

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY/COMPLETION OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT

LEAD AGENCY: Merced Irrigation District
744 West 20th Street
Merced, CA 95340

PROJECT TITLE: Merced South 115 kV Transmission Line and Substation Project

PROJECT LOCATION: Transmission Line: Within private easements along Franklin Road, El Capitan School Road, Rice Road, Reilly Road, and McHenry Road and connecting farm roads, property lines, and irrigation canals within unincorporated portions of Merced County
Substation: Mission Avenue, City of Merced

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The Merced Irrigation District (MID) proposes to build approximately 13.1 miles of double-circuit 115 kV transmission lines with double-circuit 21 kV distribution underbuild and a new 115/21 kV substation (the Lyons Substation) on the southeast side of the City of Merced. The transmission line route would connect to the existing MID 115 kV lines south of State Route (SR) 99, cross the Franklin Road overpass, run south on Franklin and El Capitan School Roads to Rice Road; turn east and follow Reilly Road, cross SR 99, and continue on McHenry Road, turn north and run along property lines to the new Lyons Substation on Mission Avenue within the City of Merced. The new Lyons Substation would occupy approximately 11.2 acres at the southeast corner of the city limits. The proposed locations for the project facilities are not on any of the lists enumerated under Section 65962.5 of the Government Code.

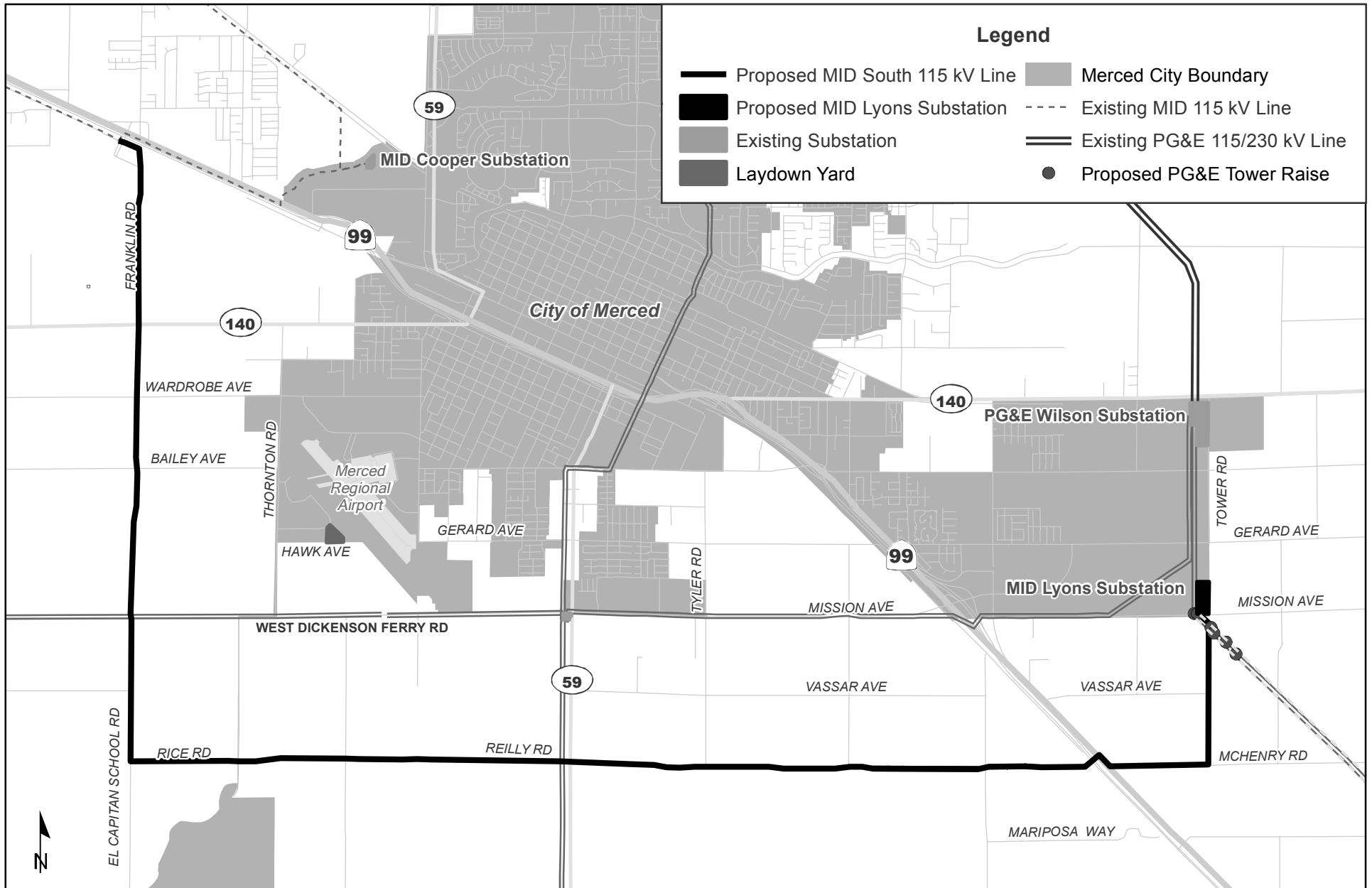
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the MID has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the above described project, pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: MID found that the proposed project would have potentially significant impacts in the areas of aesthetic/visual resources, agricultural resources, biological resources, cultural resources; geology, soils, and minerals; hazards and hazardous materials, and hydrology and water quality. All potentially significant impacts, with the exception of aesthetic/visual resources and agricultural resources, would be less than significant after the incorporation of the feasible mitigation measures. The impacts to aesthetic/visual resources and agricultural resources would be significant and unavoidable, even with the application of project-specific mitigation measures.

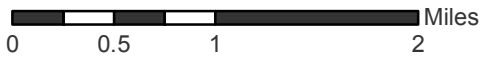
PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The 45-day public review period for the DEIR will commence on May 22, 2015 and continue through July 6, 2015. Written comments from public agencies and interested individuals should be sent to Don Ouchley, Deputy General Manager Energy Resources, Merced Irrigation District, 744 West 20th Street, Merced, CA 95340, douchley@mercedid.org, (209) 354-2811. Comments on the DEIR must be received no later than 5 p.m. on July 6, 2015. Copies of the DEIR are posted on the MID website, www.mercedid.com. Copies of the DEIR are also available for review between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at

- Merced Irrigation District, 744 West 20th Street, Merced, CA 95340
- Merced County Library, 2100 O Street, Merced, CA 95340.

REVIEWING AGENCIES: MID requests you review the enclosed materials and provide any written comments related to your agency's area of responsibility.



Source: MID, PG&E, County of Merced, TIGER



**MERCED SOUTH 115 KV
TRANSMISSION LINE AND
SUBSTATION PROJECT LOCATION**