

SDG&E Franchise Compliance Review DSD-TUD

DSD-Telecom and Utility Section (Review and Inspection Team)

Positive Developments-Acknowledged Improvements



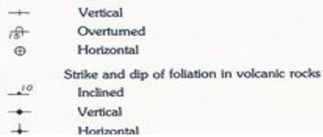
Survey Monument Coordination

SDG&E updated their plans to include survey monument locations following coordination with the City's Land Surveyor and DSD Mapping, to ensure compliance with DSD Information Bulletin 591.



Enhanced Quality of Design and Submittals

The improvements in plan quality, design accuracy, and conformance with City standards have resulted in an accelerated review process and faster permit issuance for SDG&E submittals.



Updated Symbol Legend for Clarity

SDG&E followed the City's direction to use standardized symbols in the legend section of their construction plans, improving clarity and consistency in the submittals.



Improved Customer Relations and Coordination with DSD Reviewers

Appropriate engagement and responsiveness to reviewer comments fostered improved collaboration contributed to a more efficient plan approval process.



Excellent Field Collaboration

Kudos to SDG&E from the Field Inspection Team for outstanding coordination, safety, and excellence in emergency excavation response and restoration.

Opportunities for Improvement – Construction Plan Accuracy

Incomplete Delineation of Scope

- Excavation limits, utility separations, and private/ROW boundaries are frequently missing or inaccurately represented.
- Plans often omit critical trench dimensions (edge to edge) and lack crossing notes for vertical utility clearance.

Inconsistent Use of Professional Standards

- Some plans submitted using non-professional tools (e.g., Microsoft Paint).
- Variability in plan quality — some appear well-drafted, others lack scaled details and dimensions.

Insufficient QA/QC Measures

- Submittals contain errors in excavation tables, missed site constraints (e.g., ADA curb ramps, trees), or mislabeled utility features.
- Review cycles extended due to preventable errors.

Process Gaps and Resistance to Reviewer Input

Incomplete Responses to Reviewer Comments

- ❖ Comments dismissed as “excessive” or replied to with phrases like “SDG&E should not be required to do this.”
- ❖ Examples show repeated failure to revise plans to reflect reviewer concerns.

Challenges to Regulatory Authority

- ❖ Reluctance to follow Deputy City Engineer (DCE) direction unless cited in the MOU or City of San Diego’s Codes and Standards.

Use of Approximate Dimensions

- ❖ Frequent use of “±” measurements instead of precise figures undermines plan clarity and field constructability.