

Agenda Item A.1 **PRESENTATION**

Meeting Date: March 5, 2019

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Peter Imhof, Planning and Environmental Review Director

SUBJECT: Southern California Edison Ellwood Tree Pruning Update

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation from representatives of Southern California Edison (SCE) concerning recent tree-pruning activities within SCE easements on Ellwood Mesa and Santa Barbara Shores Park.

BACKGROUND:

Last summer beginning in late July, SCE undertook pruning/topping of eucalyptus trees beneath high voltage powerlines within its utility easement on Ellwood Mesa (along the eastern edge of Ellwood North) parallel to and immediately west of Pebble Beach and Santa Barbara Shores Drives. SCE subsequently extended the scope of its work and performed additional tree pruning within utility easements in Santa Barbara Shores Park and Open Space (small). The primary purpose of this tree pruning was to address potential fire hazards. Awareness of fire danger was heightened at the time due especially to the Holiday Fire earlier that month.

SCE informed City staff in advance of its intent to begin the work in Ellwood North, which was to take place between July 30 and August 3. City staff encouraged SCE to consult with California Coastal Commission staff in Ventura regarding permit requirements for this proposed work.

Coastal Commission staff (Megan Sinkula) initially permitted the trimming of 30 trees under Emergency CDP No. G-4-18-0017 (Attachment 1) in response to SCE's emergency permit application. This emergency permit attached a list of the 30 trees to be pruned, a schematic map, a biologist's field check/preconstruction survey form (indicating that there are no active bird nests within the work area and committed to bio monitors present onsite during the work) and notification email. In advance of this work, SCE distributed flyers to the surrounding residences (Attachment 2). City staff also informed Councilmembers and key stakeholders, and separately notified residents of this work through a GovDelivery announcement and posting on Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor. On August 2, SCE informed the City that work was not complete and that it intended to continue pruning work the following week.

Meeting Date: March 5, 2019

Apparently in response to neighbor requests, SCE performed circuit inspections and tree assessments on August 22 and determined the need to perform maintenance on eight trees located between Pebble Beach Dr. and Santa Barbara Shores Dr. in Santa Barbara Shores Park and Open Space (small). SCE provided a second biological field survey for this area (Attachment 3). City staff again encouraged SCE to consult with the Coastal Commission concerning permit requirements and the need to notice neighboring residents and the community prior to work commencing.

On August 27, City staff learned that SCE pruning work was proceeding in Santa Barbara Shores Park. City staff was not able to confirm prior Coastal Commission permit authorization and City of Goleta Public Works issued a stop work order. SCE contact David Guzman stated that he was "not aware of the crews working in the area in question" and immediately shut down work in response.

Subsequently, the Coastal Commission authorized a second emergency permit (Emergency CDP No. G-4-18-0020) in response to an emergency permit application submitted by email on August 27 (Attachment 4) to retroactively permit an additional 109 trees that were pruned beyond the 30 trees authorized by the first emergency permit, including work within Santa Barbara Shores Park.

The City's contract biologist John Storrer also did a site visit following the work and provided two reports (Attachment 5). These reports described and included photos of the extent of the pruning work, estimating that approximately 100 trees had been pruned or topped in the Ellwood Mesa Open Space area and observing that "a more selective approach to pruning" had been taken by SCE in Santa Barbara Shores Park and Open Space.

DISCUSSION

SCE representatives will provide the City Council with an overview of SCE wildfire mitigation/grid resiliency efforts and Vegetation Management Program and policies. They will update the Council on the specifics of the Ellwood Mesa tree-pruning work, including tree inspections, identification and number of trees pruned, public notification of the work and permitting through the California Coastal Commission.

Approved By:

Michelle Greene City Manager

Meeting Date: March 5, 2019

Attachments:

- 1. Emergency CDP No. G-4-18-0017 with Exhibits
- 2. SCE Notice Flyer
- 3. SCE Field Survey, dated Aug 21-22, 2018
- 4. Emergency CDP No. G-4-18-0020 Application
- 5. John Storrer City Contract Biologist Reports

Emergency CDP No. G-4-18-0017 with Exhibits

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AREA 89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA ST., SUITE 200 VENTURA, CA 93001 (805) 585-1800



EMERGENCY PERMIT

Date:

August 2, 2018

Permit No.

G-4-18-0017

Applicant:

Southern California Edison

Work Proposed:

One-time tree pruning of 30 eucalyptus trees within the Southern California Edison utility right-of-way on Ellwood Mesa that are dead and/or at high risk of failure adjacent to high voltage electrical facilities in order to protect life and property from imminent danger.

This letter constitutes approval of the emergency work you or your representative has requested to be done at the location listed above. I understand from the information submitted that there is an unexpected occurrence in the form of dead eucalyptus trees at high risk of failure that are adjacent to high voltage electrical facilities on Ellwood Mesa and that constitute a risk to public health and safety. This occurrence requires immediate action to prevent or mitigate loss or damage to life, health, property or essential public services. 14 Cal. Admin. Code §13009. The Executive Director hereby finds that:

- (a) An emergency exists which requires action more quickly than permitted by the procedures for administrative or ordinary permits and the development can and will be completed within 30 days unless otherwise specified by the terms of the permit;
- (b) Public comment on the proposed emergency action has been reviewed if time allows; and

The work is hereby approved, subject to the conditions listed on the reverse.

Sincerely,

John Ainsworth Executive Director

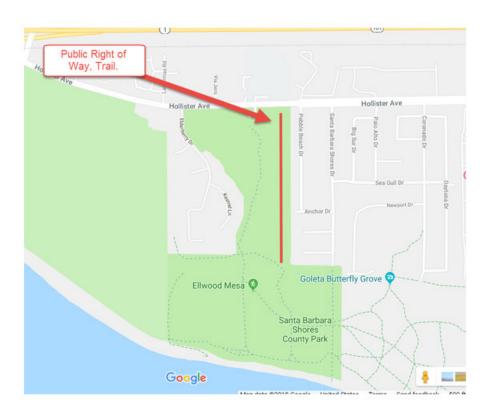
By: Steve Hudson Title: Deputy Director

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

- 1. The enclosed form must be signed by the applicant and returned to our office within fifteen (15) days.
- 2. Only that work specifically described above is authorized for the specific property listed above, subject to the conditions set forth below. Any additional work requires separate authorization from the Executive Director.
- 3. The work authorized by this permit must be completed within 30 days of the date of this permit in order to avoid the migratory season for monarch butterflies, and shall take place in a manner to minimize any potential impacts to coastal resources and public access. The applicant shall also avoid adverse impacts to aggregating monarch butterflies and to live eucalyptus trees near the project site to the maximum extent feasible.
- 4. The applicant shall ensure that a qualified biologist shall monitor the site during all emergency work activities to ensure that adverse impacts to sensitive plant and animal species are avoided or minimized to the maximum extent feasible.
- 5. In exercising this emergency permit, the applicant agrees to hold the California Coastal Commission (Commission) harmless from any liabilities for damage to public or private properties or personal injury that may result from the project and to indemnify the Commission, which includes its officers, agents, and employees, against any and all liability, related claims, demands, damages, costs (including costs and fees incurred in defense of such claims), expenses, and amounts paid in settlement arising from any such damage or personal injury.

	GRID 49: HFH TREES - ELLWOOD MESA - CITY OF GOLETA - 7/13/2018							
					Side Walk Site Attendant	City Owned		
Quantity	Tree Species	Location/Address	Traffic Lane Closure	Bike Lane Closure	Required	Property		
1	Eucalyptus	r/o 211 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 1				Χ		
2	Eucalyptus	r/o 211 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 1				v		
2	Eucalyptus	r/o 235 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 3				X		
4	Eucalyptus	r/o 253 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 4				X		
3		r/o 261 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 5				X		
5	Eucalyptus Eucalyptus	r/o 279 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 6				X		
1		r/o 295 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 7				X		
	Eucalyptus	r/o 319 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 8				X		
2	Eucalyptus							
	Eucalyptus	r/o 345 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 10				X		
3	Eucalyptus	r/o 361 Pebble Beach Dr - Span 11				X		
5	Eucalyptus	r/o 7653 Anchor Dr - Span 12				X		
1	Eucalyptus	r/o 7648 Pismo Cir - Span 13				X		
		Total 30 Trees						

	_		_	
-		•	•	•



FIELD CHECK OR PRECONSTRUC TION SURVEY RESULTS									
FORM									
Name of Surveyor:	Armando Aispuro	Prime Consultant Company:	Cardno	Sub Consultant Company:	Bloom Biological	Survey Date(s):	07/18/18	SCE Biologist Name:	Marc Freeman
Time In:	HH:MM 06:50				T H i H m: e N C u 1 t 4 :				

CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION COMMUNICATION/COORDINATION SUMMARY [COMPLETE FOR PRECONSTRUCTION SURVEYS]

INSTRUCTIONS: Describe communication summary with construction. EXAMPLE: John Doe [Diversified, johnd1@dusi.com, 555-222-4444] was notified of the results of the survey and was cleared to proceed with a monitor.

SURVEY CONDITIONS			
Temperature (°F)	70	Weather/Precipitation	Overcast to light clouds.

TABLE OF RESULTS PER STR	UCTURE/WORK AREA	
TD#	E317150002	Split to add additional or merge to
Pole#, Project Name,	Encanto, City of Goleta Line Clearing Bird and Butterfly Field Survey	remove extra columns as necessary. →
Circuit, Location or Address:		

Unexpected access issues,		
inaccessible areas?	• No.	
Compliance issues?		
Any not previously		
identified potential riparian	• No.	
veg canopy, jurisdictional		
resource, wetland resources		
within the survey area that		
could or will be impacted?		
Were any nests observed	No active nests were observed within the work area. In general the birds did not appear or behave like they were still nesting. There	
(nests and woodpecker	were several inactive passerine nests, and one inactive American Crow nest outside of the 100 foot buffer. All of them were recorded	
cavities) within survey area	in the Collecter app.	
	in the collecter app.	
or in/on the structures?		
\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\		
Were any burrows observed	A.I.	
for regulated/listed species	• No	
(mammal, burrowing owl,		
tortoise)?		
Answer the following four	INSTRUCTIONS: Document observed listed/regulated wildlife or suitable habitat if present. Describe if avoidance flagging installed.	
items for each Listed/		
Regulated Plant Species	 Yes – Suitable habitat is present within the survey area for the Monarch Butterfly. Monarch butterflies are very likely to occur 	
(describe for each	within survey area. Three individuals were observed using the survey area, and during migration this area is heavily used by	
individual species): Is	this species. The individuals seen today are almost certainly resident individuals and not migratory individuals. I recommend	
suitable habitat present	beginning work soon to avoid impacting butterfly populations during peak migration. A butterfly biological monitor is	
within survey area and	recommended.	
work area (yes/no)? What		
is the likelihood of		
occurrence for each species		
(use species determination		
flowchart)? Include brief		
explanation for occurrence		
determination. Include any		
construction management		
recommendations.		
Answer the following four		
items for each Listed/		
Regulated Wildlife Species		
(describe for each		
individual species): Is		

suitable habitat present		
within survey area and		
work area (yes/no)? What		
is the likelihood of		
occurrence for each species		
(use species determination		
flowchart)? Include brief		
explanation for occurrence		
determination. Include any		
construction management		
recommendations.		
Compliance issues?		
	• No	

ATTACHMENTS LOG	
KMZ	INSTRUCTIONS: include the name of the KMZ and the information it contains. The KMZ must contain
	the following:
	E317150002 _BioSurv_20180718.kmz. Contains inactive nests found and survey area for tday.
Pictures	INSTRUCTIONS: include the name of the image and caption of the photo for each image attached.
	Pictures can also be inserted directly into the table with the captions above/under the picture instead of
	a separate attachment.
	• none

SCE Notice Flyer



NOTICE OF EMERGENCY TREE WORK SCHEDULED FOR JULY 30 – AUGUST 3

TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND UTILITY RELIABILITY

WORK HOURS: 8AM – 5PM

Dear Residential Customer:

In a continuing effort to provide our customers with reliable electric service, **Southern California Edison** has scheduled tree maintenance work adjacent to your property along the utility right-of way/Ellwood Mesa walking trail.

Our efforts are to comply with the State of California Public Resource Code 4293 which mandates the mitigation of the hazard created by dead, dying, and diseased trees with the potential to make contact with our high voltage power lines. These efforts are to ensure circuit reliability and to prevent the propagation of a wildland fire.

During the working hours of the project there will be an increase in noise level from chainsaws, chippers, trucks, etc. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

NO POWER OUTAGES ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR THIS PROJECT

Note: An Environmental Monitor will be onsite for the duration of this project.

Southern California Edison

If you have any questions or concerns please call:

Marc Freeman - Project Manager: 1-805-654-7411

From: City of Goleta <goleta@public.govdelivery.com>

Subject: SCE Schedules Tree Trimming on Ellwood Mesa for Next Week



Southern California Edison Schedules Tree Trimming on Ellwood Mesa

SCE has notified the City that it intends to prune eucalyptus trees overhanging power lines within its right of way on Ellwood Mesa parallel to and immediately west of Pebble Beach and Santa Barbara Shores Drives. The work will include directional tree pruning on the eucalyptus trees to prevent them from making contact with high voltage conductors. This maintenance work is scheduled to take place from July 30 through August 3 and is intended to address areas with potential fire hazards. An environmental monitor will be on site for the duration of the work. Please see the public notice below.



NOTICE OF EMERGENCY TREE WORK SCHEDULED FOR

JULY 30 - AUGUST 3

TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND UTILITY RELIABILITY WORK HOURS: 8AM - 5PM

Dear Residential Customer:

In a continuing effort to provide our customers with reliable electric service, Southern California Edison has scheduled tree maintenance work adjacent to

Our efforts are to comply with the State of California Public Resource Code 4293 which mandates the mitigation of the hazard created by dead, dying, and diseased trees with the potential to make contact with our high voltage power lines. These efforts are to ensure circuit reliability and to prevent the propagation of a wildland fire.

During the working hours of the project there will be an increase in noise level from chainsaws, chippers, trucks, etc. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

NO POWER OUTAGES ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED FOR THIS PROJECT

Note: An Environmental Monitor will be onsite for the duration of this project.

Southern California Edison

If you have any questions or concerns please call: 1-800-655-4555



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES: Manage Preferences | Delete Profile | Help

This email was sent to Email Address using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: City of Goleta · 130 Cremona Drive, Suite B · Goleta, CA 93117

SCE Sc	nedules Tree Trimming on Ellwood Mesa for Next Week	×
From:	City of Goleta <goleta@public.govdelivery.com></goleta@public.govdelivery.com>	
Subject:	SCE Schedules Tree Trimming on Ellwood Mesa for Next Week	

SCE Field Survey, dated Aug 21-22, 2018

	FIELD CHECK OR PRECONSTRUCTION SURVEY RESULTS FORM								
Name of Surveyor:		Prime Consultant Company:	Cardno	Sub Consultant Company:	BRC-Equals3	Survey Date(s):	August 21-22, 2018	SCE Biologist Name:	Paul Yamazaki
Time In:	ime In: (8/21) 7:45AM; (8/22) 7:15AM Time Out: (8/21) 11:45AM; (8/22) 10:45AM								

CONSTRUCTION NOTIFICATION COMMUNICATION/COORDINATION SUMMARY [COMPLETE FOR PRECONSTRUCTION SURVEYS]

Daniel Neal [danielneal@cardno.com, (916) 747-4086] notified of the results of the survey and was cleared to proceed without a monitor.

SURVEY CONDITIONS	
Temperature (°F) 64-70 °F	Weather/Precipitation Foggy

TABLE OF RESULTS PER STR	RUCTURE/WORK AREA
TD#	N/A
Pole#, Project Name,	Encanto 16KV, Goleta, CA
Circuit, Location or Address:	
Unexpected access issues,	No
inaccessible areas?	
Compliance issues?	
Any not previously	No – ephemeral drainage present that runs along access road inside eucalyptus grove; crews will not need to cross drainage with vehicles, access will be by foot only.
identified potential riparian	
veg canopy, jurisdictional resource, wetland	
resources within the survey	
area that could or will be	
impacted?	
Were any nests observed	No – no woodpecker cavities were observed and no active native species nests or nesting activity was observed.
(nests and woodpecker	
cavities) within survey area	
or in/on the structures?	
Were any burrows observed for regulated/listed species	No

(mammal, burrowing owl, tortoise)?	
	Nie witcht, hebitet est weeret
Answer the following four	No - suitable habitat not present.
items for each Listed/	
Regulated Plant Species	
(describe for each	
individual species): Is	
suitable habitat present	
within survey area and	
work area (yes/no)? What	
is the likelihood of	
occurrence for each species	
(use species determination	
flowchart)? Include brief	
explanation for occurrence	
determination. Include any	
construction management	
recommendations.	
Answer the following four	No - suitable habitat not present.
items for each Listed/	
Regulated Wildlife Species	
(describe for each	
individual species): Is	
suitable habitat present	
within survey area and	
work area (yes/no)? What	
is the likelihood of	
occurrence for each species	
(use species determination	
flowchart)? Include brief	
explanation for occurrence	
determination. Include any	
construction management	
recommendations.	
Compliance issues?	No

ATTACHMENTS LOG

KMZ Encanto16KV_Goleta.KMZ

Pictures



Dead_SE.jpg shows southeastern view of dead eucalyptus tree planned for trimming.



Drainage_S.jpg shows southern view of ephemeral drainage that runs along access road.



Dead_E.jpg shows eastern view of dead eucalyptus tree planned for trimming.



Line_N.jpg shows northern view of eucalyptus grove in proximity to distribution line.

Emergency CDP No. G-4-18-0020 Application

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

SOUTH CENTRAL COAST AREA 89 SOUTH CALIFORNIA ST., SUITE 200 VENTURA, CA 93001 (805) 585-1800



APPLICATION FOR EMERGENCY PERMIT

PLEASE NOTE: The following information and attachments <u>must</u> be submitted in writing in order to receive an Emergency Permit pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 30624(a). If the emergency situation is such that a verbal authorization is given by the District Director to commence emergency work, the property owner must still submit the application for an emergency permit within 3 days of the disaster or discovery of the danger. 14 Cal. Admin. Code Section 13139.

		П		□ email notification		
1.	8/27/18 till complete Date/Time	Request: in person	by telephone	by mail sent 8/27/18		
2.	Ellwood Mesa/Santa Barbara Shores ROW David A. Guzman					
	Name(s) of Property Owner(s) Name(s) of Representative(s)					
	Address:	Address:				
	Public/Utility ROW	1440 S. California, Monrovia CA 91016				
	Phone Number:	Phon	e Number:			
310-739-1087						

3. Location of Emergency Work:

Ellwood Mesa/Santa Barbra Shores Public/Utility Right of Way

4. Evidence of applicant's interest in property on which emergency work is to be performed:

Southern California Edison currently has the Encanto 16kV electrical circuit that runs along the ROW. The poles and high voltage electrical conductors our open and obvious.

5. Assessor's Parcel Number:

Unknown

6. Contractor, or person(s) who will do emergency work/address/phone number (if different from representative):

Mowbrays Tree Service

7. Nature and cause of emergency (brief description):

One-time tree pruning of 109 eucalyptus trees within the Southern California Edison utility rightof-way on Ellwood Mesa that are dead and/or at high risk of failure adjacent to high voltage electrical facilities in order to protect life and property from imminent danger. 8. The circumstances during the emergency that appeared to justify the course(s) of action taken, including the probable consequences of failing to take action:

As a result of an tree assessment 109 trees have been identified as a risk for failure. In addition to the documentation of tree failures within the area of concern, the City of Goleta had recently experienced the Holiday Fire that started during active Sundowner Winds. Since this area is prone to Sundowner Winds coupled with the tree failures and the amount of dry dead fuel in the forest we felt it was absolutely necessary for mitigation efforts to prevent a catastrophic fire.

9. Method and preventive work requested (e.g., rip-rap, bulkhead, etc.):

Heavy directional tree pruning to create appropriate defensible space and tree conditions that do not threaten SCE high voltage electrical facilities.

10. Timing of emergency work (estimate as to when work will be performed generally a period of 24 to 72 hours after the emergency occurrence):

Immediately upon permit approval. The work shall take approximately 3 days.

ATTACHMENTS - Please provide the following:

- 1. If time permits, evidence of approval by local planning department.
- 2. Site plan showing proposed and existing development on the subject parcel.
- 3. Vicinity map (road map) with location of project site marked. For rural areas, please also provide a parcel map.
- 4. Filing Fee \$1108.00 (new fee effective July 1, 2015). The emergency application fee is credited toward the follow-up permit application fee.

John Storrer City Contract Biologist Reports

From: <u>Hudson, Steve@Coastal</u>

To: Kubran, Michelle@Coastal; Sinkula, Megan@Coastal; Christensen, Deanna@Coastal; Carey, Barbara@Coastal

Subject: FW: Ellwood Mesa - Utility ROW - Notification of Utility Vegetation Management - July 30 thru August 3

Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 12:00:56 PM

Attachments: FieldCheck BioPreconSurveyForm Program Company encanto 20180718 V22Feb20....doc

EllwoodMesaGoleta.pdf

HFH Trees-Ellwood Mesa-City of Goleta-as of 7-13-18.xlsx

From: David Guzman [mailto:David.Guzman@sce.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 12:00 PM

To: Hudson, Steve@Coastal

Cc: Jeffrey Copeland; Jon Pancoast; Marc Freeman; Michael Metcho; Patricia Sprague; Rudolph

Gonzales; David C Simmons

Subject: Ellwood Mesa - Utility ROW - Notification of Utility Vegetation Management - July 30 thru

August 3

Dear Mr. Hudson,

This email is to provide you with notification of Southern California Edison's (SCE) intention to perform emergency directional tree pruning in our utility ROW within the Ellwood Mesa area on July 30th thru August 3rd. We have previously identified several eucalyptus trees that are dead and alive that are growing or leaning toward and have the potential to fall into our high voltage electrical facilities. We have been working with the City of Goleta in an attempt to obtain a removal permit for the dead trees. This removal permit request has been ongoing for over 1 year. Recently we conducted a patrol of the area and discovered previously identified removal trees have fallen and landed on other live eucalyptus. These failures, however, have escalated SCE's need to mitigate the potential hazards of these trees from failing and falling into our high voltage electrical facilities and possibly causing a fire, serious injury, and or outage.

We recently had a biologist survey the work area, which confirmed we do not have any active nest within 100 feet. We will also have a butter fly biologist on site at all times as recommend (see attached report). In addition, I've attached two documents that list the trees that will receive tree maintenance/directional pruning. These documents reference the location of the tree within our spans and the adjacent residential property. We want to make it clear that <u>SCE will not remove any trees</u>. Our work will include tree pruning only and all pruning will be in accordance with ANSI A300 Tree Pruning Standards.

We have informed the City of Goleta and the local residents of the need for emergency work. We are confident this work is in line with the Coastal Act "repair and maintenance exemption". We are sure you understand the need for us to mitigate against any potential (fire) hazard.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Respectfully, David A. Guzman Manager SCE, T&D, Vegetation Management Dept. ISA Certified Arborist WE-9934-A, TRAQ. (310) 739-1087

From: John Storrer < john@storrerenvironmental.com>

Sent: Thursday, September 06, 2018 5:46 PM

To: Anne Wells; Bob Morgenstern
Cc: Justine Cooper; Jessica Peak

Subject: Inspection of Southern California Edison Tree Maintenance Work on Ellwood Mesa -

September 6, 2018

City of Goleta Public Works Ellwood Mesa (Pebble Beach Drive/Santa Barbara Shores Drive) Inspection of Tree Maintenance Work 6 September 2018

I made an inspection this afternoon to ascertain the status of tree maintenance work along Southern California Edison's (SCE) power line easements on Ellwood Mesa. I also spoke with David Guzman, Manager of SCE's Vegetation Management Department by telephone. Mr. Guzman explained the scope and objectives of the work currently underway. The pruning was intended to reduce the potential for windfall and consequent damage to the power lines. And also to mitigate the risk of fire that might result from such an event. Mr. Guzman also said that the work had been monitored by a biologist.

I arrived at the west end of Anchor Drive at around 2:00 PM. The SCE easement parallels Pebble Beach Drive and the eastern portion of the eucalyptus grove on the Ellwood Mesa Open Space. Work there had been completed. I estimated that approximately 100 trees, the majority bluegum eucalyptus, had been pruned or "topped" (Photo 1). The trees nearest the power lines were cut at about 25-30 feet in height. Adjacent trees to the west had been topped at between 30 and 50 feet, depending on distance from the power lines. The woody material had been processed through a mulching machine and distributed on the public trail (Photo 2). This prescriptive treatment had been done from the south end of the grove, north to Hollister Avenue, paralleling the power line alignment.

I found a crew (contractor to SCE) at work west of Santa Barbara Shores Drive, in a wooded area between two SCE power line easements. There was a crane with a man-basket and mulcher. I spoke with the foreman there who explained that they were using a more selective approach to pruning at this location. Trees that were targeted for maintenance had been predetermined and marked by SCE personnel. The foreman thought that maintenance work would be completed at this location on Friday. Some cleanup may be necessary on Monday.

John Storrer

Environmental Coordinator City of Goleta Public Works Department



Photo 1: Eucalyptus pruning west of Pebble Beach Drive, Ellwood Mesa Open Space.



Photo 2: Mulch distributed on public trail – east end of Ellwood Mesa Open Space.



Photo 3: Crain with man-basket and crew pruning trees west of Santa Barbara Shores Drive.



Photo 4: Tree limbed west of Santa Barbara Shores Drive.

From: John Storrer <john@storrerenvironmental.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 11, 2018 6:20 PM

To: Anne Wells; Jay Ritterbeck
Cc: Bob Morgenstern; Jessica Peak

Subject: Inspection of SCE Tree Maintenance Work on Ellwood Mesa - September 11, 2018

Hi Anne and J.

Just a brief note as I'm finishing up business before I leave town on Thursday. I made a brief inspection at Ellwood this afternoon. I looked at the last work location – the open space between Pebble Beach and SB Shores Drives. This is where they were working last Thursday afternoon, 9/6. The foreman had told me they were about finished and would be done Friday or Monday.

There was no equipment onsite at the time of my inspection around 3:30 PM. The work looked to have been completed.

I noticed that they'd left 2 piles of bucked-up logs onsite. I had understood from the foreman that everything would be removed. I'm not sure if that matters to you or Bob Morgenstern (cc'ed above). Most of the larger material from the Coronado work that the City did several months back was also left onsite.

I left a message for David Guzman with SCE asking him to confirm if they were finished.

Here are a couple of photos to illustrate. Relatively few trees were pruned in this area. Most of the work was done along the SCE easement west of Pebble Beach Drive.

~ John





John Storrer

Storrer Environmental Services, LLC
2565 Puesta Del Sol Road #3
Santa Barbara, CA 93105
805.689.5982 mobile
john@storrerenvironmental.com
www.storrerenvironmental.com