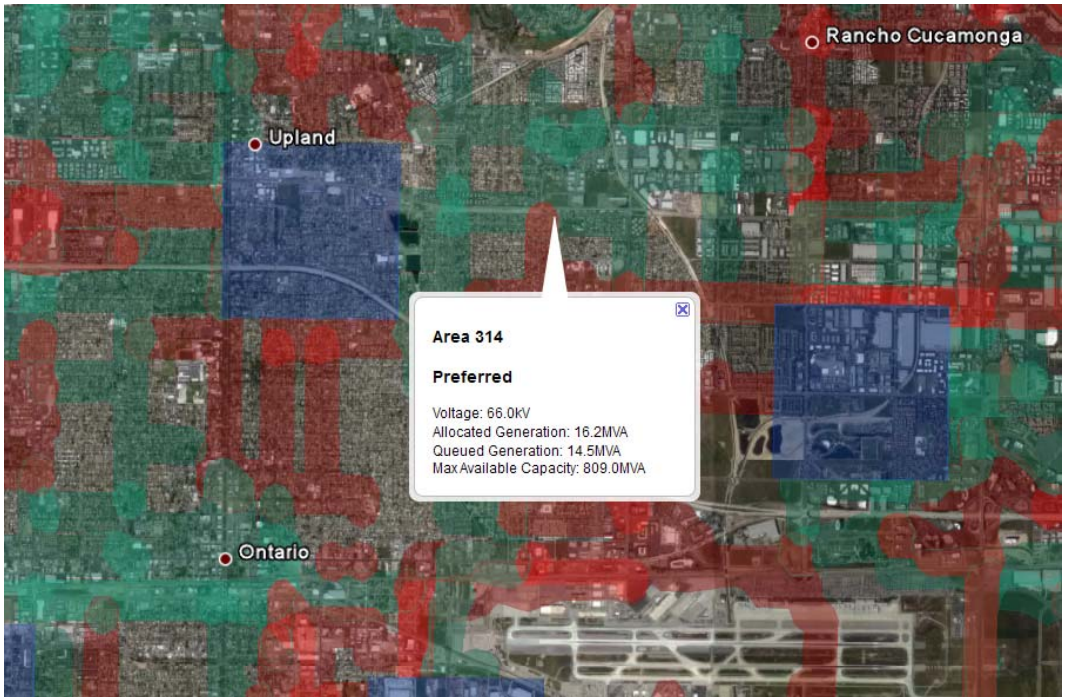
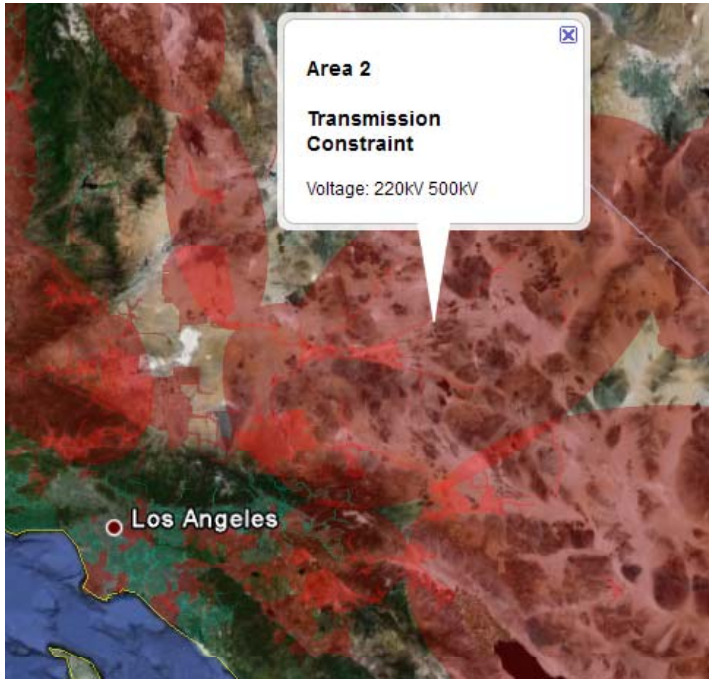
Prioritizing Geographic Areas for Small Scale Renewable Development

May 10th, 2012

SCE already provides geographic prioritization data to developers



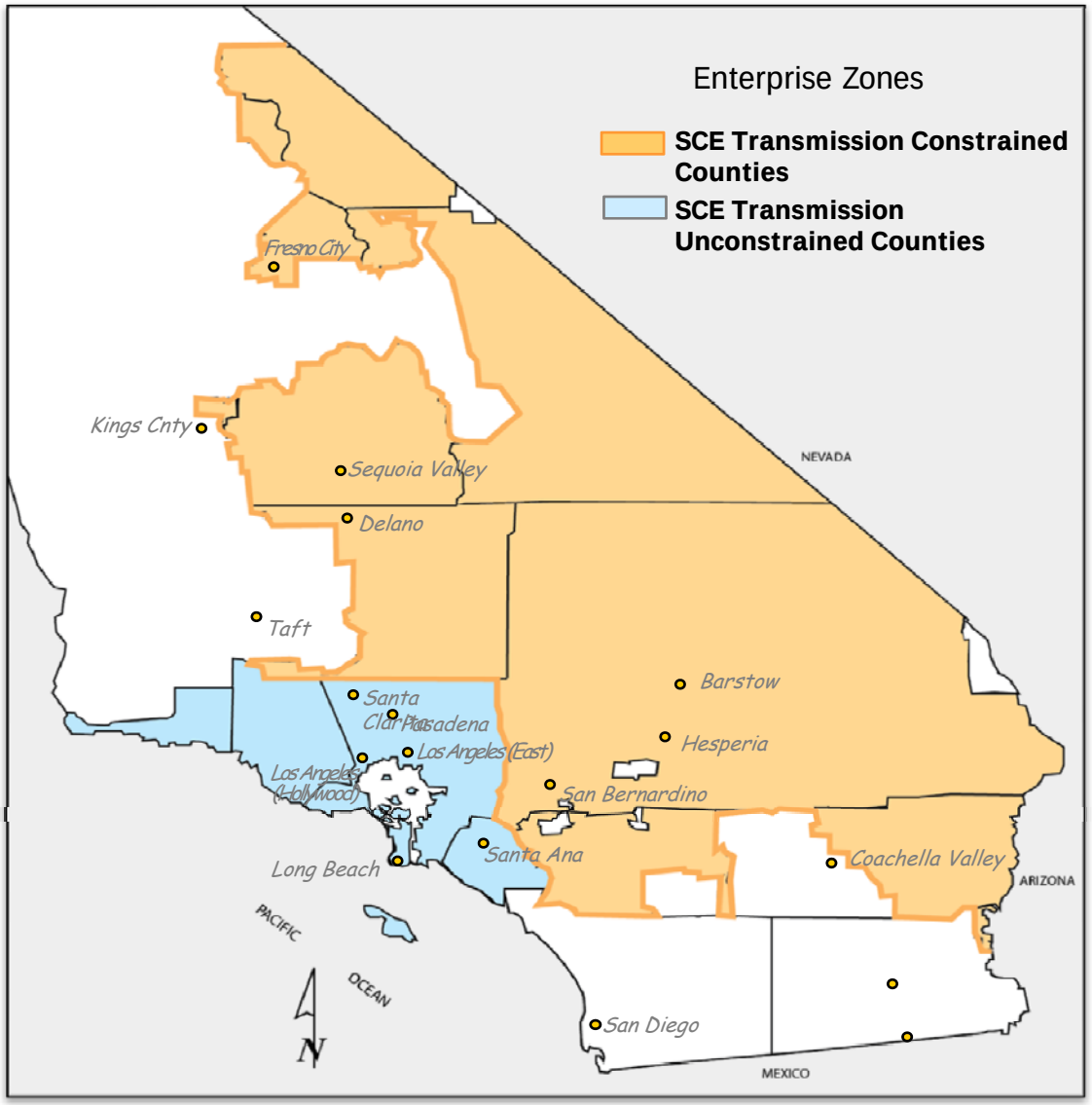


Source: http://www.sce.com/EnergyProcurement/renewables/renewable-auction-mechanism.htm

SCE provides easy-to-use maps illustrating pertinent data to support project interconnection for the following:

- Voltage and available capacity for all 12/16/33kV circuits
  - Identifies “preferred” circuits
- Approximate substation location
- Subtransmission areas
- Transmission constrained areas

A large portion of SCE service territory is transmission constrained



"Transmission constrained" areas can be thought of as areas with little (or no) operational margin to handle any "redistribution" of network power flows without potentially adverse grid reliability impacts

In such areas, even small changes to transmission network flow patterns (i.e. renewable development) may not be possible without significant transmission system upgrades

Locating in unconstrained transmission areas will decrease interconnection costs and application time

- In areas with transmission constraints, renewable development may face significant cost, time, and environmental challenges due to transmission system issues
- Renewable development in areas with no transmission constraints can avoid such issues altogether

Planned Projects to Relieve Congestion [1]	Online Date
Pisgah-Lugo	2017
West of Devers Reconductoring	2018
Coolwater-Lugo 230 kV line	2018
Mirage-Devers 230 kV Reconductoring (Path 42)	2014

Source - CAISO 2011 – 2012 Transmission Plan dated 3/23/12

After project upgrades, more areas will be "unconstrained" and therefore suitable for renewable development