources in place, including through project redesign, if feasible. If redesign is determined to not be feasible, SMUD shall continue consultation with Tribes to determine appropriate treatment of the find.

Culturally appropriate treatment may be, but is not limited to, processing materials for reburial, minimizing handling of cultural objects, leaving objects in place within the landscape, or returning objects to a location within the project area where they will not be subject to future impacts. Permanent curation of TCRs will not take place unless approved in writing by the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area.

The contractor shall implement any measures deemed by the CEQA lead agency to be necessary and feasible to preserve in place, avoid, or minimize impacts to the resource, including, but not limited to, facilitating the appropriate tribal

treatment of the find, as necessary. Treatment that preserves or restores the cultural character and integrity of a TCR may include Tribal Monitoring, culturally appropriate recovery of cultural objects and belongings, and reburial of cultural objects and belongings or cultural soil.

The construction contractor(s) shall provide secure, on-site storage for culturally sensitive soils or objects that are components of TCRs that are found or recovered during construction. Only Tribal Representatives shall have access to the storage. Storage size shall be determined by the nature of the TCR and can range from a small lock box to a conex box (shipping container). A secure (locked), fenced area can also provide adequate on-site storage if larger amounts of material must be stored.

The construction contractor(s) and SMUD shall facilitate the respectful reburial of the culturally sensitive soils or objects. This includes providing a reburial location that is consistent with the Tribe's preferences, excavation of the reburial location, and assisting with the reburial, upon request.

Any discoveries shall be documented on a Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 form within 2 weeks of the discovery and submitted to the appropriate CHRIS center in a timely manner.

Work at the TCR discovery location shall not resume until authorization is granted by the Lead Agency in coordination with the culturally affiliated Tribe.

If articulated or disarticulated human remains, or human remains in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness are discovered during construction activities, the Sacramento County Coroner shall be contacted immediately. Upon determination by the Sacramento County Coroner that the find is Native American in origin, the Native American Heritage Commission will assign the Most Likely Descendent who will work with SMUD to define appropriate treatment and disposition of the burials.

Note that all archaeologists, Tribal Representatives, and Tribal Monitors shall meet the appropriate level of safety training (e.g., confined spaces, hazardous material exposure, etc.) in compliance with California Division of Occupational Safety and Health State and federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements prior to entering construction work areas.

Mitigation Measure 3.12-1b: Forensic Canines

In consultation with the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area, SMUD will obtain the service of forensic canines to determine the potential for the presence of human remains following

site demolition of buildings and hardscape surfaces (e.g., foundations and parking areas). If the results are positive an appropriate burial mitigation plan will be developed and implemented in consultation with the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area. Avoidance and preservation in place will be the first option considered where feasible.

Mitigation Measure 3.12-1c: Cultural Resources Awareness Training

A cultural resources awareness respect training program will be provided to all construction personnel active on the project site prior to implementation of earth moving activities. A representative or representatives from culturally affiliated Native American Tribe(s) will be invited to participate in the development and delivery of the cultural resources awareness training program in coordination with a qualified archaeologist meeting the United States Secretary of Interior guidelines for professional archaeologists. The program will include relevant information regarding sensitive Tribal cultural resources, including protocols for resource avoidance, applicable laws regulations, and the consequences of violating them. The program will also underscore the requirement for confidentiality and culturally-appropriate treatment of any find of significance to Native Americans and protocols, consistent, to the extent feasible, with Native American Tribal values.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could damage unknown archaeological resources or human remains. Adoption and incorporation of Mitigation Measure 3.4-2 into the Project would ensure that professionally accepted and legally compliant procedures are implemented for the discovery of previously undocumented significant archaeological resources. Adoption and incorporation of Mitigation Measure 3.12-1a into the Project would ensure the evaluation and treatment of inadvertent/unanticipated discoveries of potential TCRs, archaeological, or cultural resources during a project's ground-disturbing activities. Adoption and incorporation of Mitigation Measure 3.12-1b into the Project would ensure testing to determine the potential for the presence of human remains following site demolition of buildings and hardscape surfaces and development of an appropriate burial mitigation plan if testing is positive for human remains. Adoption of Mitigation Measure 3.12-1c into the Project would ensure that appropriate cultural resources awareness training is provided to all construction personnel prior to any earth moving activities. Implementation of these measures would reduce impacts to archaeological resources, TCRs, and human remains to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, the Project with mitigation will not cause significant impacts to archaeological resources, TCRs, or human remains.

Tribal Cultural Resources

Impact 3.12-1: Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a Tribal cultural resource, including human remains?

No unique archaeological resources or TCRs have been identified on the project site; however, experience demonstrates that previously unidentified resources may well be encountered during ground disturbing activities (i.e., grading and trenching). Because TCRs may exist at the project site and could be affected by the project, this impact would be potentially significant.

Mitigation Measure 3.4-2: Halt ground-disturbing activity upon discovery of subsurface archaeological features or Tribal cultural resources (described above)

Mitigation Measure 3.12-1a: TCRs and Human Remains (described above)

Mitigation Measure 3.12-1b: Forensic Canines (described above)

Mitigation Measure 3.12-1c: Cultural Resources Awareness Training (described above)

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could impact undiscovered TCRs. With implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.4-2, 3.12-1a, 3.12-1b, and 3.12-1c impacts to TCRs would be reduced to a less-than-significant level. Therefore, the Project with mitigation will not cause significant impacts to Tribal cultural resources.

Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources

Impact 3.6-5. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geological feature?

Based on the results of the literature and online database reviews, there are no known paleontological resources within the project site boundaries, and the Holocene-age alluvium at the surface of the site has a low sensitivity for paleontological resources due to its relatively young age. However, the Holocene-age deposits are underlain by high sensitivity Pleistocene-age sedimentary deposits, which have produced significant (i.e., unique) paleontological resources in Sacramento County. Implementation of the Project could impact these resources if encountered during construction. This impact would be potentially significant.

Mitigation Measure 3.6-5: Pre-Construction Training and Resource Evaluation by Qualified Paleontologist

If construction or other project personnel discover any potential fossils during construction, regardless of the depth of work or location, work at the discovery location shall cease in a 50-foot radius of the discovery and SMUD shall be notified. SMUD shall retain a qualified paleontologist to evaluate the resource. If the discovery is identified as potentially significant, additional work, such as recovery, laboratory preparation, fossil identification, curation, and reporting, may be necessary. Recovered paleontological resources should be deposited in an appropriate fossil repository to be determined by SMUD in consultation with the qualified paleontologist.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could impact paleontological resources. Mitigation Measure 3.6-5 would reduce potential impacts related to paleontological resources to a less-than-significant level by implementing measures to train project personnel regarding the potential for discoveries; treat unanticipated paleontological resource discoveries; and identify, treat, and avoid adverse impacts on such resources during construction activities within Pleistocene-age deposits through construction monitoring, fossil recovery, laboratory procedures, and curation.

Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Impact 3.8-1. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

Project construction would involve the transport and disposal of hazardous materials. The project would be required to comply with existing laws and regulations regarding the transportation, use, and disposal of hazardous materials. Compliance with these regulations would reduce the potential for accidental release of hazardous waste during construction, excavation and transport; however, there is still potential to encounter hazardous materials during construction. This impact would be potentially significant.

Mitigation Measure 3.8-1a. Implement a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan

SMUD and its Contractor shall prepare and implement a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan to address contaminant-impacted soil. The Plan shall address the apparent petroleum-impacted soil and groundwater in the vicinity of boring B-4 by further delineating the petroleum-impacts and then excavating and disposing of this soil prior to commencing construction. This activity could be carried out as pre-construction activities or as part of the first construction phase. Excess soil generated at the site shall be properly characterized prior to off-site disposal and disposed of at a waste facility permitted to accept the waste. Based on the

STLC/TCLP results, it is possible that some soil removed during construction activities will require transportation to a California hazardous waste landfill, due to the STLC exceedances and near exceedances. Soils from the Railyards should not be exported to any other sites outside the Railyards for any purpose other than disposal at a regulated facility without prior approval from DTSC. In the unlikely event that groundwater is encountered and dewatering required during project construction, SMUD will adhere to requirements in SWRCB's Water Quality Order 2003-0003-DWQ and, within the Railyards, request approval from DTSC prior to implementation of the groundwater management plan. Water would be collected, tested, and treated prior to discharge, in accordance with all regulatory requirements.

Mitigation Measure 3.8-1b: Manage Accidental Discovery of Hazardous Materials

If contaminated soils or potentially hazardous items are discovered during earth moving activities, all ground-disturbing activities within 25 feet shall be halted until a qualified SMUD employee or SMUD representative can assess the conditions on the site. SMUD will notify the appropriate agency (e.g., SCEMD) to determine next steps for managing the potentially hazardous materials. If it is determined that the hazardous material cannot be re-incorporated into the project site, it shall be hauled by a qualified hauler to an appropriate waste disposal facility.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. With implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.8-1a and 3.8-1b, requiring implementation of a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan and that construction employees stop work in the event that suspicious soils or items are uncovered, the potential exposure risks would be reduced to a less than significant level.

Impact 3.8-2. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

As discussed above under Impact 3.8-1, Project construction has the potential to disturb contaminated soils, requiring proper characterization and disposal. Construction workers may come into contact with contaminated soils and buried fill material, such as debris from former and current site buildings, during demolition and grading activities. This may expose workers to contaminated dust emissions or wastes that contain hazardous constituents, including ACM and LBP. This would be a potentially significant impact.

*Mitigation Measure 3.8-1a: Implement a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan.
(described above)*

*Mitigation Measure 3.8-1b: Manage Accidental Discovery of Hazardous Materials
(described above)*

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could result in hazardous materials impacts. With implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.8-1a and 3.8-1b, requiring implementation of a Soil Management Plan and that construction employees stop work in the event that suspicious soils or items are uncovered, the potential exposure risks would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

Impact 3.8-4. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

The project site is included on multiple lists of hazardous materials sites. The potential to encounter contaminated soils from the previous site activities exists; therefore, this impact is potentially significant.

*Mitigation Measure 3.8-1a: Implement a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan.
(described above)*

*Mitigation Measure 3.8-1b: Manage Accidental Discovery of Hazardous Materials
(described above)*

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could result in hazardous materials impacts. With implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.8-1a and 3.8-1b, requiring implementation of a Soil Management Plan and that construction employees stop work in the event that suspicious soils or items are uncovered, the potential exposure risks would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

Noise

Impact 3.10-1. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

The proposed project would generate temporary and short-term construction noise from equipment operating on the project site, and from the transport of construction equipment, materials, and workers to and from the site. Construction noise would

exceed the established threshold of 5 dB above ambient noise levels. Additionally, project-related construction noise would exceed the applicable threshold of 45 dBA for interior uses at residences closest to the project area. This would be a potentially significant impact.

Mitigation Measure 3.10-1a: Construction Noise Reduction:

The contractor shall ensure that the following measures are implemented during all phases of construction:

- Whenever construction occurs adjacent to occupied residences (on or offsite) temporary barriers shall be constructed around the construction sites to shield the ground floor of the noise sensitive uses. These barriers shall be of ¾-inch Medium Density Overlay (MDO) plywood sheeting, or other material of equivalent utility and appearance, and shall achieve a Sound Transmission Class of STC-30 or greater, based on certified sound transmission loss data taken according to American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM) Test Method E90.
- Construction activities shall comply with the City of Sacramento Noise Ordinance, which limits such activity to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, prohibits nighttime construction, unless authorized by the director of building inspections for a period no greater than three days, and requires the use of exhaust and intake silencers for construction equipment engines.
- Construction equipment staging areas shall be located as far as feasible from residential areas while still serving the needs of construction contractors.
- Activities that generate high noise levels such as pile driving and the use of jackhammers, drills, and impact wrenches, shall be restricted to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
- Small excavators and bulldozers shall be used during the demolition of the existing building within 25 feet of the building on the northwest site boundary, and this activity shall be restricted to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday only.

Mitigation Measure 3.10-1b: Employ Noise-Reducing Construction Measures for Project Construction Truck Traffic

SMUD and its construction contractor(s) will implement the following measures:

- Establish and enforce construction site and haul road speed limits to less than 15 mph.
- Route construction-related truck traffic along roadways that will cause the least disturbance to residents.
- Use high-grade engine exhaust silencers and engine-casing sound insulation.

Mitigation Measure 3.10-2: Employ Vibration-Reducing Construction Measures for Demolition and Construction Adjacent to Impacted Building

- Enhanced Pre-Demolition Survey: Conduct detailed structural assessments using laser scanning or 3D modeling to document potential weaknesses with high precision.
- Advanced Controlled Demolition Techniques: Utilize diamond wire sawing or hydrodemolition to minimize vibrations. Implement a highly controlled, piece-by-piece demolition method.
- Real-Time Vibration Monitoring: Install multiple vibration sensors on the impacted building for real-time monitoring. Set up an alert system for instant notifications if vibrations approach critical levels.
- Enhanced Buffer Zones: Create double-layer buffer zones using heavy-duty materials like thick rubber mats and geofoam barriers. Implement additional protective measures such as temporary walls filled with sound and vibration absorbing materials.
- High Precision Equipment Selection: Use state-of-the-art demolition equipment designed for low vibration output. Ensure machinery operates at optimal performance levels.
- Specialized Operational Modifications: Schedule vibration-intensive activities during periods when the adjacent building is unoccupied, if possible. Employ a staggered approach to demolition activities to distribute the vibration load over time.
- Enhanced Structural Support: Use advanced shoring systems like hydraulic shoring or steel bracing for robust temporary support. Conduct regular inspections of the support systems.
- Advanced Ground Stabilization: Employ deep soil mixing or grouting techniques to stabilize the ground and reduce vibration transmission. Use vibration isolation pads or trenches around the demolition site.
- Comprehensive Communication Plan: Establish a direct line of communication with stakeholders for real-time updates and feedback. Provide

detailed schedules and daily reports on demolition activities and monitoring results.

- **Thorough Post-Demolition Inspection and Remediation:** Conduct a comprehensive post-demolition survey using visual inspections and advanced non-destructive testing methods. Promptly address any issues, including structural repairs or further stabilization measures.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project would result in short-term construction noise impacts. With implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.10-1a and 3.10-b, significant impacts from temporary construction noise and construction traffic would be reduced to less-than-significant levels.

Transportation

Impact 3.11-3. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?

During construction, slow-moving trucks entering and exiting the project site could pose hazards to vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists on 12th Street, A Street, and 16th Street immediately adjacent to the project site. The presence of heavy-duty trucks during project construction could accelerate wear and tear on the local roadways along the haul route. In addition to shortening the life of pavement sections, heavy-duty truck traffic could cause more immediate road damage, such as cracks and potholes. Potential damage to pavement would increase traffic hazards on local roadways. These effects would be potentially significant.

Mitigation Measure 3.11-3a: Protect Bicycle Facilities

SMUD shall prepare site plans showing all required bikeway facilities in compliance with City of Sacramento Standards. The Project entitlements shall be conditioned to provide the required bikeway facilities as part of an improvement plan which includes alternate on-street and separated bikeway facilities that connect to the City's bicycle network. The project applicant shall work with the City to ensure that the proposed bikeway facilities would achieve the intent of the Bikeway Master Plan and meet the City's standards. Modifications to the proposed bikeways shall be made to satisfy the requirements of the City.

Mitigation Measure 3.11-3b: Repair Damaged Roadways and Bike Paths Following Construction

During project construction, signage and flaggers will be deployed at locations where construction trucks cross roadways, pedestrian routes and bikeways, to reduce the potential hazard posed to other drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Details regarding traffic control, including any alternate access routes to existing facilities and timing of control measures, will be further described in a Traffic Control Plan to be submitted for approval by the City of Sacramento. Furthermore, following completion of construction, SMUD will assess and repair any project-related damage to roadways and paved bicycle/pedestrian paths that were affected during construction, including all project-related potholes, fractures, or other damages.

Finding: The Board finds that implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project could substantially increase traffic hazards and result in a significant impact. With implementation of Mitigation Measures 3.11-3a and 3.11-3b, significant impacts due to traffic hazards would be reduced to less-than-significant levels.

d. Alternatives

In compliance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines, Chapter 6, “Alternatives” of the Draft EIR evaluated a reasonable range of alternatives to the Project, including the No Project Alternative, followed by identification of an environmentally superior alternative. For the project, the consideration of alternatives that fulfill CEQA requirements is complicated by a simple factor: the project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts. The significant impacts of the project are highly limited and can be clearly mitigated. Significant impacts have been identified for air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, tribal cultural resources, paleontological resources, hazards and hazardous materials, and transportation.

Although there are no alternatives that could avoid or substantially reduce (unmitigated) significant effects of the project (because none exist), the alternatives evaluated below are presented to satisfy CEQA’s requirement to identify a range of potentially feasible alternatives (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15126.6(a)). The EIR examined each alternative’s feasibility and ability to meet the following Project Objectives:

- Provide safe and reliable electrical service to existing and proposed development in the downtown Sacramento area;
- Meet SMUD’s goals of ensuring electrical service reliability in the downtown Sacramento area by 2030;
- Provide greater operational flexibility between circuits and substations in the area;
- Maximize the use of available SMUD property and resources;

- Minimize impacts to nearby sensitive receptors; and,
- Minimize potential conflicts with existing planning efforts within the City of Sacramento.

Four potential alternatives were found to be clearly infeasible (Alternative Site 1, Alternative Site 2, Overhead Transmission Lines Alternative, and Alternative Underground Routes) and rejected because they would not achieve most of the basic project objectives, SMUD was unable to feasibly acquire the land, or they resulted in greater environmental impacts than the proposed Project as described in Section 6.2.3 of the Draft EIR.

The No Project Alternative (Alternative A) and Alternatives that might have been feasible and that would attain most of the Project Objectives to some extent (Alternative B – Site 4 Substation Location and Alternative C – Transmission Line Routing Option) were carried forward and analyzed with regard to whether they would reduce or avoid significant impacts of the Project.

In connection with certification of the Final EIR for the Project, the Board certifies that it has independently reviewed and considered the information on alternatives provided in the Final EIR and the record of proceedings. The Board finds that no new alternatives have been identified and that the feasibility of the analyzed alternatives has not changed since the Draft EIR was circulated for public review. The Board certifies that it has independently reviewed and considered the information on alternatives provided in the Final EIR and the administrative record, and find, for the reasons set forth below, that each of the following alternatives cannot feasibly attain, either at all or to the same extent as the proposed Project, one or more of the Project Objectives, is otherwise infeasible or fails to avoid or substantially lessen the significant effects of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project.

1. Alternative A (No Project)

Under this alternative, the project site was assessed for potential redevelopment as allowed by the City of Sacramento 2030 General Plan and River District Specific Plan. Under this alternative, SMUD would not be able to provide reliable and safe electrical service to existing and proposed development in the City of Sacramento. Further, environmental impacts are likely to be greater due to the larger development envelope that could feasibly occur on the site pursuant to the General Plan land use designation and zoning.

This alternative would not meet any of the objectives identified above for the Project. Because this alternative would not attain any project objectives and for the reasons set forth above, Alternative A is rejected by the Board from further consideration.

2. Alternative B (Site 4 Substation Location)

Alternative B assumes that an alternative, 5- to 6-acre site owned by Union Pacific Railroad at the corner of North 7th Street and North B Street is developed as the Station J site. This alternative site is located approximately 0.5-mile west of the proposed Station J site. The transmission line alignment for Alternative B would follow a similar path in surface streets (North B Street, North 16th Street, Thornton Avenue, and North 18th Street) before interconnecting with Station E. Alternative B would achieve most of the project objectives; however, it would result in greater hazardous materials impacts due to the site's presence on the Cortese List and potential for impacts to worker health, safety, and the environment due to the contaminants present.

3. Alternative C (Ambassador Drive Alignment)

Alternative C assumes that a slightly modified 115 kV transmission line alignment is implemented to interconnect the current Station J site with Station E (see Figure 6 2). Under this alternative, the Station J site would remain in the currently proposed location. The alternate transmission line alignment would extend from the Station J site east on North A Street, travel north on Ahem Street until McCormack Avenue, then travel east on McCormack Avenue and Dreher Street until North 18th Street, at which point it would align with the proposed alignment and interconnect with Station E.

Alternative C would achieve most of the project objectives; it would result slightly greater construction-related noise impacts but would otherwise remain the same from an environmental impact standpoint as the proposed project.

4. Environmentally Superior Alternative

CCR Section 15126.6 suggests that an EIR should identify the “environmentally superior” alternative. “If the environmentally superior alternative is the ‘no project’ alternative, the EIR shall also identify an environmentally superior alternative among the other alternatives.” As stated above in Section 6.2.2, the consideration of alternatives that fulfill CEQA requirements, in the instance of the project, is complicated by a simple factor: the project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts. The significant impacts of the project - which would be to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, tribal cultural resources, paleontological resources, hazards and hazardous materials, and transportation - can be clearly mitigated.

When considering objectives, the proposed project would best meet the project objectives, as stated in Chapter 2, “Project Description.” The other alternatives assessed would also mostly meet the project objectives. However, Alternative B would result in greater hazardous materials impacts due to its presence on the Cortese List and potential for impacts to worker health, safety, and the environment due to the contaminants

present. Alternative C would result slightly greater construction-related noise impacts but would otherwise remain the same as the proposed project.

Alternative A (No Project) was determined to be the environmentally superior alternative because it would lessen all environmental impacts which would result under the proposed project if not developed. However, the No Project Alternative would not meet most of the project objectives. Consistent with State CEQA Guidelines (CCR Section 15126.6 [e][2]), because the environmentally superior alternative was identified as the No Project Alternative, another environmentally superior alternative shall be identified. Based on the environmental analysis in the EIR, Alternative C would have similar impacts to the proposed project with the exception of slightly increased construction noise impacts, which would be temporary. Therefore, Alternative C would not be environmentally superior as it would not reduce any impacts of the proposed project. Therefore, the environmental impact differences between the Project and Alternative C are not substantial enough that one is clearly superior over the other.

e. Additional Findings

1. These Findings incorporate by reference in their entirety the text of the Final EIR prepared for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project. Without limitation, this incorporation is intended to elaborate on the scope and nature of the Project, related mitigation measures, and the basis for determining the significance of such impacts.
2. All of the environmental effects of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project have been adequately addressed in the Final EIR and have been mitigated or avoided, where feasible.
3. Section 15093(b) of the CEQA Guidelines provides that when the decision of the public agency results in the occurrence of significant impacts that are not avoided or substantially lessened, the agency must state in writing the reasons to support its actions. The Findings adopted by the Board, in connection with its approval of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project and certification of the associated EIR, addressed all of the potentially significant impacts associated with implementation of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project. The EIR concluded that all potentially significant impacts would be adequately mitigated and that the Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts even with the adoption of identified mitigation measures. As a result, the adoption of a Statement of Overriding Considerations for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project is not required.
4. CEQA Guidelines section 15074 requires the Lead Agency approving a Project to adopt an MMRP for changes to the Project that it adopts or makes a condition of Project approval in order to ensure compliance during Project implementation. The Board adopts the MMRP for Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project and the

specific mitigation measures will be monitored in conjunction with SMUD's Final EIR MMRP and Reporting process.

f. Record of Proceedings

For purposes of CEQA and these Findings, the record of proceedings for the Project (Record of Proceedings) consists of the following documents and other evidence, at a minimum:

- The Notice of Preparation (NOP) distributed on February 22, 2023 and comments received during its 30-day public review;
- The EIR for the Project, including, without limitation, the Draft EIR, Final EIR, and all of its appendices;
- All studies, EIRs, maps, rules, regulations, guidelines, permits and other documents and materials incorporated by reference in any portion of the EIR;
- All presentation materials from every noticed public meeting and public hearing for the Project;
- The MMRP for the proposed Project;
- Matters of common knowledge, including but not limited to federal, state and local laws and regulations, including, without limitation, SMUD's adopted CEQA Procedures and other adopted plans, policies and programs;
- Any documents expressly cited in these Findings; and
- All materials not otherwise identified which are expressly required to be in the Record of Proceedings by PRC section 21167.6(e).

g. Custodian and Location of Records

The documents and other materials which constitute the Record of Proceedings are located at SMUD Headquarters. Copies of those documents are and at all relevant times have been and will be available upon request at the Customer Service Center (6300 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95817). The custodian of the Record of Proceedings may be contacted as follows:

Rob Ferrera
Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street, MS B203
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

(916) 732-6676
rob.ferrera@smud.org

This information is provided in compliance with PRC section 21081.6(a)(2) and CEQA Guidelines section 15091(e).

III. Project Benefits

The fundamental purpose of the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project is to provide safe and reliable electrical service to existing and proposed development in the downtown Sacramento area. The Project would not add additional service capacity but would help SMUD reliably meet electric demand, meet SMUD's goals of ensuring the reliability of electrical service in the downtown Sacramento area, facilitate efficient maintenance of underground cables and infrastructure, maximize the use of available SMUD property and resources, minimize impacts to nearby sensitive receptors, and minimize potential conflicts with existing planning efforts within downtown Sacramento.

a. Need for Power in SMUD's Downtown Sacramento Service Area

SMUD generates, transmits, and distributes electric power to a 900-square-mile service area that includes most of Sacramento County and small portions of Placer and Yolo counties. The City of Sacramento estimates that between 2012 and 2035, it is expected to grow by approximately 165,000 residents and 86,000 jobs (City of Sacramento 2014:3-5). As the city continues to grow, SMUD will need to provide electricity for this expanding base of customers. Without the additional transforming capacity that would be provided by the new Station H, SMUD would not be able to fully provide for the electrical needs of this projected growth, which is critical for the continued buildout and development of the surrounding area, and to support the expanding cultural and business needs of the City and its people. As the sole electrical utility in the City, SMUD has a legal obligation to serve this load.

SMUD's existing downtown substations (Station D and Station E) are projected to reach 97 percent of capacity under normal loading conditions by 2024 and could be overloaded by 2025. Station G and Station J will address these deficiencies, bringing much-needed substation capacity to the region.

Future development in the project area will create additional demand for electricity in the area and Station H will be crucial for meeting future demand. Development in the downtown area that could be served by Station J include the California, Department of General Services (DGS) Richards Boulevard Office Complex, a large high-rise development at Richards Boulevard and North 7th Street, which will require at least 10 (mega volt amps) MVA. Also, the new Sacramento County Courthouse high rise at 6th and H Streets, which will require at least 3 MVA. These two new developments are under

construction and expect to be fully operational by 2025 and are the main reasons for the anticipated deficiencies. Other required service needs include new development in the Railyards Specific Plan area, including Railyards Lot 48 and the Railyards Flood Control Pump developments.

b. Electrical Reliability

Responsibility for maintaining safe, reliable, and dependable operation of the electric grid in California is divided among various “balancing authorities,” including SMUD. A balancing authority assumes responsibility for operational and system reliability for electric customers within a specific electrical and geographic area. The Station J Bulk Transmission Substation is a necessary component of SMUD’s future plans for electrical reliability.

c. Environmental Benefits

As discussed in the EIR, the Project would result in potentially significant impacts related to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, Tribal cultural resources, geology and soils (i.e., paleontological resources), hazards and hazardous materials, noise, and transportation. However, as demonstrated in the EIR, each of these impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level with the adoption and implementation of mitigation measures. As a result of these mitigation measures, the Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable environmental impacts.

Finding: The SMUD Board finds the approval of the proposed Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project will result in continuing and enhanced benefits to SMUD customers in form of an important and reliable power transmission system.

IV. Statement of Overriding Considerations

This section of the findings document addresses the requirement in CEQA Guidelines section 15093. It requires the approving agency to balance the benefits of a proposed project against its unavoidable significant impacts and to determine whether the impacts are acceptably overridden by the project benefits. As described previously, the Project would not result in any unavoidable significant impacts. Therefore, a Statement of Overriding Considerations is not required for the Project.

V. Summary

Based on the foregoing findings and the information contained in the record, it is hereby determined that:

1. The Project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts.

2. The environmental impact differences between the Project and Alternative C are not substantial enough that one is clearly superior over the other, particularly as neither would include any significant and unavoidable environmental impacts. Because none of the project alternatives would be environmentally superior to the Project and would also fail to achieve the project objectives, all alternatives are rejected as infeasible.

This determination reflects the Board's independent judgment and analysis.

Sacramento Municipal Utility District Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project

Final Environmental Impact Report • February 2025

State Clearinghouse No. 2023020549

Powering forward. Together.



Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project

Final Environmental Impact Report
State Clearinghouse No. 2023020549

February 2025

Lead Agency:

Sacramento Municipal Utility District
6201 S Street, MS B203
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899
or

P.O. Box 15830
Sacramento, CA 95852-0830
Attn: Rob Ferrera
(916) 732-6676 Rob.Ferrera@smud.org

Prepared by:

AECOM
2020 L Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95811
Contact: Jeff Thomas
Jeff.Thomas@aecom.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1-1
1.1	Public Review and Responses to Comments	1-1
1.2	Organization of the Responses to Comments	1-1
1.3	Comments that Require Responses	1-1
1.4	Project Decision Process	1-2
1.5	Revisions to the Draft EIR.....	1-2
2.0	COMMENTS AND RESPONSES TO COMMENTS	2-1
2.1.1	Comment Letter 1	2-2
2.1.2	Response to Comment Letter 1	2-2
3.0	CORRECTIONS AND REVISIONS TO THE DRAFT EIR.....	3-1
4.0	MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM	4-1
4.1	Mitigation Implementation and Monitoring	4-1
4.2	Mitigation Enforcement	4-2
4.3	Reporting	4-2
4.4	Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table	4-2
5.0	REFERENCES	5-1
5.1	Chapter 1, Introduction	5-1
5.2	Chapter 2, Response to Comments.....	5-1
5.3	Chapter 3, Revisions to the Draft EIR.....	5-1
5.4	Chapter 4, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program	5-1
6.0	LIST OF PREPARERS.....	6-1
6.1	Sacramento Municipal Utility District (Lead Agency).....	6-1
6.2	AECOM (Preparation of EIR).....	6-1
6.3	Other Staff	6-1

Tables

Table 2-1. Comments Received on the Recirculated Draft EIR.....	2-1
---	-----



Appendix

- A Comment Letters Received During the 1st Public Review Period
- B Revised Draft EIR

ACRONYMS AND OTHER ABBREVIATIONS

ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials International
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
City	City of Sacramento
dBA	A-weighted sound levels
Draft EIR	draft environmental impact report
EIR	environmental impact report
Final EIR	final environmental impact report
kV	Kilovolt
MDO	Medium Density Overlay
MMRP	mitigation monitoring and reporting program
mph	miles per hour
MVA	megavolt-amperes
PRC	Public Resources Code
project	Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project
SCEMD	Sacramento County Environmental Management Department
SMAQMD	Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
SMUD	Sacramento Municipal Utility District
STC	Sound Transmission Class
STLC	Soluble threshold limit concentration
TCLP	toxicity characteristic leaching procedure
TCRs	tribal cultural resources
the Board	Sacramento Municipal Utility District's Board of Directors
UAIC	United Auburn Indian Community
VELB	Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR
February 2025

This page intentionally left blank.

1.0 Introduction

On November 18, 2024, the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) released for public review the recirculated draft environmental impact report (Draft EIR) for the proposed Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project (project). The EIR describes the existing conditions of the project site, analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the project, and identifies mitigation measures where necessary and available to avoid or reduce the magnitude of potentially significant impacts of the project. The project would include demolition of existing on-site structures and construction of new infrastructure to support up to six 40 megavolt-amperes (MVA) 115/21 Kilovolt (kV) transformers for a total of up to 240 MVA, including up to 9 miles of overhead and underground 115kV and 21kV connections into the substation from nearby existing SMUD facilities and infrastructure.

1.1 Public Review and Responses to Comments

In accordance with Sections 15087 and 15105 of the State California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the Draft EIR was recirculated for public review and comment to responsible and regulatory agencies, as well as members of the public, for 45 days (November 18, 2024 through January 6, 2025). SMUD also held a public meeting on December 11, 2024 to receive comments on the recirculated Draft EIR. Written comment letters received on the recirculated Draft EIR consisted solely of one letter, which is provided in its entirety in Chapter 2, "Comments and Responses to Comments."

SMUD also received comment letters during the original public review of the Draft EIR (October 4, 2024, through November 17, 2023), which led to some of the text changes reflected in the recirculated Draft EIR. Copies of those comment letters are provided in Appendix A to this Final EIR.

The recirculated Draft EIR, Final EIR, and associated appendices are available for review online at: <https://www.smud.org/en/Corporate/About-us/Reliability/Station-J-substation>

As required by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15088(b), SMUD has provided an electronic copy (through SMUD's website) of responses to comments to each public agency, organization, and individual that submitted written comments on the recirculated Draft EIR at least 10 days prior to certification of the Final EIR.

1.2 Organization of the Responses to Comments

Chapter 2 of the Final EIR consists of the one written comment received on the Recirculated Draft EIR.

1.3 Comments that Require Responses

Section 15088(c) of the State CEQA Guidelines specifies that the focus of the responses to comments shall be on the disposition of significant environmental issues. Responses are not required on comments regarding the merits of the project or on issues not related to the project's environmental impacts. Comments on the merits of the proposed project or other comments that do not raise environmental issues will be reviewed by SMUD's Board of Directors (the Board) before an action is taken on the project. The responses address

environmental issues and indicate where issues raised are not environmental or address the merits of the project. In the latter instance, no further response is provided.

1.4 Project Decision Process

This document and the recirculated Draft EIR together constitute the Final EIR, which will be considered by the Board before a decision on whether to approve the project. If the Board decides to approve the project, it must first certify that the Final EIR was completed in compliance with CEQA's requirements, was reviewed and considered by the Board, and reflects the Board's independent judgment and analysis, as required by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15090. The Board would then be required to adopt findings of fact on the disposition of each significant environmental impact, as required by State CEQA Guidelines Section 15091. This EIR does not identify any significant and unavoidable impacts (those that cannot be mitigated to a less-than-significant level) that would result from the project; therefore, a statement of overriding considerations, pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15093, is not warranted. A Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, which is required by CEQA Guidelines Section 15091(d), has been included as Chapter 3 of this Final EIR.

1.5 Revisions to the Draft EIR

As discussed in Section 1.1, "Public Review and Response to Comments," above, CEQA requires recirculation of an EIR when the lead agency adds "significant new information" to an EIR, regarding changes to the project description or the environmental setting, after public notice is given of the availability of a draft EIR for public review under State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 15087, but before EIR certification (State CEQA Guidelines CCR Section 15088.5[a]). Recirculation is not required unless the EIR is changed in a way that would deprive the public of the opportunity to comment on significant new information, including a new significant impact in which no feasible mitigation is available to fully mitigate the impact (thus resulting in a significant and unavoidable impact), a substantial increase in the severity of a disclosed environmental impact, or development of a new feasible alternative or mitigation measures that would clearly lessen environmental impacts but that the project proponent declines to adopt (State CEQA Guidelines CCR Section 15088.5[a]). Recirculation is not required when the new information added to the EIR merely clarifies or amplifies the existing discussion or makes insignificant modifications in an adequate EIR (State CEQA Guidelines CCR Section 15088.5[b]).

No revisions to the recirculated Draft EIR were made following the public review period. Therefore, recirculation of the EIR is not required.

2.0 Comments and Responses to Comments

This section of the Final EIR contains comment letters received during the public review period for the recirculated Draft EIR. In conformance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15088(a), written responses to comments on environmental issues received from reviewers of the recirculated Draft EIR were prepared, including both written and oral comments.

Table 2-1 identifies a number for each comment letter received, the author of the comment letter, and the date of the comment letter. Each comment letter is included in its entirety for decision maker consideration before each response.

Table 2-1. Comments Received on the Recirculated Draft EIR

Letter #	Commenter	Date
1	Roberto Ramirez, Air Quality Planner/Analyst, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District	January 2, 2025

2.1.1 Comment Letter 1

From: [Roberto Ramirez](#)
To: [Rob Ferrera](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] No Comment - Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project
Date: Thursday, January 2, 2025 12:32:48 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-xbp3n1ud.png](#)
[Outlook-l0acwxzu.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of SMUD. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Rob,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to review the Recirculated Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project. We have no comments at this time.

Thank you,

Roberto Ramirez

Air Quality Planner/Analyst

ISA Certified Arborist #WE-14276A

Transportation & Climate Change

Desk: (916) 704-4552

www.AirQuality.org

 [@AQMD](#)



2.1.2 Response to Comment Letter 1

Comment noted. SMUD thanks Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District for taking the time to review the recirculated Draft EIR for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project.

3.0 Corrections and Revisions to the Draft EIR

No corrections or specific text changes have been made to the Draft EIR since its publication and public review. Text deletions that are shown in strikethrough (~~strikethrough~~), and text additions that are shown in underline (underline) represent the Draft EIR at the time of recirculation.

4.0 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

This mitigation monitoring and reporting program (MMRP) summarizes the mitigation measures, implementation schedule, and responsible parties for monitoring the mitigation measures required of the proposed Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project, as set forth in the EIR prepared for the project.

Section 21081.6 of the California Public Resources Code and Section 15091(d) and Section 15097 of the State CEQA Guidelines require public agencies “to adopt a reporting or monitoring program for changes to the project which it has adopted or made conditions of project approval to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment.” An MMRP is required for the project because the EIR for the project identified potentially significant adverse impacts related to construction and operation of the project, and mitigation measures have been identified to reduce these impacts to a less-than-significant-level.

This MMRP will be adopted by SMUD if it approves the project and will be kept on file at SMUD’s Customer Service Center at 6301 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95817. SMUD will use this MMRP to ensure that identified mitigation measures, adopted as a condition of project approval, are implemented appropriately.

4.1 Mitigation Implementation and Monitoring

SMUD will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of mitigation measures designed to minimize impacts associated with the project. While SMUD has ultimate responsibility for ensuring implementation, others may be assigned the responsibility of actually implementing the mitigation. SMUD will retain the primary responsibility for ensuring that the project meets the requirements of this MMRP and other permit conditions imposed by participating regulatory agencies.

SMUD will designate specific personnel who will be responsible for monitoring implementation of the mitigation that will occur during project construction. The designated personnel will be responsible for submitting documentation and reports to SMUD on a schedule consistent with the mitigation measure and in a manner necessary for demonstrating compliance with mitigation requirements. SMUD will ensure that the designated personnel have authority to require implementation of mitigation requirements and will be capable of terminating project construction activities found to be inconsistent with mitigation objectives or project approval conditions.

SMUD and its appointed contractor will also be responsible for ensuring that its construction personnel understand their responsibilities for adhering to the performance requirements of the mitigation plan and other contractual requirements related to the implementation of mitigation as part of project construction. In addition to the prescribed mitigation measures, Table 3-1 lists each identified environmental resource being affected (in the same order and using the same numbering system as in the EIR), the associated CEQA checklist question (used as the thresholds of significance in the EIR), the corresponding monitoring and reporting requirement, the party responsible for ensuring implementation of the mitigation measure and monitoring effort, and the project component to which the mitigation measure applies. If an issue addressed in the EIR does not result in mitigation, it is not included in the table.

4.2 Mitigation Enforcement

SMUD will be responsible for enforcing mitigation measures. If alternative measures are identified that would be equally effective in mitigating the identified impacts, implementation of these alternative measures will not occur until agreed upon by SMUD.

4.3 Reporting

SMUD shall, or may require the contractor to, prepare a monitoring report upon completion of the project describing the compliance of the activity with the required mitigation measures. Information regarding inspections and other requirements shall be compiled and explained in the report. The report shall be designed to simply and clearly identify whether mitigation measures have been adequately implemented consistent with the MMRP requirements. At a minimum, each report shall identify the mitigation measures or conditions to be monitored for implementation, whether compliance with the mitigation measures or conditions has occurred, the procedures used to assess compliance, and whether further action is required. The report shall be presented to SMUD's Board of Directors.

4.4 Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program Table

The categories identified in the attached MMRP table are described below.

- **Impact** – This column provides the verbatim text of the impact statement included in the EIR.
- **Mitigation Measure** – This column provides the verbatim text of the adopted mitigation measure.
- **Implementation Duration** – This column identifies when the mitigation measure shall be implemented (e.g., prior to construction, during construction, prior to occupancy, etc.).
- **Monitoring Duration** – This column identifies the period within which monitoring shall be conducted.
- **Responsibility** – This column identifies the party(ies) responsible for implementation and/or enforcing compliance with the requirements of the mitigation measure.

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
Impact 3.2-1. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	Mitigation Measure 3.2-1a: SMAQMD Basic Construction Emission Control Practices The construction contractor shall include as a condition in the grading, improvement, and demolition plans, the following basic construction emissions control practices (best management practices) to be initiated at the start and maintained throughout the duration of construction. • Control of fugitive dust as required by SMAQMD Rule 403. • Water all exposed surfaces two times daily. Exposed surfaces include, but are not limited to soil piles, graded areas, unpaved parking areas, staging areas, and access roads. • Cover or maintain at least two feet of free board space on haul trucks transporting soil, sand, or other loose material on the site. Any haul trucks that would be traveling along freeways or major roadways should be covered. • Use wet power vacuum street sweepers to remove any visible track out mud or dirt onto adjacent public roads at least once a day. Use of dry powered sweeping is prohibited. • Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 miles per hour (mph). • All roadways, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots to be paved should be completed as soon as possible. In addition, building pads should be laid as soon as possible after grading unless seeding or soil binders are used. • Minimize idling time either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the time of idling to 5 minutes [required by California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d) and 2485]. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site. • Provide current certificate(s) of compliance for CARB's In-Use Off-Road Diesel-Fueled Fleets Regulation [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449 and 2449.1]. For more information contact CARB at 877-593-6677, doors@arb.ca.gov, or www.arb.ca.gov/doors/compliance_cert1.html	During construction	During construction	Contractor	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	Maintain all construction equipment in proper working condition according to manufacturer's specifications. The equipment must be checked by a certified mechanic and determined to be running in proper condition before it is operated.				
	Mitigation Measure 3.2-1b: SMAQMD PM Operational Best Management Practices The applicant shall include as a condition of the Transmission Facilities Permit, the following best management practices for fugitive dust control during operational and maintenance activities associated with the project: - Limit vehicle speeds on unpaved roads to 15 mph. - Minimize idling time either by shutting equipment off when not in use or reducing the time of idling to 5 minutes [California Code of Regulations, Title 13, sections 2449(d)(3) and 2485]. Provide clear signage that posts this requirement for workers at the entrances to the site. - Compliance with anti-idling regulations for diesel powered commercial motor vehicles (greater than 10,000 gross vehicular weight rating). The current requirements include limiting idling time to 5 minutes and installing technologies on the vehicles that support anti-idling. Information can be found on the California Air Resources Board's website: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/ourwork/programs/idle-reduction-technologies/idle-reduction-technologies.	During construction	During construction	Contractor	SMUD
Impact 3.2-2. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	Mitigation Measure 3.2-1a: SMAQMD Basic Construction Emission Control Practices (see above) Mitigation Measure 3.2-1b: SMAQMD PM Best Management Practices (see above)	During construction	During construction	Contractor	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
Impact 3.3-1. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	Mitigation Measure 3.3-1a: Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle - Elderberry shrubs within 150 feet of the project disturbance area shall be mapped and avoided to the extent possible. Shrubs to be avoided shall be identified and flagged by a qualified biologist. - A 20-foot minimum avoidance buffer shall be established from the dripline of each avoided shrub. No work shall occur within the buffer area. - High-visibility construction fencing shall be installed along the 20-foot avoidance buffer. - If feasible, construction activities within 150 feet of an elderberry shrub shall not occur during the VELB flight season (March through July).	Elderberry shrubs to be identified and mapped, and avoidance buffers established, by a qualified biologist prior to construction. Buffers to be maintained during construction by the Contractor.	During construction	Qualified Biologist, Contractor	SMUD
	Mitigation Measure 3.3-1b: Nesting Birds - A nesting bird survey shall be conducted within the project site (for raptors and non-raptors) and a 500-foot buffer (for raptors only) prior to commencing with earth-moving or construction work if this work would occur during the typical nesting season (between February 1 and August 31). - If nesting birds are identified during the surveys, a qualified biologist will determine an appropriate disturbance-free buffer zone and clearly demarcate the buffer zone in the field for avoidance by construction activities. - The size of an established buffer may be altered if a qualified biologist conducts behavioral observations and determines the nesting birds are well acclimated to disturbance. If this occurs, the biologist shall prescribe a modified buffer that allows sufficient room to prevent undue disturbance/harassment to the nesting birds. If the buffer is reduced, the qualified biologist shall remain on site to monitor the behavior of the nesting birds during construction in order to ensure that the reduced buffer does not result in take of eggs or nestlings. - No construction or earth-moving activity shall occur within the established buffer until it is determined by a qualified biologist that the young have fledged (are no longer dependent on the	Surveys to be conducted by a qualified biologist prior to construction occurring in the typical nesting season. Buffers to be maintained during construction by the Contractor.	During construction in the typical nesting season	Qualified Biologist, Contractor	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	nest or the adults for feeding) and have attained sufficient flight skills to avoid project construction zones. This typically occurs by August 31. This date may be earlier or later and shall be determined by a qualified biologist. If a qualified biologist is not hired to monitor the nesting raptors, then the full buffer(s) shall be maintained in place from February 1 through the month of August. The buffer may be removed, and work may proceed as otherwise planned within the buffer on September 1.				
Impact 3.3-5. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	Mitigation Measure 3.3-5: Tree Removal - To the maximum extent feasible, the project design shall avoid the loss of any protected tree (City or private). SMUD shall retain a certified arborist to survey trees in the project area including potential laydown areas and identify and evaluate trees that will be removed. If the arborist's survey does not identify any protected trees that would be removed or damaged as a result of the proposed project, no further mitigation is necessary. - If protected trees or their canopy are identified within the affected area, measures shall be taken to avoid impacts on protected trees as detailed in the City's tree ordinance. Protected trees that are lost as a result of the project shall be replaced according to the provisions of the ordinance and in alignment with an approved tree replacement plan (Section 12.56.060). Removed trees will generally require replacement at a 1:1 ratio. Tree replacement shall occur after project construction and will be monitored by a certified arborist.	Tree surveys to be conducted by a certified arborist before construction. Tree replacement to occur after project construction for any removed trees.	Post-construction in accordance with City's tree ordinance requirements	SMUD, Certified Arborist	SMUD, Certified Arborist
Impact 3.4-2. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	Mitigation Measure 3.4-2: Halt ground-disturbing activity upon discovery of subsurface archaeological features or Tribal cultural resources In the event that any pre-contact or historic-era subsurface archaeological features or Tribal cultural resources (TCRs) or cultural deposits, including locally darkened soil ("midden"), that could conceal cultural deposits are discovered during construction, all ground-disturbing activity within 100 feet of the resources shall be halted and a qualified professional archaeologist and a Tribal Representative from the consulting Tribe shall be retained to assess the significance of the find. If the find is determined to be	During construction	During construction	SMUD, Contractor, Qualified Archaeologist	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	significant by the qualified archaeologist or Tribal Representative (i.e., because it is determined to constitute either an historical resource, a unique archaeological resource, or a tribal cultural resource), the archaeologist or Tribal Representative shall develop appropriate procedures to protect the integrity of the resource and ensure that no additional resources are affected. Procedures could include, but would not necessarily be limited to, preservation in place (which shall be the preferred manner of mitigating impacts to archaeological sites and TCRs), archival research, subsurface testing, or contiguous block unit excavation and data recovery (when it is the only feasible mitigation, and pursuant to a data recovery plan). If the discovery constitutes a TCR, any data recovery shall be in coordination with Tribes. Curation of resources is not recommended under Tribal protocol and reburial of resources where, or in close proximity to where they were excavated, is preferred. Note that all archaeologists, Tribal Representatives, and Tribal Monitors shall meet the appropriate level of safety training (e.g., confined spaces, hazardous material exposure, etc.) in compliance with California Division of Occupational Safety and Health State and federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements prior to entering construction work areas.				
Impact 3.4-2. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	Mitigation Measure 3.12-1a: TCRs and Human Remains Although surface level TCRs, including human remains, have not been identified for this project, Tribal consultation has shown that there is the potential for unidentified sites of cultural significance to be present in the subsurface context. The following mitigation measure was provided by UAIC and is intended to address the evaluation and treatment of inadvertent/unanticipated discoveries of potential TCRs, archaeological, or cultural resources during a project's ground-disturbing activities. If any suspected TCRs or resources of Tribal cultural significance, including but not limited to features, anthropogenic/cultural soils, cultural belongings or objects (artifacts), shell, bone, shaped stones or bone, or ash/charcoal deposits are discovered by any	During construction	During construction	SMUD to complete any required consultation with Tribal representatives. Contractor to implement protective treatment measures.	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	person during construction activities including ground disturbing activities, all work shall pause immediately within 100 feet of the find, or an agreed upon distance based on the project area and nature of the find. Work shall cease in and within the immediate vicinity of the find regardless of whether the construction is being actively monitored by a Tribal Monitor, cultural resources specialist, or professional archaeologist. A Tribal Representative from a California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area shall be immediately notified and shall determine if the find is a TCR (PRC §21074). The Tribal Representative will make recommendations for further evaluation and treatment as necessary. When avoidance is infeasible, preservation in place is the preferred option for mitigation of TCRs under CEQA, and every effort shall be made to preserve the resources in place, including through project redesign, if feasible. If redesign is determined to not be feasible, SMUD shall continue consultation with Tribes to determine appropriate treatment of the find. Culturally appropriate treatment may be, but is not limited to, processing materials for reburial, minimizing handling of cultural objects, leaving objects in place within the landscape, or returning objects to a location within the project area where they will not be subject to future impacts. Permanent curation of TCRs will not take place unless approved in writing by the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area. The contractor shall implement any measures deemed by the CEQA lead agency to be necessary and feasible to preserve in place, avoid, or minimize impacts to the resource, including, but not limited to, facilitating the appropriate tribal treatment of the find, as necessary. Treatment that preserves or restores the cultural character and integrity of a TCR may include Tribal Monitoring, culturally appropriate recovery of cultural objects and belongings, and reburial of cultural objects and belongings or cultural soil. The construction contractor(s) shall provide secure, on-site storage for culturally sensitive soils or objects that are components of TCRs that are found or recovered during construction. Only Tribal Representatives shall have access to the storage. Storage size				

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	shall be determined by the nature of the TCR and can range from a small lock box to a conex box (shipping container). A secure (locked), fenced area can also provide adequate on-site storage if larger amounts of material must be stored. The construction contractor(s) and SMUD shall facilitate the respectful reburial of the culturally sensitive soils or objects. This includes providing a reburial location that is consistent with the Tribe's preferences, excavation of the reburial location, and assisting with the reburial, upon request. Any discoveries shall be documented on a Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 form within 2 weeks of the discovery and submitted to the appropriate CHRIS center in a timely manner. Work at the TCR discovery location shall not resume until authorization is granted by the Lead Agency in coordination with the culturally affiliated Tribe. If articulated or disarticulated human remains, or human remains in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness are discovered during construction activities, the Sacramento County Coroner shall be contacted immediately. Upon determination by the Sacramento County Coroner that the find is Native American in origin, the Native American Heritage Commission will assign the Most Likely Descendent who will work with SMUD to define appropriate treatment and disposition of the burials. Note that all archaeologists, Tribal Representatives, and Tribal Monitors shall meet the appropriate level of safety training (e.g., confined spaces, hazardous material exposure, etc.) in compliance with California Division of Occupational Safety and Health State and federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements prior to entering construction work areas.				
	Mitigation Measure 3.12-1b: Forensic Canines In consultation with the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area, SMUD will obtain the service of forensic canines to determine the potential for the presence of human remains following site demolition of buildings and hardscape surfaces (e.g., foundations and parking areas). If the results are positive an appropriate burial mitigation	During construction	During and after construction	SMUD	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	plan will be developed and implemented in consultation with the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area. Avoidance and preservation in place will be the first option considered where feasible.				
	Mitigation Measure 3.12-1c: Cultural Resources Awareness Training A cultural resources awareness respect training program will be provided to all construction personnel active on the project site prior to implementation of earth moving activities. A representative or representatives from culturally affiliated Native American Tribe(s) will be invited to participate in the development and delivery of the cultural resources awareness training program in coordination with a qualified archaeologist meeting the United States Secretary of Interior guidelines for professional archaeologists. The program will include relevant information regarding sensitive Tribal cultural resources, including protocols for resource avoidance, applicable laws regulations, and the consequences of violating them. The program will also underscore the requirement for confidentiality and culturally-appropriate treatment of any find of significance to Native Americans and protocols, consistent, to the extent feasible, with Native American Tribal values.	Before and during construction	During construction	SMUD, Contractor, Qualified Archaeologist	SMUD
Impact 3.6-5. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	Mitigation Measure 3.6-5: Pre-Construction Training and Resource Evaluation by Qualified Paleontologist If construction or other project personnel discover any potential fossils during construction, regardless of the depth of work or location, work at the discovery location shall cease in a 50-foot radius of the discovery and SMUD shall be notified. SMUD shall retain a qualified paleontologist to evaluate the resource. If the discovery is identified as potentially significant, additional work, such as recovery, laboratory preparation, fossil identification, curation, and reporting, may be necessary. Recovered paleontological resources should be deposited in an appropriate fossil repository to be determined by SMUD in consultation with the qualified paleontologist.	Before and during construction	During construction	SMUD, Contractor, Qualified Paleontologist	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
Impact 3.8-1. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	Mitigation Measure 3.8-1a: Implement a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan SMUD and its Contractor shall prepare and implement a Soil and Groundwater Management Plan to address contaminant-impacted soil and groundwater. The Plan shall address the apparent petroleum-impacted soil in the vicinity of boring B-4 by further delineating the petroleum-impacts and then excavating and disposing of this soil prior to commencing construction. This activity could be carried out as pre-construction activities or as part of the first construction phase. Excess soil generated at the site shall be properly characterized prior to off-site disposal and disposed of at a waste facility permitted to accept the waste. Based on the STLC/TCLP results, it is possible that some soil removed during construction activities will require transportation to a California hazardous waste landfill, due to the STLC exceedances and near exceedances. Soils from the Railyards should not be exported to any other sites outside the Railyards for any purpose other than disposal at a regulated facility without prior approval from DTSC. In the unlikely event that groundwater is encountered and dewatering required during project construction, SMUD will adhere to requirements in SWRCB's Water Quality Order 2003-0003-DWQ and, within the Railyards, request approval from DTSC prior to implementation of the groundwater management plan. Water would be collected, tested, and treated prior to discharge, in accordance with all regulatory requirements.	Before and/or during construction	Before and/or during construction	SMUD, Contractor	SMUD
	Mitigation Measure 3.8-1b: Manage Accidental Discovery of Hazardous Materials If contaminated soils or potentially hazardous items are discovered during earth moving activities, all ground-disturbing activities within 50 feet shall be halted until a qualified SMUD employee or SMUD representative can assess the conditions on the site. SMUD will notify the appropriate agency (e.g., SCEMD) to determine next steps for managing the potentially hazardous materials. If it is determined that the hazardous material cannot be re-incorporated into the project site, it shall be hauled by a qualified hauler to an appropriate waste disposal facility.	During construction	During construction	SMUD, Contractor	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
Impact 3.8-2. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	Mitigation Measure 3.8-1a: Implement a Soil Management Plan (see above) Mitigation Measure 3.8-1b: Manage Accidental Discovery of Hazardous Materials (see above)	Before and/or during construction	Before and/or during construction	SMUD, Contractor	SMUD
Impact 3.8-4. Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code § 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	Mitigation Measure 3.8-1a: Implement a Soil Management Plan (see above) Mitigation Measure 3.8-1b: Manage Accidental Discovery of Hazardous Materials (see above)	Before and/or during construction	Before and/or during construction	SMUD, Contractor	SMUD
Impact 3.10-1. Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	Mitigation Measure 3.10-1a: Construction Noise Reduction The contractor shall ensure that the following measures are implemented during all phases of project construction: - Whenever construction occurs adjacent to occupied residences (on or offsite) temporary barriers shall be constructed around the construction sites to shield the ground floor of the noise sensitive uses. These barriers shall be of ¾-inch Medium Density Overlay (MDO) plywood sheeting, or other material of equivalent utility and appearance, and shall achieve a Sound Transmission Class of STC-30 or greater, based on certified sound transmission loss data taken according to American Society for Testing and Materials International (ASTM) Test Method E90. - Construction activities shall comply with the City of Sacramento Noise Ordinance, which limits such activity to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, the	During construction	During construction	Contractor	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	hours of 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, prohibits nighttime construction unless authorized by the director of building inspections for a period no greater than three days, and requires the use of exhaust and intake silencers for construction equipment engines. - Construction equipment staging areas shall be located as far as feasible from residential areas while still serving the needs of construction contractors. - Activities that generate high noise levels such as pile driving and the use of jackhammers, drills, and impact wrenches, shall be restricted to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. - Smaller excavators and bulldozers shall be used during the demolition of the existing building within 25 feet of the building on the northwest site boundary, and this activity shall be restricted to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday only.				
	Mitigation Measure 3.10-1b: Employ Noise-Reducing Construction Measures for Project Construction Truck Traffic SMUD and its construction contractor(s) will implement the following measures: - Establish and enforce construction site and haul road speed limits to less than 15 mph. - Route construction-related truck traffic along roadways that will cause the least disturbance to residents. - Use high-grade engine exhaust silencers and engine-casing sound insulation.	During construction	During construction	SMUD, Contractor	SMUD
Impact 3.10-2. Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	Mitigation Measure 3.10-2: Employ Vibration-Reducing Construction Measures for Demolition and Construction Adjacent to Impacted Building Enhanced Pre-Demolition Survey: Conduct detailed structural assessments using laser scanning or 3D modeling to document potential weaknesses with high precision.	Before and during construction	Before and during construction	SMUD	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	• Advanced Controlled Demolition Techniques: Utilize diamond wire sawing or hydrodemolition to minimize vibrations. Implement a highly controlled, piece-by-piece demolition method. • Real-Time Vibration Monitoring: Install multiple vibration sensors on the impacted building for real-time monitoring. Set up an alert system for instant notifications if vibrations approach critical levels. • Enhanced Buffer Zones: Create double-layer buffer zones using heavy-duty materials like thick rubber mats and geofoam barriers. Implement additional protective measures such as temporary walls filled with sound and vibration absorbing materials. • High Precision Equipment Selection: Use state-of-the-art demolition equipment designed for low vibration output. Ensure machinery operates at optimal performance levels. • Specialized Operational Modifications: Schedule vibration-intensive activities during periods when the adjacent building is unoccupied, if possible. Employ a staggered approach to demolition activities to distribute the vibration load over time. • Enhanced Structural Support: Use advanced shoring systems like hydraulic shoring or steel bracing for robust temporary support. Conduct regular inspections of the support systems. • Advanced Ground Stabilization: Employ deep soil mixing or grouting techniques to stabilize the ground and reduce vibration transmission. Use vibration isolation pads or trenches around the demolition site. • Comprehensive Communication Plan: Establish a direct line of communication with stakeholders for real-time updates and feedback. Provide detailed schedules and daily reports on demolition activities and monitoring results. • Thorough Post-Demolition Inspection and Remediation: Conduct a comprehensive post-demolition survey using visual inspections and advanced non-destructive testing methods. Promptly address any issues, including structural repairs or further stabilization measures.				

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
Impact 3.11-3. Substantially increase hazards due to a geometric design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	Mitigation Measure 3.11-3a: Protect Bike Facilities SMUD shall prepare site plans showing all required bikeway facilities in compliance with City of Sacramento Standards. The Project entitlements shall be conditioned to provide the required bikeway facilities as part of an improvement plan which includes alternate on-street and separated bikeway facilities that connect to the City's bicycle network. The project applicant shall work with the City to ensure that the proposed bikeway facilities would achieve the intent of the Bikeway Master Plan and meet the City's standards. Modifications to the proposed bikeways shall be made to satisfy the requirements of the City.	Before and during construction	Before and during construction	SMUD	SMUD
	Mitigation Measure 3.11-3b: Repair Damaged Roadways and Bike Paths Following Construction During project construction, signage and flaggers will be deployed at locations where construction trucks cross roadways, pedestrian routes and bikeways, to reduce the potential hazard posed to other drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Details regarding traffic control, including any alternate access routes to existing facilities and timing of control measures, will be further described in a Traffic Control Plan to be submitted for approval by the City of Sacramento. Furthermore, following completion of construction, SMUD will assess and repair any project-related damage to roadways and paved bicycle/pedestrian paths that were affected during construction, including all project-related potholes, fractures, or other damages.	During and after construction	During and after construction	Contractor, SMUD	SMUD
Impact 3.12-1. Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code § 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined	Mitigation Measure 3.4-2: Halt ground-disturbing activity upon discovery of subsurface archaeological features or Tribal cultural resources (see above) Mitigation Measure 3.12-1a: TCRs and Human Remains Although surface level TCRs, including human remains, have not been identified for this project, Tribal consultation has shown that there is the potential for unidentified sites of cultural significance to be present in the subsurface context. The following mitigation measure was provided by UAIC and is intended to address the	During construction	During construction	SMUD, Contractor	SMUD

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is: Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code § 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code § 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	evaluation and treatment of inadvertent/unanticipated discoveries of potential TCRs, archaeological, or cultural resources during a project's ground-disturbing activities. If any suspected TCRs or resources of Tribal cultural significance, including but not limited to features, anthropogenic/cultural soils, cultural belongings or objects (artifacts), shell, bone, shaped stones or bone, or ash/charcoal deposits are discovered by any person during construction activities including ground disturbing activities, all work shall pause immediately within 100 feet of the find, or an agreed upon distance based on the project area and nature of the find. Work shall cease in and within the immediate vicinity of the find regardless of whether the construction is being actively monitored by a Tribal Monitor, cultural resources specialist, or professional archaeologist. A Tribal Representative from a California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with a geographic area shall be immediately notified and shall determine if the find is a TCR (PRC §21074). The Tribal Representative will make recommendations for further evaluation and treatment as necessary. When avoidance is infeasible, preservation in place is the preferred option for mitigation of TCRs under CEQA, and every effort shall be made to preserve the resources in place, including through project redesign, if feasible. If redesign is determined to not be feasible, SMUD shall continue consultation with Tribes to determine appropriate treatment of the find. Culturally appropriate treatment may be, but is not limited to, processing materials for reburial, minimizing handling of cultural objects, leaving objects in place within the landscape, or returning objects to a location within the project area where they will not be subject to future impacts. Permanent curation of TCRs will not take place unless approved in writing by the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area. The contractor shall implement any measures deemed by the CEQA lead agency to be necessary and feasible to preserve in place, avoid, or minimize impacts to the resource, including, but not limited to, facilitating the appropriate tribal treatment of the find, as necessary. Treatment that preserves or restores the cultural				

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	character and integrity of a TCR may include Tribal Monitoring, culturally appropriate recovery of cultural objects and belongings, and reburial of cultural objects and belongings or cultural soil. The construction contractor(s) shall provide secure, on-site storage for culturally sensitive soils or objects that are components of TCRs that are found or recovered during construction. Only Tribal Representatives shall have access to the storage. Storage size shall be determined by the nature of the TCR and can range from a small lock box to a conex box (shipping container). A secure (locked), fenced area can also provide adequate on-site storage if larger amounts of material must be stored. The construction contractor(s) and SMUD shall facilitate the respectful reburial of the culturally sensitive soils or objects. This includes providing a reburial location that is consistent with the Tribe's preferences, excavation of the reburial location, and assisting with the reburial, upon request. Any discoveries shall be documented on a Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) 523 form within 2 weeks of the discovery and submitted to the appropriate CHRIS center in a timely manner. Work at the TCR discovery location shall not resume until authorization is granted by the Lead Agency in coordination with the culturally affiliated Tribe. If articulated or disarticulated human remains, or human remains in any state of decomposition or skeletal completeness are discovered during construction activities, the Sacramento County Coroner shall be contacted immediately. Upon determination by the Sacramento County Coroner that the find is Native American in origin, the Native American Heritage Commission will assign the Most Likely Descendent who will work with SMUD to define appropriate treatment and disposition of the burials. Note that all archaeologists, Tribal Representatives, and Tribal Monitors shall meet the appropriate level of safety training (e.g., confined spaces, hazardous material exposure, etc.) in compliance with California Division of Occupational Safety and Health State and federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration requirements prior to entering construction work areas.				

Impact	Mitigation Measure	Implementation Duration	Monitoring Duration	Responsibility	
				Implementation	Monitoring
	Mitigation Measure 3.12-1b: Forensic Canines In consultation with the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area, SMUD will obtain the service of forensic canines to determine the potential for the presence of human remains following site demolition of buildings and hardscape surfaces (e.g., foundations and parking areas). If the results are positive an appropriate burial mitigation plan will be developed and implemented in consultation with the California Native American Tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area. Avoidance and preservation in place will be the first option considered where feasible.	During construction	During construction	SMUD	SMUD
	Mitigation Measure 3.12-1c: Cultural Resources Awareness Training A cultural resources awareness respect training program will be provided to all construction personnel active on the project site prior to implementation of earth moving activities. A representative or representatives from culturally affiliated Native American Tribe(s) will be invited to participate in the development and delivery of the cultural resources awareness training program in coordination with a qualified archaeologist meeting the United States Secretary of Interior guidelines for professional archaeologists. The program will include relevant information regarding sensitive Tribal cultural resources, including protocols for resource avoidance, applicable laws regulations, and the consequences of violating them. The program will also underscore the requirement for confidentiality and culturally appropriate treatment of any find of significance to Native Americans and protocols, consistent, to the extent feasible, with Native American Tribal values.	Before and during construction	During construction	SMUD, Contractor, Qualified Archaeologist	SMUD

5.0 References**5.1 Chapter 1, Introduction**

No references cited.

5.2 Chapter 2, Response to Comments

No references cited.

5.3 Chapter 3, Revisions to the Draft EIR

No references cited.

5.4 Chapter 4, Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program

No references cited.

6.0 List of Preparers

6.1 Sacramento Municipal Utility District (Lead Agency)

Rob Ferrera Project/Task Manager

6.2 AECOM (Preparation of EIR)

Petra Unger Program Manager
Jeff Thomas..... Task Manager/CEQA Lead
Emily Biro..... Deputy Task Manager
Danny DeBrito.....Deputy Task Manager, Aesthetics, Utilities and Service Systems, Alternatives
Susanne McFerran Air Quality, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Mary Nooristani..... Air Quality, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Paola Pena Air Quality, Energy, Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Richard Deis Cultural Resources, Tribal Cultural Resources
Chandra Miller Cultural Resources
Wendy Copeland Geology and Soils
Issa Mahmodi Noise and Vibration, Transportation
Jenifer King..... Other CEQA – Environmental Justice Evaluation
Lisa Clement..... GIS Specialist
Vivian Gaddie..... Graphics
Deborah Jew..... Document Preparation

6.3 Other Staff

Area West Staff..... Hazards & Hazardous Materials, Hydrology & Water Quality
Bargas Staff Biological Resources, Paleontological Resources



APPENDIX A COMMENT LETTERS FROM 1ST PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR
February 2025



Yana Garcia
Secretary for
Environmental Protection



Department of Toxic Substances Control

Meredith Williams, Ph.D., Director
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826-3200



Gavin Newsom
Governor

November 2, 2023

Rob Ferrera
Environmental Specialist & Tribal Relations Coordinator
SMUD
6201 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95817

RE: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) FOR THE STATION J BULK TRANSMISSION SUBSTATION PROJECT DATED OCTOBER 04, 2023 STATE CLEARINGHOUSE # [2023020549](#)

Dear Rob Ferrera:

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) received a DEIR for the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project. The Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project includes construction and operation of a new substation housing electrical equipment, including power transformers, gas insulated equipment, and a control building. Station J would include up to five 40 MVA 115/21 kV transformers to serve the SMUD network. Initial installation of two 40 MVA transformers is anticipated to occur by 2030. The project would also include up to 7 miles of overhead and underground 115kV and 21kV connections into the substation from nearby existing SMUD facilities and infrastructure. The site also includes space for expansion as future needs are identified.

DTSC has identified that this Project may affect a potentially hazardous site, [SP-Purity Oil](#) that is located at 1324 A Street Sacramento, California 95814. Historically, the site was owned by Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SP), a portion of the site was leased for use as a waste oil reprocessing facility from 1966 to 1978. The western portion of the site is currently vacant. The eastern portion of the site was formerly occupied by Lonestar Cement and is currently used for transitional cottage housing units for the homeless. Several soil removal actions have been completed from 1985 to the present. Ground water monitoring continues. Lead and oil contaminated soil and ground water with VOC's have been found at the site. All cleanup has been completed

Rob Ferrera
November 2, 2023
Page 2

and the Land Use Covenant was terminated in 2014. Based on our Project review, we request the consideration of the following comment:

In section 3.8.2 Hazards and Hazardous Materials Environmental Setting of the DEIR, the section on groundwater conditions at Purity Oil is accurate; however, DTSC recommends the mention of 1,2-dichlorethane (1,2-DCA) be included for completeness. The [June 28, 2013 DTSC certification letter](#) states, "The 1,2-DCA levels fluctuating around the cleanup goal [maximum contaminant level (MCL)] are detected in the general area and may be associated with an upgradient offsite source. 1,2-DCA is only found in the shallow aquifer which is not a source for drinking water." The [August 14, 2014 land use covenant termination](#) states, "The remaining contaminant in groundwater is 1,2-DCA. Although very low levels of 1,2-DCA are still present in groundwater, the level is statistically within range of the [MCL] of 0.5 parts per billion allowed in drinking water."

DTSC appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project. Thank you for your assistance in protecting California's people and environment from the harmful effects of toxic substances. If you have any questions or would like any clarification on DTSC's comments, please respond to this letter or via [email](#) for additional guidance.

Sincerely,

Tamara Purvis

Tamara Purvis
Associate Environmental Planner
HWMP – Permitting Division - CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR
February 2025

Rob Ferrera
November 2, 2023
Page 3

cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
State.Clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

Dave Kereazis
Associate Environmental Planner
HWMP – Permitting Division - CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Dave.Kereazis@dtsc.ca.gov

Scott Wiley
Associate Governmental Program Analyst
HWMP – Permitting Division - CEQA Unit
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Scott.Wiley@dtsc.ca.gov

Ruth Cayabyab
Supervising Hazardous Substance Engineering
Site Mitigation and Restoration Program
Department of Toxic Substances Control
Ruth.Cayabyab@dtsc.ca.gov



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR
February 2025

SACRAMENTO METROPOLITAN



November 16, 2023

Rob Ferrara
Sacramento Municipal Utilities District
6201 S Street, MS B203
Sacramento, CA 95817-1899

**Subject: Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Draft Environmental Impact Report
State Clearinghouse # 2023020549**

Dear Rob Ferrara:

Thank you for providing the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (Sac Metro Air District) with the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Sacramento Metropolitan Utilities District (SMUD) Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project (Project) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Project would consist of the demolition of existing on-site structures and construction of new infrastructure to support up to five 40 megavolt amperes (MVA) 115/21kV transformers for a total of up to 200 MVA, including up to 8 miles of overhead and / or underground 115kV and 21kV connections into the substation from nearby existing SMUD facilities and infrastructure. Please accept the following recommendations on project implementation and modifications to the Draft EIR, to benefit air quality and public health, to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and to ensure full public disclosure of project air quality and climate impacts.

Demolition

Due to the health risks posed by public exposure to asbestos, demolition and renovation of existing buildings is subject to Sac Metro Air District [Rule 902](#), to limit asbestos exposure during these activities. Sac Metro Air District staff is available to review notifications and answer asbestos related questions, either by emailing asbestos@airquality.org, or calling 279-207-1122.

Construction

Because this project is located in the City of Sacramento's [River District Specific Plan](#) area, Sac Metro Air District strongly recommends implementing the mitigation measures for construction-related air quality and climate impacts in the [Mitigation Monitoring Program in the River District Specific Plan EIR](#).

In the proposed project EIR, table 3.2-4. Summary of Construction-Related Emissions of Criteria Air Pollutants and Precursors (page 3-2-21) shows that the maximum annual emission for PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} (tons per year) are 0.34 and 0.17, respectively. Please clarify why the CalEEMod results in Appendix B of the EIR show different values (0.31 and 0.14).

In addition, Appendix B does not show the default changes for construction. Please update CalEEMod construction results to show Section 8 – User Changes to Default Data.



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR

February 2025

Station J Bulk Transmission Substation
Draft Environmental Impact Report
Page 2 of 2

Operations: Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The Draft EIR analysis of GHG emissions finds that the project greenhouse gas emissions are less than significant because the project does not exceed the [Sac Metro Air District's greenhouse gas thresholds](#).

Page 3.7-12 of the Draft EIR further indicates that "In addition, the project would not include any natural gas infrastructure, and would therefore, be consistent with SMAQMD Best Management Practice 1. Furthermore, the project is not a typical land use development that would be required to comply with CALGreen requirements, such as commercial and residential land use developments, and SMAQMD Best Management Practice 2 would not be applicable."

- In the paragraph above Table 3.7-2 (pg. 3.7-12), it mentions that the proposed project would "generate up to 3,110 metric tons of CO₂e per year." Please clarify where this value comes from. It is not in the table it references, or in the CalEEMod results in Appendix B. The tables and text in the report should be consistent with the CalEEMod results.
- In the second to last paragraph of page 3.7-13, it mentions "...goals and commitments in SMUD's 20230 Zero Carbon Plan...". Please clarify if this is meant to say "2023" or "2030".

River District Specific Plan

With a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 99, the [River District Specific Plan](#) (RDSP) area, is one of the most disadvantaged communities in California. Located on 14th Street, the project is adjacent to a closed underpass between the River District and Mansion Flats, which the RDSP envisions as an important active modes connection as redevelopment occurs and safety issues are addressed.

- Sac Metro Air District recommends the project incorporate thoughtful and high-quality active modes design, since the project will likely create inactive uses on 14th Street. This would ensure the project does not "Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities," as stipulated by [CEQA Handbook Appendix G Question XVII a](#)). One example mentioned in the RDSP involves the future re-establishment of the new North 14th Street Underpass. Incorporating high-quality active modes during the design process would ensure that the new North 14th Street Underpass, as well as other goals in the RDSP, are supported.

Conclusion

Thank you for your attention to our comments. If you have questions about them, please contact me at rramirez@airquality.org or 916-704-4552.

Sincerely,

-RR

Roberto Ramirez
Air Quality Planner / Analyst

cc: Paul Philley, AICP, CEQA & Land Use Program Supervisor, Sac Metro Air District



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR
February 2025



Sacramento Citadel - Alhambra Campus

2550 Alhambra Blvd Sacramento, California 95817

Corps Office/Alhambra Campus Administration (916) 469-4600
Ray Robinson Oak Park Community Center (916) 469-4620
Alhambra Preschool (916) 469-4630

VIA FIRST CLASS AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

SMUD Environmental Services
P.O. Box 15830 MS B203
Sacramento, CA 95817
ATTN: Rob Ferrera
Rob.Ferrera@smud.org

RE: Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project
Draft Environmental Impact Report

Dear Mr. Ferrera:

We write to provide public comment on the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project's Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR"). The proposed location for Substation J is a 10.3-acre site at 1220 North B Street, Sacramento. The Salvation Army's Center of Hope Shelter at 1200 North B Street is located immediately adjacent to the proposed location and is the largest homeless shelter in Sacramento County. The 140-bed shelter provides veterans, women and men with a 30-90 stay focused on overcoming homelessness. Clients at the shelter receive case management and job preparation workshops to help clients find permanent housing. In addition to food and lodging, available services include spiritual and emotional counseling, employment referral services, information and referral to help resolve legal issues and help in reconnecting with family members.

While the Army is very appreciative of its relationship with SMUD, we are nonetheless very concerned with the location of the proposed substation immediately adjacent to the Army's shelter. The reality is that many of our clients experience mental illness and can be easily confused, disoriented and frightened by noises and lights that will likely be associated with a substation. Those suffering from mental disease can easily become reactive to these stimuli. While we recognize that the science regarding electromagnetic fields is in dispute, we are concerned that our clients may also react to the fear of proximity to the substation facility.

The DEIR acknowledges the nearby location of the Army property but fails to address its basic function as a homeless shelter – providing services to the neediest citizens of the community. While the DEIR does acknowledge that "homeless and impoverished persons have been a constant social feature of the area" (DEIR p.3.4-10), it does not address the unique impact

William and Catherine Booth
Founders

Brian Peddle
General

Major John Brackenbury
Divisional Commander

Major Rio & Rachel Ray
Corps Officers



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR

February 2025

that noise, light, vibration and other factors might have on these individuals residing in such close proximity to the proposed location. Beyond the environmental impacts on the Army's clients, there is also the social equity and justice reality that this project's location is adjacent to some of the most impoverished citizens of our community.

In light of this, we question whether Alternative B, the Site 4 alternative location at the corner of North 7th Street and North B Street is a preferable alternative site. While it may involve environmental impacts associated with the presence and clean-up of contamination, it would eliminate the direct impacts and the social equity and justice impacts associated with locating the project in the proposed location so near to the Army and other organizations that provide similar services to the area's homeless population. However, the analysis of this alternative in the DEIR is essentially non-existent. While we understand that CEQA does not require the same level of analysis for alternatives that it does for a project, we have been advised that a simple description of the location and a rejection of the alternative due to unquantified additional costs associated with clean-up and contamination hardly seems to satisfy CEQA requirements for true consideration and comparison of an alternative with the project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please let us know if you have any questions or would desire to meet to discuss the matter further. We wish SMUD well in this effort but do hope that another location that is less impactful and recognizes social justice might be found.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rio Ray", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Major Rio Ray

cc: David Bentley, Territorial Property Secretary
Jim Eldridge, Chair of Sacramento Advisory Board
Gregory Thatch, Sacramento Advisory Board
Major John Brackenbury, Divisional Commander



Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project Final EIR
February 2025

APPENDIX B

RECIRCULATED DRAFT EIR

President Fishman then called for public comment items not on the agenda, but no comments were forthcoming.

President Fishman then turned to Directors' Reports.

Director Rose reported on his meeting with a company, SineWatts, he had met while attending the Conference of the Parties (COP) 28 in Dubai. He then commented that the Sacramento Hydrogen Workshop was excellent and thanked Sacramento Councilmember Eric Guerra for helping to organize it. He then reported on his attendance at the Sacramento Literacy Foundation's Authors on the Move event, his participation in a tree planting at the Hanami Line in Robert T. Matsui Park and the State Capitol legislative meetings. He concluded by reporting on his attendance at the Citrus Heights Chamber of Commerce 67th Annual Awards Gala.

Director Bui-Thompson stated that she was on the Board of the Stockton Boulevard Partnership and wanted to thank SMUD staff for being supportive of the Boulevard. She stated that SMUD had won an award for a project at the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) Post 67 Hall, and she thanked CEO & GM Paul Lau for attending and Director Herber for accepting the award on behalf of SMUD.

President Fishman announced that Director Herber was absent because she was representing SMUD at a Sacramento Kings game for Sustainability Night.

Director Kerth reported on his attendance at the American Public Power Association (APPA) Legislative Rally in Washington, DC, and the CivicWell PolicyMakers Conference.

Vice President Tamayo reported on his participation in the tree plantings at Hanami Line and with the Meadowview Urban Tree Project at John Still Elementary School. He then reported on his speaking engagement at the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) Outstanding Women Leaders (OWL) Awards and his attendance, along with President Fishman and Director Herber, at the 2025 SMUD Apprentice to Journeywork

Celebration. He concluded by reporting on this attendance at the CivicWell PolicyMakers Conference.

Director Sanborn reported on her attendance at the CivicWell PolicyMakers Conference, the California Energy Commission (CEC) and Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Building Electrification Summit, and the Capital Black Chamber Black History Month Open House. She concluded by reporting on her attendance at the NAWBO reception before the OWL Awards Gala.

President Fishman reported on his speaking engagement at the Habitat for Humanity Oak Park Home Dedication Ceremony, the Museum of Science and Curiosity (MOSAC) Elements of Elegance Gala, and the APPA Legislative Rally in Washington, DC. He then reported on his participation in a Business Walk in his Ward where he was able to speak with a few business owners, as well as his participation in the State Capitol legislative visits. He reported on his attendance at the 2025 SMUD Apprentice to Journeywork Celebration, his speaking engagement at the Iranian American Culture and Education Center, and a radio spot for SMUD on the Iranian American radio station. He concluded by reporting on his attendance at the SMUD Employee Association Crab Feed.

Frankie McDermott, acting Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, reported on the following items:

- 1) **Women's History Month.** I would like to start tonight's report by recognizing March as Women's History Month. SMUD's Women's Employee Resource Group is helping our employees celebrate Women's History Month by continuing to provide leadership training, connection opportunities and resources to support professional development for all employees. Later this month, we are excited to have an all-female SMUD Cares volunteer team participate once again in Habitat for Humanity's Women's Build Day.
- 2) **Apprenticeships.** Last week we celebrated employees who completed their apprenticeships and passed their exams in

2023 and 2024. I was honored to be there to congratulate this latest group of employees who have reached the significant journey level milestone! One side story to that – you may recall that we had a high school program called the Bridging Program, and we had Powering Careers. We had a participant named Jose, and he started in the Bridging Program straight out high school as a utility assistant maintenance worker apprentice/journeyman, and I congratulated him on being a journeyman. I had forgotten that he is now a Substation Foreman, so we have some great success stories for the folks who have gone through. We recognized people from many different skilled trades disciplines, and it was really great to see some of their family members there, too. As you know, SMUD has been training some of the best and safest utility workers in the country for over 50 years. These apprenticeships were marked by a tremendous amount of hard work, dedication and sacrifice, and we are looking forward to all they will accomplish in the years ahead. Thank you to President Fishman, Vice President Tamayo and Board Members Rosanna Herber and Brandon Rose for also for joining us at the celebration.

- 3) **Electrification Summit.** Another great event last week was the second annual Electrification Summit hosted by the California Energy Commission and the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI), here in Sacramento. Along with other utility executives, our CEO and General Manager Paul Lau served on a keynote panel at the summit, discussing the vital role that building electrification plays in reducing carbon emissions in the State of California. Paul was excited to share the progress we have been making with our 2030 Zero Carbon Plan. He also shared some highlights and strategies that have helped us make great

strides in our building electrification efforts, which are a critical part of our pathway to zero carbon.

- 4) **Awards.** As for awards this past month, Ragan Communications recognized us for our “I am SMUD” series, which features employees’ personal stories. The stories have been really impactful in helping to start conversations, build education and foster appreciation for how our varied backgrounds contribute to our success and lived experiences, at SMUD and in our community. The American Society of Civil Engineers Region 9 recognized us with their Outstanding Energy Project award for Station G and its cutting-edge and energy-saving technologies. Congratulations to everyone involved in these award-winning efforts!

- 5) **Board Video.** Last but not least, tonight’s video is a compilation of three of our “People Behind the Promise” social media video series. As an extension of our Clean PowerCity Promise campaign, the videos showcase our employees’ work toward reaching our 2030 zero-carbon goal, and the steps they are taking in their personal lives to help the community get there. With over 2 million views for this series across our social media channels, the videos give our customers a chance to see the people making a real difference at SMUD every day, some of whom are here with us tonight!

President Fishman stated that SMUD employee, Maria Espinoza, a Strategic Account Advisor, had passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, March 15, 2025, and that she would be deeply missed.

President Fishman requested the Summary of Board Direction, but there were no items.

No further business appearing, President Fishman adjourned the meeting in honor of Maria Espinoza at 6:53 p.m.

Approved:

President

Secretary

Exhibit to Agenda Item #12

Certify the **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project (Project) Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR)**, including adoption of the **Findings**; adopt the **Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program** for the Project; and approve the **Project**.

Board of Directors Meeting

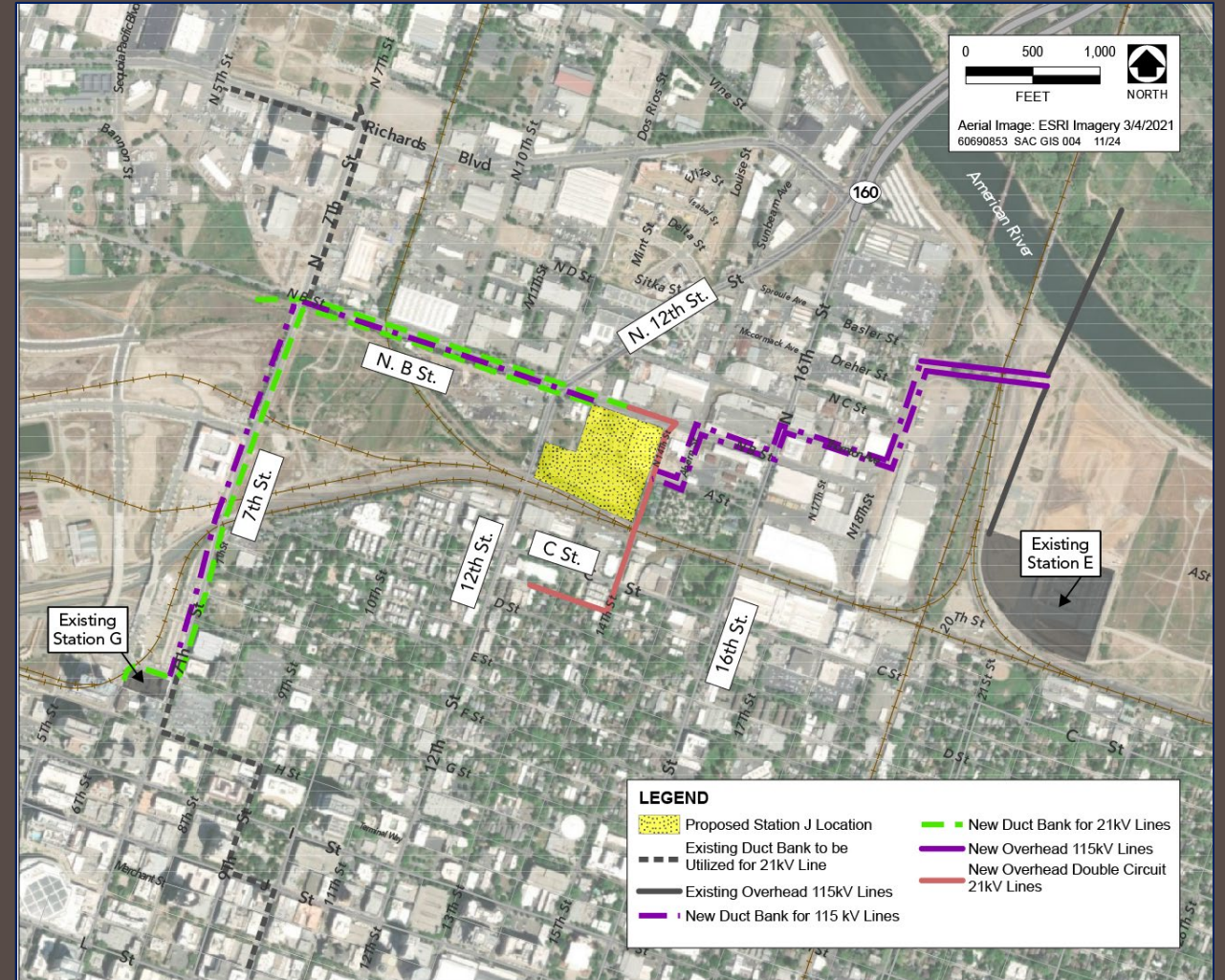
Thursday, March 20, 2025, scheduled to begin at 6:00 p.m.

Auditorium, SMUD Headquarters Building

Project Overview

SMUD proposes to:

- Develop the Station J Bulk Transmission Substation Project
- Located on a 10.3-acre site at 1220 North B Street
- Line connections include 21kV and 115kV connections to Station G and 115kV connections to Station E
- Provide safe and reliable electrical service to existing and proposed development in the downtown area of Sacramento



Environmental Analysis

- Prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Potentially significant impacts reduced to less-than-significant levels with mitigation measures related to:
 - Air Quality
 - Biological Resources
 - Cultural Resources
 - Geology, Soils, and Paleontological Resources
 - Hazards & Hazardous Materials
 - Noise
 - Tribal Cultural Resources
 - Transportation

Public Review Process

- Notice of Preparation released February 22, 2023, for 30-day public comment period. Public meeting held March 9, 2023
- Notice of Availability and Draft EIR released October 4, 2023, for 45-day public comment period . Public meeting held October 24, 2023
- Prior to completing the Final EIR additional project details were added to the project description
- An updated Notice of Availability and Recirculated Draft EIR was released on November 18, 2024, for a 45-day public comment period. Public meeting held on December 11, 2024
- Published at SMUD.org, Sacramento Bee, and State Clearinghouse
- Documents available at SMUD Customer Service Center and East Campus Operations Center and at smud.org/stationJ
- Notices mailed to property owners and customers within 500 feet of the project
- State and Federal Agencies, Tribes, School Districts, County Departments
- Final EIR posted on March 10 and provided to all EIR commentors

Notice of Preparation Comments

- Alkali & Mansion Flats Historic Neighborhood Assoc.
- Sacramento Air Quality Management District
- Blue Diamond Almond Growers
- CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
- City of Sacramento Public Works
- Central Valley Regional Water Quality
- Dept. of Toxic Substance Control
- Native American Heritage Commission

Draft and Recirculated Draft EIR Comments

- Three comment letters received during public review of the Draft EIR between October 4, 2023, and November 17, 2023
 - Department of Toxic Substance Control
 - Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (AQMD)
 - The Salvation Army
- One comment letter received during public review of the Recirculated Draft EIR between November 18, 2024, and January 6, 2025
 - Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (AQMD)

Tribal Consultation under CEQA

- Initial outreach on September 22, 2022
- Tribes Contacted:
 - United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC)
 - Wilton Rancheria
 - Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians
 - Lone Band of Miwok Indians
- UAIC, Wilton Rancheria, and Shingle Springs requested consultation
- Site visit with Wilton on April 12, 2023
- Site visit with Shingle Springs on October 3, 2023
- Project updates during regular reoccurring Tribal consultation meetings
- Input on Tribal Cultural Resources section and Mitigation Measures

Requested SMUD Board Action

- Certify the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Final Environmental Impact Report;
- Adopt the Findings;
- Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program; and
- Approve the Project

SSS No. LEG 2025-0034

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date

Policy – 03/12/25

Board Meeting Date

April 17, 2025

TO					TO				
1.	Jose Bodipo-Memba				6.				
2.					7.				
3.					8.				
4.					9.	Legal			
5.					10.	CEO & General Manager			

Consent Calendar	X	Yes	No	If no, schedule a dry run presentation.	Budgeted	X	Yes	No	If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)
------------------	---	-----	----	---	----------	---	-----	----	---

FROM (IPR)	DEPARTMENT	MAIL STOP	EXT.	DATE SENT
Laura Lewis	Executive Office	B308	6123	03/24/25

NARRATIVE:

Requested Action: Approve proposed revisions to Governance Process GP-12, Board Compensation and Benefits.

Summary: At the March 12, 2025, Policy Committee, the Board conducted its annual review of Governance Process GP-12, Board Compensation and Benefits (GP-12). The Board directed staff to prepare proposed revisions to reflect an increase to Board member compensation to \$325 per day of service with no other changes and to be effective July 1, 2025. Copies of the proposed revision are attached in redline and “clean” format.

Board Policy: Governance Process GP-12, Board Compensation and Benefits subsection b) states, “Board member compensation shall be reviewed annually.”
(Number & Title)

Benefits: Enables Board Members to review the policy with the opportunity to make corrections, changes or additions if necessary.

Cost/Budgeted: N/A

Alternatives: Reject the proposed revisions; agendize for further discussion.

Affected Parties: Board of Directors

Coordination: Board of Directors, Board Office, Executive Office and Legal

Presenter: Laura Lewis, Chief Legal & Government Affairs Officer

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Approve Proposed Revisions to GP-12, Board Compensation and Benefits

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

5

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

SMUD BOARD POLICY



Category: Governance Process
Policy No.: GP-12
Title: Board Compensation and Benefits

In keeping with the MUD Act, members of the Board of Directors are entitled to compensation for their service. Specifically:

- a) Each Board member may receive for each attendance at the meetings of the full Board, Board committee meetings, ad hoc committee meetings, publicly noticed SMUD workshops or meetings, other publicly noticed meetings where the Board member is representing the Board, state or federal legislative briefings or meetings where the Board member is representing the Board, meetings with SMUD customers or staff relating to SMUD business, community meetings or events where the Board member is representing SMUD, events where SMUD is being recognized, conferences and organized educational activities, the sum of ~~\$317~~\$325.00 per day of service. No director may receive compensation for more than ten (10) days in any one calendar month. Campaign and political meetings, events, and fundraisers are not compensable under this policy.
- b) Board member compensation shall be reviewed annually.
- c) Each Board member may also be reimbursed for expenses related to travel, meals, lodging and other actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her official duties as described in subsection a). Reimbursement shall be in accordance with Internal Revenue Service regulations as established in Publication 463, or any successor publication.
- d) Each Board member may be reimbursed for computer and other technology purchases, rentals, and refurbishments that will aid them in the performance of their duties pursuant to reimbursement policies applicable to executive and senior leaders.
- e) Compensation forms shall be completed by a Director and distributed to the Board office. The Board shall review and approve compensation and any request for technology reimbursement at a regular Board meeting. Board member compensation, along with any requests for technology reimbursement, shall be placed on the consent calendar at each regular Board meeting, unless a Board member requests that it be placed on the discussion calendar.
- f) SMUD shall provide and contribute payment for health care benefits, equivalent to the contribution made to SMUD employees in the PAS employee group, to any Board member who elects such benefit, and additionally make an annual contribution payment of \$500 to a Flexible Spending Account.

- g) Subject to the applicable tax codes and IRS rules and regulations, and to the extent possible, SMUD shall direct payment to a SMUD defined contribution plan (either a 457(b) plan or a 401(k) plan) for each Director who elects to have such a benefit in the amount of 30% of compensation based on days of service. Directors who elect to receive this benefit must (1) have a SMUD defined contribution plan and (2) direct payment to the defined contribution plan of their choice at initial enrollment and then during (and only during) SMUD's open enrollment period for employee benefits.

Monitoring Method: Board Report

Frequency: Annual

Versioning:

December 19, 2002	Resolution No. 02-12-14	Date of Adoption.
October 16, 2003	Resolution No. 03-10-14	Date of Revision.
December 2, 2004	Resolution No. 04-12-03	Date of Revision.
December 1, 2005	Resolution No. 05-12-10	Date of Revision.
May 17, 2007	Resolution No. 07-05-08	Date of Revision.
July 16, 2009	Resolution No. 09-07-02	Date of Revision.
September 18, 2014	Resolution No. 14-09-07	Date of Revision.
December 20, 2018	Resolution No. 18-12-15	Date of Revision.
December 12, 2019	Resolution No. 19-12-05	Date of Revision.
June 15, 2023	Resolution No. 23-06-02	Date of Revision. (Effective Date = July 1, 2023)
September 21, 2023	Resolution No. 23-09-02	Date of Revision.
February 15, 2024	Resolution No. 24-02-03	Date of Revision. [Current Policy]
<u>April 17, 2025</u>	<u>Resolution No. 25-04-##</u>	<u>Date of Revision. (Effective Date = July 1, 2025) [Current Policy]</u>

SMUD BOARD POLICY



Category: Governance Process
Policy No.: GP-12
Title: Board Compensation and Benefits

In keeping with the MUD Act, members of the Board of Directors are entitled to compensation for their service. Specifically:

- a) Each Board member may receive for each attendance at the meetings of the full Board, Board committee meetings, ad hoc committee meetings, publicly noticed SMUD workshops or meetings, other publicly noticed meetings where the Board member is representing the Board, state or federal legislative briefings or meetings where the Board member is representing the Board, meetings with SMUD customers or staff relating to SMUD business, community meetings or events where the Board member is representing SMUD, events where SMUD is being recognized, conferences and organized educational activities, the sum of \$325.00 per day of service. No director may receive compensation for more than ten (10) days in any one calendar month. Campaign and political meetings, events, and fundraisers are not compensable under this policy.
- b) Board member compensation shall be reviewed annually.
- c) Each Board member may also be reimbursed for expenses related to travel, meals, lodging and other actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his or her official duties as described in subsection a). Reimbursement shall be in accordance with Internal Revenue Service regulations as established in Publication 463, or any successor publication.
- d) Each Board member may be reimbursed for computer and other technology purchases, rentals, and refurbishments that will aid them in the performance of their duties pursuant to reimbursement policies applicable to executive and senior leaders.
- e) Compensation forms shall be completed by a Director and distributed to the Board office. The Board shall review and approve compensation and any request for technology reimbursement at a regular Board meeting. Board member compensation, along with any requests for technology reimbursement, shall be placed on the consent calendar at each regular Board meeting, unless a Board member requests that it be placed on the discussion calendar.
- f) SMUD shall provide and contribute payment for health care benefits, equivalent to the contribution made to SMUD employees in the PAS employee group, to any Board member who elects such benefit, and additionally make an annual contribution payment of \$500 to a Flexible Spending Account.

- g) Subject to the applicable tax codes and IRS rules and regulations, and to the extent possible, SMUD shall direct payment to a SMUD defined contribution plan (either a 457(b) plan or a 401(k) plan) for each Director who elects to have such a benefit in the amount of 30% of compensation based on days of service. Directors who elect to receive this benefit must (1) have a SMUD defined contribution plan and (2) direct payment to the defined contribution plan of their choice at initial enrollment and then during (and only during) SMUD's open enrollment period for employee benefits.

Monitoring Method: Board Report

Frequency: Annual

Versioning:

December 19, 2002	Resolution No. 02-12-14	Date of Adoption.
October 16, 2003	Resolution No. 03-10-14	Date of Revision.
December 2, 2004	Resolution No. 04-12-03	Date of Revision.
December 1, 2005	Resolution No. 05-12-10	Date of Revision.
May 17, 2007	Resolution No. 07-05-08	Date of Revision.
July 16, 2009	Resolution No. 09-07-02	Date of Revision.
September 18, 2014	Resolution No. 14-09-07	Date of Revision.
December 20, 2018	Resolution No. 18-12-15	Date of Revision.
December 12, 2019	Resolution No. 19-12-05	Date of Revision.
June 15, 2023	Resolution No. 23-06-02	Date of Revision. (Effective Date = July 1, 2023)
September 21, 2023	Resolution No. 23-09-02	Date of Revision.
February 15, 2024	Resolution No. 24-02-03	Date of Revision.
April 17, 2025	Resolution No. 25-04-##	Date of Revision. (Effective Date = July 1, 2025) [Current Policy]

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

This Board approves the revisions to **Governance Process GP-12, Board Compensation and Benefits**, substantially in the form as set forth in Attachment ____.

SSS No. SCS 25-094

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date
Finance & Audit – 04/15/25

Board Meeting Date
April 17, 2025

TO				TO					
1.	Eric Poff			6.					
2.	Casey Fallon			7.					
3.	Scott Martin			8.					
4.	Lora Anguay			9.	Legal				
5.	Jose Bodipo-Memba			10.	CEO & General Manager				
Consent Calendar	X	Yes	No	If no, schedule a dry run presentation.	Budgeted	X	Yes	No	(If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)
FROM (IPR) Jesse Mays				DEPARTMENT Procurement			MAIL STOP EA404	EXT. 7417	DATE SENT 03/28/25

NARRATIVE:

Requested Action: Authorize the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to negotiate and execute a sole source contract with Cooper Power Systems, LLC, a subsidiary of Eaton Corporation (Eaton), to provide network protectors for a five-year period from April 21, 2025, to April 20, 2030, in an amount not to exceed \$40 million.

Summary: Prior to 2021, SMUD's standard network protectors were all live-front models. Live-front models have energized parts that are exposed and readily accessible. In 2021, SMUD transitioned from the live-front network protectors to dead-front network protectors which have energized parts that are not exposed or accessible, making them safer for SMUD personnel working on them. Eaton is the only SMUD approved manufacturer of this equipment that meets SMUD's minimum requirements and has been successfully providing network protectors with this design to SMUD since the transition to dead-front network protectors in 2021. In 2021, SMUD determined that Eaton's dead-front network protector pricing was fair and reasonable because the unit cost was an average of 23% less than the competitively bid cost of the live-front network protectors. Eaton's 2021 pricing was escalated by a relevant Bureau of Labor and Statistics Producer Price Index (PPI) data to arrive at the base price for this contract SMUD is requesting approval to award to Eaton. Although pricing has increased 67% since 2021, it is still determined to be fair and reasonable as it is in alignment with market conditions.

SMUD is requesting approval to award a sole source contract to Eaton upon successful negotiation of contract terms for a not-to-exceed amount of \$40 million.

Recommendation: Award Sole Source Contract

Award to:

Cooper Power Systems, LLC
1319 Lincoln Ave.
Waukesha, WI 53186

Comments: This is a non-standard inventory material contract. Non-standard contracts may contain unfavorable terms that disadvantage or pose additional risk to SMUD relative to SMUD's standard contract terms. Legal and Risk Management will review and advise the Business Unit of the risk to SMUD so the Business Unit can determine whether it is in SMUD's best interest to accept the terms "as-is" with no changes due to the critical nature of the services.

Supplier Diversity Program: Eaton is not a Supplier Education & Economic Development (SEED) vendor.

Board Policy: Board-Staff Linkage BL-8, Delegation to the CEO with Respect to Procurement
(Number & Title)

Benefits: Establishing a long-term contract pricing and terms will ensure future orders for this material can be made easily without separate approvals for each order.

Cost/Budgeted: \$40 Million; Budgeted for 2025 to 2030 by Warehouse

Alternatives: Change SMUD's standard back to live-front network protectors and source competitive contracts. This alternative increases the risk of injury to SMUD personnel working on them.

Affected Parties: Warehouse, Line Assets, Supply Chain Services, and Contractor

Coordination: Warehouse and Supply Chain Services

Presenter: Eric Poff, Director, Substation Telecommunications & Metering Assets

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Sole Source Contract Award for Network Protectors

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

6

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, prior to 2021, SMUD's standard network protectors were live-front models, which have energized parts that are exposed and readily accessible; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, SMUD transitioned from the use of live-front network protectors to dead-front network protectors which have energized parts that are not exposed or accessible, making them safer for SMUD personnel to work on them; and

WHEREAS, Cooper Power Systems, LLC, a subsidiary of Eaton Corporation (Eaton) is the only SMUD-approved manufacturer of this equipment that meets SMUD's minimum requirements and has consistently and successfully provided dead-front network protectors since 2021; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, SMUD determined that **Eaton's** dead-front network protector pricing was fair and reasonable because the unit cost was an average of 23% less than the competitively bid cost of the live-front network protectors; and

WHEREAS, Eaton's 2021 pricing was escalated by relevant Bureau of Labor and Statistics Producer Price Index (PPI) to arrive at the base price for this contract and is determined to be fair and reasonable as it is in alignment with market conditions; and

WHEREAS, it would not be productive or in the best interest of SMUD to advertise for competitive bids for the products and services referred to above because they can only be obtained from **Eaton**; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. That the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized on behalf of SMUD to negotiate and execute a sole source contract with **Cooper Power Systems, LLC (Eaton)** to provide network protectors for the five-year period from April 21, 2025, to April 20, 2030, in an amount not to exceed \$40,000,000.

Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the contract that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the contract; (b) are intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) do not exceed the authorized contract amount and applicable contingencies.

SSS No.SCS-25-091

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date
Finance & Audit – 04/15/25

Board Meeting Date
April 17, 2025

TO				TO						
1.	Casey Fallon			6.	Jose Bodipo-Memba					
2.	Eric Poff			7.	Scott Martin					
3.	Amber Connors			8.						
4.	Suresh Kotha			9.	Legal					
5.	Lora Anguay			10.	CEO & General Manager					
Consent Calendar		X	Yes	No If no, schedule a dry run presentation.		Budgeted	X	Yes	No (If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)	
FROM (IPR) Jesse Mays				DEPARTMENT Procurement				MAIL STOP EA404	EXT. 4860	DATE SENT 3/28/25

NARRATIVE:

Requested Action: Approve Contract Change No. 03 to Contract No. 4500147369 with UTILITY PARTNERS OF AMERICA LLC (UPA) to add meter battery replacement scope of work and to increase the contract not-to-exceed amount by \$3.5 million, from \$22,442,000 to \$25,942,000.

Summary: Contract No. 4500147369 was awarded on a competitive basis to UPA in June 2024 (Board Resolution No. 24-06-10) for the period from September 1, 2024, to January 31, 2026, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$21,442,000 to perform meter replacement services.

Contract Change No. 01 adding meter battery replacement scope of work and increased the contract in the not-to-exceed amount by \$1 million. The increased funding was a portion of the allowable GM Contingency.

Contract Change No. 02 incorporated required federal grant flow downs into the contract.

This Contract Change No. 03 requests approval to increase the contract not-to-exceed amount from \$22,442,000 to \$25,942,000 to fund the balance of the 15,272 Landis+Gyr (L+G) type=S4e meters needing battery replacement as well as additional field work as needed to extend the life expectancy of the meters for our customers. Unlike the meter replacement contract scope, this work is not part of SMUD’s Connected Clean PowerCity® Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) grant project. Although, the same labor rates will be used to perform the meter replacement, meter battery replacement, and field service work, the labor hours incurred under the battery replacement and field service scope of work will be tracked and paid for separately and distinctly from SMUD’s grant-related meter replacement scope of work. This change will further benefit SMUD by ensuring that our meters are functioning as designed.

Currently, the contract balance is approximately \$20,276,000

Contract Actions	Amount	Cumulative Total	Description
Original Contract	\$21,442,000	\$21,442,000	
Change No. 01	\$1,000,000	\$22,442,000	Add portion of GM Contingency funds for partial meter battery replacement scope
Change No. 02	\$0	\$22,442,000	Added Grant Flow Downs
Pending Change No. 03	\$3,500,000	\$25,942,000	Increase funding and add scope for battery replacements and field work

Comments: Due to the provisions of the grant, SMUD was unable to include Supplier Education & Economic Development (SEED) Program goals or incentives in this request for proposals (RFP) or contract.

Board Policy: Board-Staff Linkage BL-8, Delegation to the CEO with Respect to Procurement; Board-Staff Linkage BL-13, Delegation to the CEO with Respect to Grants
(Number & Title)

Benefits: Approval of this contract change will provide longer life cycle time for our meters. This change will further benefit SMUD by ensuring that our meters are functioning as designed.

Cost/Budgeted: \$25,942,000 Budgeted for 2025 and 2026 by Energy Delivery & Operations

Alternatives: Do not approve this contract change and source a separate contract to replace the battery on 15,272 existing Landis+Gyr meters. This alternative would likely cost more and delay validation that our meters are functioning correctly.

Affected Parties: Energy Delivery & Operations, Information Technology, Supply Chain Services, and Contractor

Coordination: Energy Delivery & Operations, Information Technology, and Supply Chain Services

Presenter: Eric Poff, Director, Substation, Telecommunications & Metering Assets

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Contract Change No. 3 – Utility Partners of America

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

7

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 24-06-10, adopted on June 20, 2024, this Board authorized the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to award Contract No. 4500147369 to **Utility Partners of America LLC (UPA)** for meter replacement services for a period of one year, with two optional one-year extensions, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$21,442,000; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 1 increased the contract not-to-exceed amount by \$1,000,000, a portion of the allowable contingency amount, and added scope of work for the labor required to replace batteries in approximately 8,728 **Landis+Gyr (L+G)** type=S4e meters using SMUD-furnished batteries and locking meter rings for installation under the existing time and equipment rates in the contract; and

WHEREAS, Contract Change No. 2 incorporated required federal grant flow-down provisions related to the **Department of Energy (DOE) Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP)** grant for SMUD's **Connected Clean PowerCity®** project; and

WHEREAS, 15,272 of the **L+G** type=S4e meters require battery replacement as well as additional field work on an as-needed basis to extend the life expectancy of the meters for SMUD customers and to ensure they are functioning as designed; and

WHEREAS, the meter battery replacement and associated field work are not part of the **GRIP** grant for SMUD's **Connected Clean PowerCity®** project and will be tracked and paid for separately and distinctly but will use the same labor rates as negotiated for the meter replacement contract scope under the grant; and

WHEREAS, additional funds are needed in light of the added meter battery replacement scope of work; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. That this Board hereby approves Contract Change Order No. 3 and authorizes the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, to add meter battery replacement scope of work and to increase the contract not-to-exceed amount by \$3,500,000, from \$22,442,00 to \$25,942,000, for Contract No. 4500147369 with **Utility Partners of America, LLC**.

Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the contract that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the contract; (b) are intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) do not exceed the authorized contract amount and applicable contingencies.

SSS No. SCS 25-094

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date

Finance & Audit – 04/15/25

Board Meeting Date

April 17, 2025

TO					TO								
1.	Casey Fallon				6.								
2.	Scott Martin				7.								
3.	Lora Anguay				8.								
4.	Jose Bodipo-Memba				9.	Legal							
5.					10.	CEO & General Manager							
Consent Calendar		X	Yes	No If no, schedule a dry run presentation.		Budgeted		X	Yes	No (If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)			
FROM (IPR)				DEPARTMENT				MAIL STOP		EXT.		DATE SENT	
Kimberly Bowman				Procurement				EA404		5937		03/28/25	

NARRATIVE:

Requested Action:

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to negotiate and award contracts to United Trs Electric, Inc., OneSource Supply Solutions, LLC, Hyundai, Eaton Corporation, PulseMac Solutions, LLC, PE Transformer Corp., and Klein Group America, Inc. (collectively, the Contracts) for supply of distribution transformers for a five-year period from May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2030, with one optional two-year extension, for a total aggregate contract not-to-exceed amount of \$175 million.

Summary:

Request for Proposal No. Doc4738203345 (RFP) was issued in September 2024, to solicit qualified contractors to provide supply of distribution transformers for a period of five years. A pre-proposal meeting was held on September 26, 2024, which was attended by 18 Contractors. SMUD received a total of 22 proposals, of which only 11 proposals were responsive. The results of the evaluation are shown below.

Recommendation:

Award to the highest evaluated responsive proposers: United Trs Electric, Inc., OneSource Supply Solutions, LLC, Hyundai (Rep. Mader Supply), Eaton Corporation, PulseMac Solutions, LLC, PE Transformer Corp., and Klein Group America, Inc.

Proposers Notified by Procurement:

463

Proposers Downloaded:

100

Pre-Proposal Conference Attendance:

18

Proposals Received:

22

Responsive Proposals Received	P/F	10 Points SEED	47 Points Technical	43 Points Pricing	Total Score	Overall Rank	Proposal Amount	Evaluated Proposal Amount	Proposed Award Amount	Manufacturing Location
United Trs, Electric, Inc.	P		43.00	43.00	86.00	1	\$31,199,811	\$31,199,811	Not to exceed \$175,000,000 aggregate for all tasks.	Mexico
Hyundai (Rep. Mader Supply)	P	10	42.17	31.20	83.37	2	\$44,506,676	\$44,256,676		South Korea
Eaton Corporation	P		46.00	37.34	83.34	3	\$35,313,603	\$35,313,603		USA
PulseMAC Solutions, LLC	P		44.33	38.90	83.23	4	\$34,763,168	\$34,763,168		China
OneSource Supply Solutions, LLC	P		46.67	36.31	82.97	5	\$37,471,161	\$37,471,161		South Korea
Kllen Group America, Inc.	P		40.50	38.10	78.60	6	\$32,751,521	\$32,751,521		China
PE Transformer Corp.	P		44.00	33.60	77.60	7	\$40,783,810	\$40,783,810		China
Howard (Rep. Mader Supply)	P	10	40.67	25.44	76.11	8	\$54,647,186	\$54,397,186		USA
KOC Electric Co. Ltd.	P		36.67	35.75	72.41	9	\$38,110,716	\$38,110,716		China

Magnetron USA LLC	P		33.83	35.63	69.46	10	\$37,114,414	\$37,114,414		China
Dozer Electric LLC	P		31.17	18.90	50.07	11	\$78,492,293	\$78,492,293		China

Non-Responsive Proposals Received	Proposal Amount	Comments
Siemens Energy, Inc	\$36,344,300	Did not pass minimum technical point threshold & incomplete bid for both Pad & Pole Mounted bid schedules.
ULS Corporate	\$38,981,255	Did not pass minimum technical point threshold.
PE Transformer (HD Supply Power)	\$41,191,170	Did not pass minimum technical point threshold.
ERMCO (HD Supply Power Solutions/Anixter/WESCO	\$5,320,527	Failed P/F & incomplete bid.
Shirdi Sai Electricals	\$19,770,234	Failed P/F & incomplete bid.
KUKDONG Electric Co., Ltd	\$19,018,725	Failed P/F & incomplete bid.
Lekson Inc	\$	Did not submit section 6.9 responses
MVA Power Inc	\$	Did not submit section 6.9 responses
WEG Transformers USA LLC	\$	Did not submit section 6.9 responses
First Philec, Inc	\$26,633,584	Incomplete bid for both Pad & Pole Mounted bid schedules.
Hitachi Energy	\$28,857,758	Incomplete bid for Pole Mounted bid schedule.

Supplier Diversity Program: Hyundai, whose rep is Mader Supply is a Supplier Education & Economic Development (SEED) verified contractor.

Board Policy: Board-Staff Linkage BL-8, Delegation to the CEO with Respect to Procurement; Strategic Direction SD-13, (Number & Title) Economic Development; Strategic Direction SD-7, Environmental Leadership.

Benefits: Awarding multiple contracts will help to mitigate SMUD's risks of operational disruptions associated with Distribution Transformer supply.

Cost/Budgeted: \$175,000,000 Budgeted for 2025-2030 by Warehouse

Alternatives: Negotiate contract extension on current contract with Eaton. This would not be in SMUD's best interest as SMUD received improved pricing and terms as well as additional suppliers to mitigate SMUD risks of supply interruption.

Affected Parties: Warehouse, Line Assets, Supply Chain Services, and Suppliers.

Coordination: Warehouse, Supply Chain Services

Presenter: Casey Fallon, Director, Procurement, Warehouse & Fleet

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Contract Award for Distribution Transformers

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

8

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, in September 2024, SMUD issued Request for Proposal No. Doc4738203345 (RFP) to solicit qualified contractors to provide supply of distribution transformers for a period of five years; and

WHEREAS, 22 proposals submitted in response to the RFP were evaluated, of which 11 proposals were responsive; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. As a result of such examination, **United Trs Electric, Inc., OneSource Supply Solutions, LLC, Hyundai, Eaton Corporation, PulseMac Solutions, LLC, PE Transformer Corp., and Klein Group America, Inc.** are hereby determined and declared to the highest ranking proposers to provide supply of distribution transformers.

Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized, on behalf of SMUD, to negotiate and award contracts to the highest evaluated responsive proposers, **United Trs Electric, Inc., OneSource Supply Solutions, LLC, Hyundai, Eaton Corporation, PulseMac Solutions, LLC, PE Transformer Corp., and Klein Group America, Inc.** (collectively, the **Contracts**), for supply of distribution transformers for a five-year period from May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2030, with one optional two-year extension, for a total aggregate contract not-to-exceed amount of \$175,000,000.

Section 3. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the **Contracts** that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the

Contracts; (b) is intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) does not exceed the authorized contract amount and applicable contingencies.

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

STAFFING SUMMARY SHEET

Committee Meeting & Date
Finance & Audit – 04/15/25

Board Meeting Date
April 17, 2025

TO				TO						
1.	Farres Everly			6.						
2.	Scott Martin			7.						
3.	Lora Anguay			8.						
4.	Jose Bodipo-Memba			9.	Legal					
5.				10.	CEO & General Manager					
Consent Calendar		☒	Yes	No <i>If no, schedule a dry run presentation.</i>		Budgeted	☒	Yes	No <i>(If no, explain in Cost/Budgeted section.)</i>	
FROM (IPR) Rhonda Staley-Brooks				DEPARTMENT Communications, Marketing & Community Relations				MAIL STOP A127	EXT. 5415	DATE SENT 04/03/25

NARRATIVE:

Requested Action: Authorize the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager to enter into a contract with Powerhouse Science Center to extend SMUD's naming rights of the SMUD Museum of Science & Curiosity (MOSAC) for an additional two-year term through December 2039, in an amount not-to-exceed \$700,000 (\$350,000 per year).

Summary: PSC has offered SMUD the opportunity to supplement the sponsorship rights of MOSAC for an additional two years through the end of the decade (2039) at the pricing agreed upon in the 2018 Exclusive Presenting Partnership Agreement. This opportunity will provide continued significant visibility to SMUD, as well as important economic development benefits to the entire region while promoting riverfront development. MOSAC and its mission directly align with SMUD's science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education and outreach objectives and our workforce development priorities. Additionally, MOSAC has rapidly established itself as an iconic cultural attraction unique to our region. UC Davis Health and the County of Sacramento have also recognized the benefit of continued partnership and have similarly taken the opportunity to expand their support.

Board Policy: Strategic Direction SD-7, Environmental Leadership; Strategic Direction SD-8, Employee Relations; *(Number & Title)* Strategic Direction SD-10, Innovation; Strategic Direction SD-13, Economic Development; and Strategic Direction SD-15, Outreach and Communications

Benefits: MOSAC has proven to be a regional asset that reaches approximately 250,000 visitors each year. Supplementing the sponsorship rights would continue to secure a wide range of benefits including, among other things, exclusive naming rights, prominent signage, tailored exhibit content focused on education about climate change, technology, innovation, and the electricity industry, outreach and education opportunities, marketing, media, and advertising.

Cost/Budgeted: The new contract would add two years at \$350,000 per year (\$700,000) to SMUD's previous commitments and will be funded within program budgets.

Alternatives: Continue under the existing Exclusive Presenting Partnership Agreement and forgo the opportunity to maintain the naming rights through the end of the decade.

Affected Parties: Community Relations, Outreach & Support, DEIB, Learning & Sustainable Communities, SMUD Customers and Community and the Greater Sacramento Region

Coordination: Communications, Marketing & Community Relations

Presenter: Rhonda Staley-Brooks, Director, Community Relations Outreach & Support

Additional Links:

SUBJECT

Extend MOSAC Naming Rights

ITEM NO. (FOR LEGAL USE ONLY)

9

ITEMS SUBMITTED AFTER DEADLINE WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT MEETING.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 13-04-10, adopted April 18, 2013, this Board authorized a contract with **Powerhouse Science Center (PSC)** for a custom sponsorship package to support the construction of a new state of the art science museum in an amount not to exceed \$2,250,000, paid over a 15-year period beginning April 19, 2013, through December 31, 2028; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 18-02-01, adopted February 15, 2018, this Board authorized SMUD to enter into a new contract with **PSC** that, among other things, (1) gave SMUD naming rights for the center (i.e., **SMUD Museum of Science & Curiosity [MOSAC]**) through 2037, and (2) increased SMUD's total financial commitment from \$2,250,000 over the same period for a not-to-exceed financial commitment of \$9,250,000; and

WHEREAS, **PSC** has offered SMUD the opportunity to enter into a follow-on contract that would, under the same terms, extend SMUD's exclusive naming rights for **MOSAC** for an additional two years through the end of the decade (2039) at the same pricing as the existing contract; and

WHEREAS, **MOSAC** will continue to serve as a facility for experiential education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) that benefits the greater Sacramento region and provides value to SMUD's customers and the community; and

WHEREAS, SMUD's continued partnership with **PSC** and its support of **MOSAC** aligns with SMUD's role as a leader in creating sustainable energy future, and its desire to develop a pipeline of local talent, promote regional and riverfront economic

development, embrace clean energy future, and enhance the quality of life for our customers and community; and

WHEREAS, this Board finds that the follow-on contract with **PSC** for **MOSAC** to be consistent with the public purpose of SMUD, as a Municipal Utility District; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT:**

Section 1. That the Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to enter into a follow-on contract to the Exclusive Presenting Partnership Agreement with the **Powerhouse Science Center (PSC)** for naming rights to the **SMUD Museum of Science & Curiosity (MOSAC)** for an additional two years through December 2039, at an amount not to exceed \$700,000.

Section 2. The Chief Executive Officer and General Manager, or his designee, is authorized to make future changes to the terms and conditions of the contract that, in his prudent judgment: (a) further the primary purpose of the contract; (b) is intended to provide a net benefit to SMUD; and (c) does not exceed the authorized contract amount and applicable contingencies.