

initial start-up of Mexican generating facilities (such as water treatment and cooling towers), for the purpose of providing “black start” capability to the Mexican power plants, and for purposes of providing ancillary equipment power when the facilities’ electrical generating equipment is not in operation (such as during weekend plant shutdowns). “Black start” refers to start-up of the generating facility when the plant is not generating any electricity to supply its own needs. To permit this export of power, SER filed an application for an electricity export authorization with DOE on March 26, 2001. BCP filed an application for an electricity export authorization with DOE on August 22, 2001.

1.2 Scope of Project

The proposed project consists of the following components:

- The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of a double-circuit, 230 kV transmission line, approximately six miles (10 kilometers) in length, between the U.S./Mexico international border and the SDG&E Imperial Valley Substation by Sempra Energy Resources.
- The construction, operation, maintenance, and connection of a double-circuit, 230 kV, transmission line, approximately six miles (10 kilometers) in length, between the U.S./Mexico international border and the SDG&E Imperial Valley Substation by Baja California Power, Inc.
- Relocation of six poles of the existing SDG&E 230 kV, single-circuit transmission line near the Imperial Valley Substation.
- Relocation of approximately two poles of the existing Imperial Irrigation District’s (IID) 230 kV, single-circuit transmission line near the Imperial Valley Substation.

Both the BCP and SER transmission line projects would also include a static wire strung above the conductors on the lattice towers and monopoles. On both lines, this static wire will also contain fiber optic cables for communications. Together, the project components are intended to allow the importation of electricity generated in Mexico into the United States, and more specifically, into the electrical power grid operated by SDG&E in southern California, and the export of power to the generating facilities for their use, but not to the CFE system.