

## DOCKETED

<b>Docket Number:</b>	15-AFC-01
<b>Project Title:</b>	Puente Power Project
<b>TN #:</b>	217575
<b>Document Title:</b>	Report of Conversation Punete Power Project with Dr. Jonna Engel, California Coastal Commission
<b>Description:</b>	N/A
<b>Filer:</b>	Raquel Rodriguez
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# CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION



Energy Facilities Siting and <b>Environmental Protection Division</b>	<b>FILE:</b> 15-AFC-01	
<input type="checkbox"/> E-MAIL: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephone:	<b>Project Title: Puente Power Project</b>	
<b>NAME:</b> Carol Watson	<input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Location	<b>Date</b> May 10, 2017 <b>Time</b> 4:00pm
<b>WITH:</b> Dr. Jonna Engel, California Coastal Commission		
<b>SUBJECT: Puente Power Project</b>		
<p>Dr. Engel and I visited the Puente site on May 3, 2017, and debriefed via telephone. Dr. Engel conveyed five primary points following her site visit.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. After reviewing the project site and observing vegetation onsite, Dr. Engel concluded that the area on the Puente site identified as “coyote bush scrub” and colored maroon with vertical orange stripes on Figure 4.2-2, “Vegetation Communities,” in Section 4.2 of the Application for Certification (TN #204219-9), is a raised area that is approximately 2 to 4 feet above the surrounding area, dominated by coyote bush, highway iceplant, and wooly seablite, and does not constitute dune swale habitat.</li> <li>2. Dune Habitat                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Engel observed that the area identified as “ice plant mats” in pink on Figure 4.2-2, “Vegetation Communities,” in AFC Section 4.2 (TN #204219-9), that borders the entire north and west sides of the Puente site which is outlined in yellow, is dune habitat. To the north the substrate is mixed but primarily sand and the area supports native dune plant species, ice plant, European annual grasses and native and non-native weeds. To the west the substrate is sand that forms raised hummocks which supports a lot of ice plant but also many species of native dune plants.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Coverboard surveys                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coverboards should be flush with the substrate.</li> <li>• When conducting coverboard surveys, please remove vegetation and then rake and search underneath each coverboard to better detect rare species. When each survey is completed, please replace vegetation and flatten it such that the respective coverboard is flush with the ground.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Species surveys                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please focus survey effort in areas where the respective species are likely to occur, e.g. sampling for silvery legless lizards in the hard substrate in the Puente site footprint will likely not prove as effective as intensifying survey effort in the softer sand and dune habitat in the north and west buffer area, along the access road, and around the outfall.</li> <li>• Please extend surveys through the end of June to allow rare species to locate and utilize coverboards and to increase the potential to find rare species, if they occur in the area.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>		



- The Coastal Commission comment letter on the proposed survey methods (TN #216908) states that the respective special status species surveys may be discontinued upon positive identification of the respective species. However, the Coastal Commission acknowledges the value in continuing surveys to document the spatial distribution and abundance of rare species and therefore removes this recommendation. Therefore, please continue surveys per the prescribed methods (TN #216937) even if a positive identification is made.

5. Alternative project locations

- The Coastal Commission comment letter (TN #216908) requested that special status species surveys include the areas with potential to support rare plants and animals within and around the two onsite alternative sites. The areas to the north, south, and east of the alternative depicted on FSA Fig. 16 should be included in the areas slated for rare plant and animal surveys.

cc:		Signed:
		Name: Carol Watson, Planner II, Siting Division