



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E ATLANTIC-DEL MAR REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: September 15, 2005
Subject: Weekly Report #21: September 4, 2005 – September 10, 2005
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Aspen Environmental Monitors (EMs) Anne Sweet and Heather Stiles toured the site September 7 at the Atlantic-Del Mar Project location; Heather will be filling in for Anne during her upcoming vacation. The weather was clear and warm. The PG&E Environmental Inspector (EI), Shannon Ceresola was on-site to ensure compliance with the adopted Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and other permit requirements. She is conducting environmental trainings for all new crew members. The PG&E EI also serves as a project biologist conducting California tiger salamander (CTS) aestivation surveys, on-going bird surveys, as well as installation of resource flagging, and managing the installation and maintenance of sediment controls.

OVERHEAD:

Summary of Activity:

All overhead construction including pole, foundation, and line stringing work is being done by PG&E. The PG&E crews work Mondays through Thursdays.

The only remaining pole areas where work has yet to occur are Transition Poles #9 and #10. Work at the transition poles is planned to occur concurrent with the underground construction activities. The foundation work for all of the remaining poles is complete. All of the poles have been placed on the foundations except Poles #1, #2 and #3. These poles will be erected when the adjacent lines at the Del Mar Substation are de-energized (likely several months from now.) The PG&E crew has completed all current work and has left the site. The PG&E EI inspected existing erosion controls including those near vernal pool areas. Per the PG&E EI all inspected erosion controls remain in functional condition and do not require maintenance.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

Previously, the PG&E EI evaluated the construction areas at all project pole sites for potential burrows for California tiger salamander in compliance with Mitigation Measure APM 7-11. No burrows were located in the work areas except at the Pole #9 construction area (the transition tower located at Midas Road). Several potential CTS burrows are observed underneath the canopy of some adjacent oak trees. An exclusion fence has been established to protect both the potential burrows and the oak trees.

The CPUC EM observed that the current overhead construction activities to be complete and were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

UNDERGROUND:

Summary of Activity:

The underground work, including trenching and conduit installation, has been contracted to Wilson Construction. Wilson has subcontracted work to Zayas Construction. The horizontal bore work will be subcontracted as well. Crews began mobilizing to the site September 1 and continued through the end of the

subject week. Conduit and large equipment were delivered to the site. Per the PG&E EI, all equipment was inspected upon delivery and no leaks were observed. Crews began installing sediment fencing along Wetland #5. Construction/exclusion fencing and 'Keep Out, Sensitive Resource' signs were placed around resource areas including an oak tree and other clusters of trees.

During the Site visit on September 7, the CPUC EM attended a pre-construction meeting with the underground construction representatives including PG&E, Essex Environmental, Far Western, Wilson Construction, Zayas Construction, Kleinfelder, and Neil Blasting. The various components of the upcoming underground construction were discussed including trenching operations which might require underground blasting, vault engineering and installation, the horizontal bore, as well as safety and environmental issues with a discussion of cultural monitoring requirements which will be conducted by Far Western. The project schedule was discussed. The project permits were mentioned, including the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) Streambed Alteration Agreement conditions which require that trenching through the site crossing be completed by October 15.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

All new equipment has been inspected for leaks as they are brought onto the site.

Sediment controls, and exclusion signs and fencing were installed around sensitive resource areas.

The CPUC EM observed that the underground construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

As presented in Table 1, one NCR has been issued for the project to date.

**TABLE 1
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS**
(Updated 9-15-05)

Project Memo or NCR	Date Issued	Description	Follow-Up Activities
NCR (Level 2)	6-23-05	PG&E contractors removed 22 large trees without notifying the project EI and without conducting avian nest surveys prior to removal, which is a violation of Mitigation Measure B-3 and APM 7-6. Additionally, the trees were removed outside of the allowable window of November 1 through February 15 as established in Mitigation Measure B-3 and overland travel was used instead of existing access roads.	PG&E has conducted post removal surveys at the tree removal sites and surrounding area, and supplied the CPUC with results on July 17, 2005. PG&E also notified CDFG.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

Table 2 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Atlantic–Del Mar Project to date. No additional NTPs are anticipated.

**TABLE 2
NOTICES TO PROCEED**
(Updated 9-15-05)

NTP #	Date Issued	Description
1	11-03-03	Mobilization within the Atlantic and Del Mar Substations, and overhead installation from the Del Mar Substation to the railroad right-of-way (northern 0.25 miles), City of Rocklin.
2	3-08-05	Construction of the remaining overhead portion (approximately 4 miles) and the underground portion (approximately 1.3 miles) of the Atlantic–Del Mar Reinforcement Project, within the Cities of Roseville and Rocklin in Placer County.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

PG&E submitted Variance Request #5 on September 2, requesting to either level an existing berm or remove an oak tree in order to gain the space needed for the Sunset Avenue boring operations, as well as placement of the Transition Pole #10. Variance Request #5 also included requests to use two additional areas. The request was approved by the CPUC on September 8. Table 3 presents the Variance Requests reviewed to date.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 9-15-05)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	4-19-05	Modify the implementation of Applicant Proposed Measure 7.2 at Wetlands #2 and #30 to allow the use of non-rubber tired vehicles and to allow discretionary re-fueling on the project right-of-way.	Approved	5-2-05
2	5-19-05	Allow overland travel from an existing access road to the Pole 3/19 site.	Approved	5-25-05
3	6-28-05	Allow specific tree removals outside of the allowable window of November 1 to February 15 as outlined in Mitigation Measure B-3.	Approved	7-7-05
4	6-28-05	Allow movement of track and rubber tired equipment through approximately 15 feet by 100 feet of Cultural Resource site Y2.	Approved	7-7-05
5	9-2-05	Remove either a berm or oak tree to open up space needed for boring operations south of Sunset Ave. Use of an existing disturbed staging area. String and pull conduit through a delineated wetland area.	Approved	9-8-05

UPCOMING ITEMS:

The horizontal bore is scheduled to begin in October.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

None.