

Sunrise Powerlink Project

North America World Cup Representative

Project Overview

- 188 km, 500 and 230 kV transmission line in southern California
- 421 total lattice tower structures
- Traverses Desert, Mountain and Marine environments
- Rugged, remote, environmentally sensitive terrain
- Capable of transporting over 1,000 MW of renewable energy into the San Diego metropolitan area





Challenges

- Protected Environments: National Forest Land and protected species habitat
- Restricted Road Access: 234 lattice tower sites identified as helicopter-only
- No Site-Specific Geotechnical Data due to pre-construction access constraints
- Wide Range of Geological Conditions
- Aggressive Construction Schedule: Required energization by June 2012







Selection of Micropiles

- Micropiles Selected for all helicopter-only sites
 - Componentized, portable equipment
 - Lightweight, high capacity materials
 - Adaptability to rugged terrain and steep slopes





Introduction of Steel Pile Cap

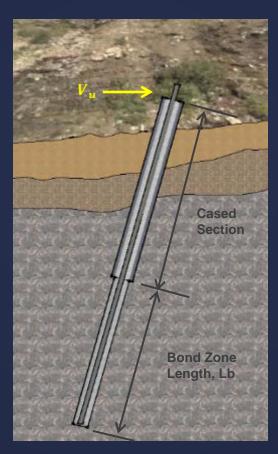
- Steel Pile Cap Design introduced as an alternative to specified cast-in-place concrete
 - Less Field Construction Time would allow for increased schedule flexibility
 - Worked with the owner to define design and fabrication standards
- Development of Design Requirements:
 - Fasten to micropiles without welding
 - Bolted connections required to develop fixity with piles and limit foundation deflections to 2.5 cm
 - Design life of 75 years with no regularly scheduled maintenance

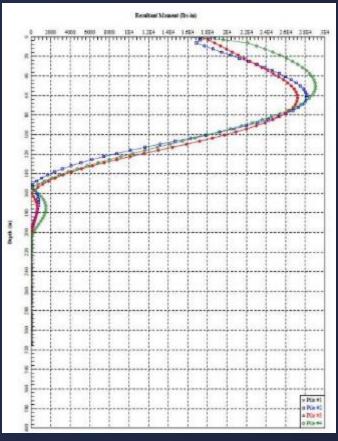


Lateral and Axial Analysis

 Model battered pile group rather than individual piles for a range of geotechnical conditions

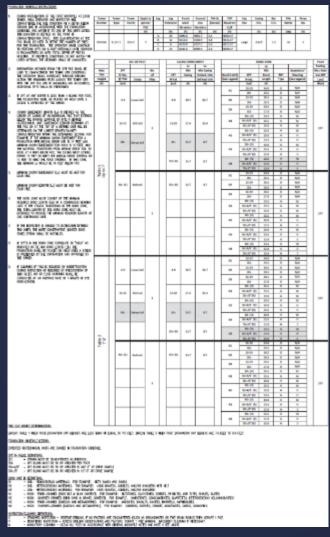








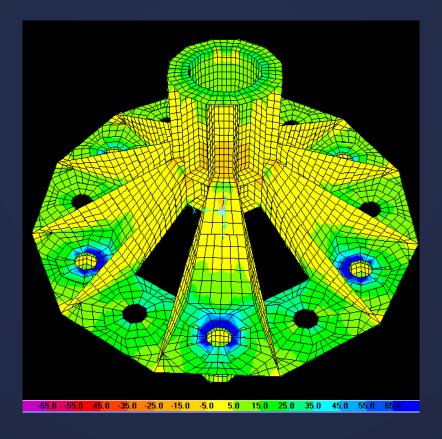
Foundation Schedule





Design & Modeling of Steel Pile Cap

- Finite Element Modeling
 - Utilized to more accurately predict stresses and deflections of complex steel shape
 - Total Cap Weight Reduced through focused review of localized yielding/buckling potential





Validation of Steel Pile Cap Design

• <u>Ultimate Load Test</u>

- Two full-scale prototype caps fabricated and installed
- 4450 kN (1000 kips) of compression load and 1334 kN (300 kips) of lateral load simultaneously
- Deflections measured to substantiate finite element predictions





Steel Cap Benefits

Reduction in Field Crew Hours

- Concrete Cap = 14 Hours
- Steel cap = 5 Hours

64%
Reductio

Minimized Environmental Footprint

- Reduced Excavation
- Decreased Helicopter Emissions

Reduced Safety Risk

- Less Onsite Labor Time
- Fewer Helicopter Associated Activities

Increased Quality Assurance

- Caps Manufactured in a controlled facility
- Increased testability



Construction Sequence

- 1. Site Preparation
- 2. Set and Level Drill Deck
- 3. Set Drill Rig
- 4. Set remaining Ancillary Equipment and Materials
- 5. Advance Casing and Drill Open Hole (Type A Piles)
- 6. Set All-Thread Bars
- 7. Grout
- 8. Test 2 Piles
- 9. Pile Cap Installation



Project Chronology

- **December 2010:** Project Awarded
- **February 2011:** Expected Start Date
- April 2011: Limited NTP 8 Structures in Desert Region
- August 2011: Limited NTP in Protected Species Habitat
- October 2011: First Milestone Completed Protected Species Habitat
- December 2011: 60% Completed
- April 2012: Substantial Completion of Foundation Work
- June 2012: Sunrise Powerlink Energization



Summary





2013 Best Energy Project 2013 Best Geotechnical Engineering Project

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2013 **OUTSTANDING**PROJECT AWARD 2013 BIRMINGHAM INNOVATION AWARD

"The regulatoryerevieworcompleted for Sunrise is considered to be the most comprehensive study of a proposed transmission power line in state history."

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"A complex and challenging energy project that ranks among the largest and most significant in the history of San Diego Gas & Electric"