Notice of Intent
To Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration

Re: Sacramento Municipal Utility District Station E Substation Project

To Whom It May Concern:

Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) has prepared a Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration addressing the potential environmental effects of constructing and operating the Station E Substation Project (Proposed Project), located in the City of Sacramento in Sacramento County, California. The Proposed Project consists of installing a new substation with overhead and underground utility lines, steel structures, and electrical equipment to replace an existing substation. The Proposed Project would replace the existing North City Substation, which was constructed in the 1950s and has reached its planned operational end of life.

SMUD is proposing to replace the existing North City Substation with the new Station E Substation to maintain operational reliability. Replacing the existing substation at an adjacent site allows construction of the new Station E Substation to occur while maintaining electrical service from the existing North City Substation. The Proposed Project would meet SMUD’s performance objectives by locating the substation near the load center of the existing service area.

The Proposed Project site (Figure 1) is located northeast of downtown Sacramento at the north end of 20th Street, south of the American River, west of Sutter’s Landing Regional Park and the 28th Street Landfill, and east of the Blue Diamond almond processing facility. The south and west sides of the project are separated from adjoining land uses by the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks. South of the Proposed Project area is the Boulevard Park neighborhood and Grant Park.
Figure 1. Proposed Project Site.
As lead agency, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), SMUD is distributing the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration to interested public and regulatory authorities for review and comment. SMUD will receive public/agency comments on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for a 30-day period beginning January 3, 2014 and ending February 2, 2014. The Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is available on SMUD’s web page at https://www.smud.org/en/about-smud/company-information/document-library/CEQA-reports.htm and hardcopies may be reviewed at the following locations: Sacramento Central Library, 828 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814; SMUD Headquarters Building, 6201 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95817; SMUD East Campus Operations Center, 4401 Bradshaw Road, Sacramento, CA 95827; and State Clearinghouse, 1400 Tenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814.

To present the results of the Initial Study evaluation and to answer questions regarding the proposed project, SMUD will hold a public meeting on January 27, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at the SMUD Headquarters Building. The public is invited to attend this meeting. Written comments should be submitted to Jose Bodipo-Memba, SMUD, P.O. Box 15830, MS B203, Sacramento, CA, 95852-1830, Jose.Bodipo-Memba@smud.org, fax (916) 732-6890 before 5 p.m., February 2, 2014. If you have questions please contact Jose Bodipo-Memba at (916) 732-6493 or at Jose.Bodipo-Memba@smud.org.

The SMUD Board of Directors will consider adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration for this project at two meetings at which the public may make oral comments. The Board will take no action at the Energy Resources and Customer Service Committee meeting. Both public meetings will be held at the SMUD Headquarters Building, 6201 S Street, Sacramento, CA 95817. The Energy Resources and Customer Service Committee Meeting will be held on March 5, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in Room HCC. The Board meeting will be held on March 6, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium.

We appreciate your time and effort to review the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. Your comments regarding this project will be considered as part of future decisions to be made by SMUD.

Jose Bodipo-Memba, CEQA Project Manager
Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Date
January 3, 2014