**P1. Other Identifier:** CA-LO55485A

**P2. Location:** □ Not for Publication □ Unrestricted

- **a. County:** Los Angeles
- **b. USGS 7.5' Quad:** Torrance Date: 1978 T 35;
- **c. Address:** 1701 Inglewood Avenue City: Redondo Beach Zip: 90278
- **d. UTM:** Zone: 11 ; mE/ mN (G.P.S.)
- **e. Other Locational Data:** (e.g., parcel #, directions to resource, elevation, etc., as appropriate) Elevation:

*P3a. Description: (Describe resource and its major elements. Include design, materials, condition, alterations, size, setting, and boundaries)*

This property consists of a 160-foot tall Southern California Edison four-legged lattice tower. The tower is a self-supporting zinc-galvanized, open steel frame structure. The tower is part of the El Nido – La Fresa 220 kV transmission line, originally constructed in 1963.

*(continued to page 2)*

**P3b. Resource Attributes:** (List attributes and codes) HP11: Engineering Structure

**P4. Resources Present:** □ Building □ Structure □ Object □ Site □ District □ Element of District □ Other (Isolates, etc.)

**P5a. Photo or Drawing:** (Photo required for buildings, structures, and objects.)

*P5b. Description of Photo: (View, date, accession #) View looking east, from Inglewood Avenue, toward the SCE tower.

(Phototaken December, 8 2010)*

**P6. Date Constructed/Age and Sources:**

□ Historic □ Prehistoric □ Both 1963. Construction date provided by Southern California Edison.

**P7. Owner and Address:**

Southern California Edison
4900 Rivergrade Road
Irwindale CA 91706
(626) 688-9344

**P8. Recorded by:** (Name, affiliation, and address)

Brent D. Johnson
Heritage Preservation Consultants
P.O. Box 80142
Rancho Santa Margarita CA 92688

**P9. Date Recorded:** 12/12/2010

**P10. Survey Type:** (Describe)

Section 106 Compliance Project Review

**P11. Report Citation:** None

**Attachments:** □ NONE □ Location Map □ Sketch Map □ Continuation Sheet □ Building, Structure, and Object Record □ Archaeological Record □ District Record □ Linear Feature Record □ Milling Station Record □ Rock Art Record □ Artifact Record □ Photograph Record □ Other (List):

DPR 523A (1995)
### State of California — The Resources Agency
#### DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

Page 2 of 6

*Resource Name or #:* SCE El Nido – La Fresa M5-T5

*Recorded by:* Brent D. Johnson  
*Date:* 12/12/2010

(continued from page 1)

The evaluated property is located at 1701 Inglewood Avenue, in the city of Redondo Beach. The project area is highly disturbed and located in a medium to high density urban area. The proposed project area has been developed with a Southern California Edison Company (SCE) transmission corridor right-of-way. The corridor is occupied by overhead electrical transmission lines supported by metal towers, and includes underground pipelines. The transmission corridor runs in a east-west direction from the northern end of the city to Rockefeller Lane, at which point it turns due east, and continues to toward the eastern end of the City. SCE permits private entities to use portions of the corridor for commercial nurseries. The residences located approximately 100 feet to the north, south, and east of the candidate, in the indirect APE for visual impacts, along Rockefeller Avenue, Grant Avenue, and Ruxton Lane, include single-family and multi-family (3-unit to 7-unit) residences designed in a contemporary, and minimal traditional style between approximately 1951 and 1977. A new development of condominiums on Ruxton Lane appears to have been constructed within the past five years. The homes are not qualified for National Register eligibility according to the seven aspects of integrity outlined by the U.S. Department of Interior.

The power transmission tower (subject candidate) is a rigid steel tower that supports a high-voltage electric power transmission line, having a large enough space between conductors and the ground to prevent corona discharge. Lattice steel towers are typically assembled from individual parts at the place where they are erected, and generally consist of angle-profiled steel beams (L or T-beams), in this case L beams, that are fastened together with zinc-coated ferrous lag screws. A space frame or truss design provides structural strength and economy of design with a minimum of material requirements. The steel lattice towers support overhead electricity conductors and cable made with aluminum or copper wire. The wire is hung from long stacks of glass insulators to keep the electricity separated. At the top of the transmission towers, lightning arrester wires are connected directly to the steel tower so that lightning strikes will be grounded. El Nido-La Fresa M5-T5 has six coils, which means it is a three phase, double circuit transmission tower. Most historic transmission towers would be two-wire, single phase, low voltage transmission systems used for electrical lighting.
B1. Historic Name: SCE El Nido - La Fresa M5-T5
B2. Common Name: SCE Transmission Tower
B3. Original Use: Electric Transmission Tower
*B4. Present Use: Electric Transmission Tower
*B5. Architectural Style: Open steel frame lattice tower
*B6. Construction History: Constructed, circa 1963

*B7. Moved? ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown Date: Original Location:

*B8. Related Features:


*B10. Significance: Theme: Electrification of Los Angeles  Area: Redondo Beach, CA
Period of Significance: 1963  Property Type: Electrical Transmission Tower  Applicable Criteria: N/A
(Discuss importance in terms of historical or architectural context as defined by theme, period, geographic scope. Also address integrity) Redondo Beach is known for several innovative projects that contributed to the electrification of southern California. The Pacific Light & Power steam plant, constructed 1906, was built near the historic salt pond in Redondo Beach and was sold to Southern California Edison in 1917. The steam plant used a reciprocating double-angle, tandem-compound engine driving a 15,000-KW generator. These were the last steam engines to be installed in a major U.S. power plant. However, the construction of a hydroelectric plant in the High Sierras in 1920 reduced the need for the steam plant in Redondo, and by 1928 the plant was used only in emergencies, such as the 1933 Long Beach earthquake. The Redondo Beach office of Southern California Edison even sponsored a team of home economists to find new ways of using electricity to enable household conveniences such as electric cooking. Perhaps one of the most innovative designs for producing electricity in Southern California was implemented in Redondo Beach by the Los Angeles Wave Power and Electric Company. The company constructed the Starr Wave Motor Pier south of Pier No. 3 to provide a staging area for its Wave Motor Barges. Electricity was generated by the rise and fall of 2 large pontoon barges as they rocked up and down on the waves. The system provided electricity for many of the homes along the Esplanade and the company planned to export electricity along the entire coastal region, but a large storm destroyed the pier, and by 1912 the company was no longer producing energy. The SCE El Nido-La Fresa M5-T5 transmission line does not appear to be associated with either of these historic electrification projects or with Southern California Edison Transmission Lines that have been determined historic. (See Continuation Sheet, page 4 of 6)


*B12. References:
Shanahan, Dennis, Old Redondo: A Pictorial History of Redondo Beach, California. Legends Press, Redondo Beach, California. 1985
Richardson, Curt R., A History of Redondo Beach, Caruso Press, Oswego, New York. 1982
The Historic Commission of Redondo Beach, Postcard History Series: Redondo Beach. Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, South Carolina. 2005

B13. Remarks:

*B14. Evaluator: Brent D. Johnson

*Date of Evaluation: 12/12/2010
According to Thomas T. Taylor of SCE the installation of wireless antenna systems on potentially historic steel lattice towers is a transitory or reversible effect, which amounts to no permanent effect on the resource. Adam Sriro, archaeologist for SCE, states that if a transmission line is considered a contributing element of an historic property the effect is considered temporary. SCE El Nido – La Fresa is not eligible or listed as an historic transmission line. It is also not a contributing element of an historic property. Thomas Taylor does not believe the line was constructed by a precursor to SCE (such as Anaheim’s municipal electric system), which brought electricity to Anaheim in April 11, 1895. The first Edison “windmill towers” were constructed in 1904 to 1907, after which all of Edison’s towers used the steel lattice design. Prior to this, low voltage lines of 10 kV were transmitted by wood poles. Sriro believes that the only way the transmission line would be considered historic is if it were determined to be critical to the development of Redondo Beach. No such determination has been rendered.

**Integrity Statement**

In regard to the seven aspects of integrity of location, design, setting, materials workmanship, feel and association, the structure on this property has retained its original location. It has not been moved. The structure’s setting, feel and association have remained intact since its construction. In addition, its original materials, and workmanship have remained intact. The property condition and integrity is good. Aside from normal maintenance, the tower structure does not appear to have undergone modifications. The SCE Tower has retained its structural integrity. The property is not located in a cohesive neighborhood and is not otherwise associated with any important historical or cultural events or individuals. It cannot be identified with any one individual architect of historical merit. Although the famed architect and designer Henry Dreyfuss was known to have built high-voltage transmission structures for the Edison Electric Institute, this structure would have pre-dated his 1966 commission by 3 years. The property is also not architecturally significant and does not embody characteristics of a significant type, period, or method of information important to prehistory or history.

**National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Evaluation**

The property has been evaluated according to the eligibility criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. It was evaluated under National Register Criterion A for its association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history. Research has revealed the SCE transmission tower is part of the El Nida – La Fresa 220 kV Transmission Line. The El Nida – La Fresa Transmission Line is not considered historic. Neither does the tower appear to be a good representation of the significance of Southern California Edison to the electrification of California. Therefore, the property does not appear to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) under Criterion A.

The property was evaluated under National Register Criterion B for its association with the lives of persons significant in the past. No direct connection was made between the tower structure and any individual considered historically significant. Therefore, the property does not appear to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion B.

The property was evaluated under National Register Criterion C for embodying the characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or representing the work of a master, or possessing high artistic values, or representing a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. The property does not embody characteristics of a significant type, period, or method of construction. It is not architecturally distinctive, nor is it located in a cohesive neighborhood. There is no evidence that is associated with a significant architect or craftsman. Therefore, the property does not appear to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion C.

The property was evaluated under Criterion D for the potential to yield, or may be likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history. For the property to be eligible under this criteria, it would need to be, or have been, the principal source of important information. This is not the case with this property. Therefore, the property does not appear to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion D.

In summary, the property does not appear to qualify for the NHRP under Criterion A, B, C and/or D. Therefore, the structure is not an historic resource for the purposes of the NRHP.
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<tr>
<th>Resource Name or #</th>
<th>Recorded by:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Continuation</th>
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<td>Brent D. Johnson</td>
<td>12/12/2010</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
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### Required Information

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<th>View</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>View looking south at the candidate from Rockefeller Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>View looking west at the candidate</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>View looking northwest at the candidate</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>View looking north at the candidate</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>View looking west at the candidate from Inglewood Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>View of the identifying marks on the lattice tower</td>
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