



Southern California Utility

Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Program

Project Profile

Background

A major Southern California Utility developed a natural gas pipeline safety program designed to:

- Comply with the California Public Utility Commission's requirements for a pipeline safety enhancement plan contained in their directives
- Enhance public safety
- Minimize customer impacts
- Maximize cost effectiveness

The work generally includes pressure testing of approximately 360 miles of existing pipelines, replacing 294 miles of pipeline and upgrading main line valves.

DEI Scope of Work

DEI was hired as a subcontractor to multiple Prime Environmental Contractors, working under the purview of the Southern California Utility Companies Major Projects division to provide environmental project management, agency permitting and compliance assistance during project execution.

DEI Team Activities

- Work with engineering and project execution teams to define the scope of work of each project, advising on ways to minimize environmental impacts;
- Coordinate environmental review and support of pre-construction field activities during design and engineering
- Working with subject matter experts, develop detailed environmental review documents to define project impacts, advise on ways to avoid environmental resources, identify permitting requirements and potential risks to cost and schedule;
- Acquire all environmental permits necessary for construction;
- Coordinate environmental monitors, respond to field conditions and changes during construction.

Results

DEI has facilitated the completion of six successful hydrostatic test and pipeline section replacements including:

- CEQA/NEPA reviews
- Dust Control Plan development, approval and implementation
- Coordination with CDFW and BLM regarding use of programmatic permits
- Acquisition of discharge permits
- Management of biological resources in environmentally sensitive areas



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