



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E ATLANTIC-DEL MAR REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: February 24, 2006
Subject: Weekly Report #44: February 12-18, 2006
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Heather Stiles and Anne Sweet Coronado

The CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM) toured the Atlantic-Del Mar Project location on February 15th and 16th. The PG&E Environmental Inspector (EI), Jeremy Sofonia, was on-site to ensure compliance with the adopted Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and other permit requirements. The PG&E EI is conducting environmental trainings for all new crewmembers 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 only remaining pole areas where work needs to be completed are Transition Poles #9 and #10. The foundation for Transition Pole #10 was modified to accommodate the hardware design requirements and the transition pole was erected. The overhead line now connects Transition Pole #10 all the way through to the Pole #24 at the Atlantic Substation. The Transition Structure #9 Pole was erected during the previous subject week and excavation to the structure occurred during the subject week (see Figure 1). Wiring from Transition Structure #9 to the Del Mar Substation is planned to occur later. No work was performed by the PG&E tower or line crews during the subject week.

All of the towers have been placed on the foundations with the exception of Poles #1, #2 and #3. These towers will be erected when the adjacent lines at the Del Mar Substation are de-energized.

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. The CPUC EM periodically verifies the condition of the erosion control devices.

Environmental Compliance Activities:

The CPUC EM observed the current overhead construction activities to be in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements. Erosion controls are routinely inspected and remain in place around sensitive resource areas adjacent to the construction areas. Additional silt fence was installed in order to reinforce existing silt fence next to the rutted access road on the west bank of Antelope Creek.

UNDERGROUND:

Summary of Activity:

The underground work has been contracted to Wilson Construction. Wilson has subcontracted the ground construction work to Zayas Construction. The horizontal bore work was subcontracted to Cherrington. Interstate Safety has been subcontracted by Wilson to complete conduit installation.

Zayas Construction completed the excavation of the trench line from Vault #3 through Rocklin Road during the previous week. PVC conduit installation was completed within the trench by Interstate and thermal concrete was poured. Crews placed steel plates over the trench at the end of each workday. It is planned that thermal slurry will be poured on Wednesday, February 22, and Central Valley Engineering and Asphalt, Inc. will repave the street. Just north of Rocklin Road, during trenching, crews encountered problematic soils which showed a lack of stability in terms of being able to support the underground line. Wilson is currently engineering plans to deal with the soil conditions. Meanwhile, construction crews have moved to other areas of the project. Orange safety fencing has been placed around the trench.

Crews have completed the trench excavation from Vault 4 to Transition Structure #9. PVC conduit installation is scheduled for next week.

Construction resumed west of Rocklin Rock north of Farron Drive. The trench excavation has been completed. Crews have installed drainage rock to bridge unsuitable ground/substrate. Interstate has begun working on the PCV conduit installation.

Previously spoils piles off Midas Road adjacent to Drainage #30 had remained large. A City of Rocklin Inspector toured the site and asserted that the piles needed to be removed. The City of Rocklin Inspector again visited the site on February 5th. She stated that the piles posed a public safety hazard and should be removed immediately. She issued a 'Failure to Comply' notice. Crews finished the spoils removal on February 15. The City of Rocklin Inspector inspected the area again on February 15. PG&E has coordinated with Zayas to have spoils removed as they are generated.

On Wednesday, February 15, Zayas commenced the trench line tie-in operations from Vault 4 to the area directly adjacent to the Drainage #30 bank. Crews used extreme caution and care excavating slowly and hand digging some portions. After the PVC conduit tie-ins, thermal concrete and later top slurry were poured one foot at a time as to not overwhelm the fragile bank (see Figures 2 and 3). No damage to the bank or drainage occurred throughout these operations. Top soil will be placed over the installation on a future date.

During the tour on February 16, the CPUC EM noticed that portable restroom facilities had been placed upslope and within approximately 50 feet of an inlet to Drainage #30 (see Figure 4). The PG&E EI was informed that this posed a potential spill issue. The City of Rocklin Inspector was also on-site and expressed similar concerns. The PG&E EI informed the PG&E Inspector that the facility needed to be moved or that secondary containment must be placed around the unit.

Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) operations, which commenced on November 18th, were completed in early-December. The HDD contractor completed clean up at the entrance and exit sites of the bore pits and demobilized on December 14th. The area will be reclaimed and reseeded at the end of the project upon completion of the wire pull and energization of the line. The underground crews worked on the tie-ins located at the bore entrance and exit pits. One joint of the pipe at the entrance pit was cut off, at approximately Station 8+00. Following this procedure at the bore entrance pit required encroachment onto Wetland #2. This encroachment has been reviewed and approved under mitigation agreements and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits. A mandrel proofing will be completed prior to concluding the tie-in processes. Per the PG&E EI, dewatering was implemented during these work sessions; water was contained into two Baker tanks on site. All stored water will be manifested and removed from the project site by an approved disposal company. However the PG&E EI reported that on February 13 a potential intentional discharge may have occurred to vegetation adjacent to the sensitive wetland. The PG&E EI found evidence of wet grass and mud splatter. The crews were reminded that such discharges are disallowed.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SUMMARY

Project surface water will be discharged through a filterbag in vegetated areas devoid of resources. Water near the bore entry and exit pit tie-in areas will be contained into Baker tanks rather than being discharged to the sensitive adjacent areas. However the PG&E EI reported that on February 13 a potential intentional discharge may have occurred to vegetation adjacent to the sensitive wetland. The PG&E EI found evidence of wet grass and mud splatter. The crews were reminded that such discharges are disallowed.

During the tour on February 16, the CPUC EM noticed that portable restroom facilities had been placed upslope and within approximately 50 feet of an inlet to Drainage #30. The PG&E EI was informed that this posed a potential spill issue. The City of Rocklin Inspector was also on-site and expressed similar concerns. The PG&E EI informed that PG&E Inspector that the facility needed to be moved or that secondary containment must be placed around the unit.

During previous weeks, the PG&E EI issued non-compliances to Wilson Construction due to the continued improper/minimal performance and maintenance of BMPs throughout the project. In response, Wilson Construction has hired a third party company to provide on-call erosion control maintenance and installation of additional BMPs throughout the remainder of the construction process.

Far Western has been conducting the project cultural monitoring. All of the underground work through culturally sensitive areas has already been completed. A cultural monitor no longer needs to be present during the remaining ground disturbing activities. There were no unanticipated discoveries made during the subject week.

As presented in Table 1, one NCR and two Project Memoranda have been issued for the project to date.

TABLE 1
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS
(Updated 02-24-06)

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.
Project Memo	1-6-06	PG&E contractors mechanically pumped the water from the casing of the underground conduit into Wetland #1 through a filter bag without adequate testing. Wetland #1 is under the Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction.	Dewatering from the pipe is being conducted into Baker tanks. Test results and subsequent action are pending. The ACOE has been notified.
Project Memo	1-6-06	Large spoil piles are being stored in close proximity to Seasonal Drainage #30 without adequate erosion control measures, which is a violation of APM 7-2. The erosion control along the drainage was in disrepair, which led to silt from the spoil piles being emptied into the CDFG drainage. Siltation entering the drainage is a violation of Condition #2 of the CDFG Streambed Alteration Agreement.	Crews reinforced the erosion control along Seasonal Drainage #30. The CDFG has been notified. A decision to move the spoil piles is being considered by PG&E.

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 02-24-06)

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:

No new variance requests were submitted during the subject week. Table 3 presents the Variance Requests reviewed to date.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
 (Updated 02-24-06)

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: None.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

Previously spoils piles off Midas Road adjacent to Drainage #30 had remained large. A City of Rocklin Inspector toured the site and asserted that the piles needed to be removed. The City of Rocklin Inspector again visited the site on February 5th. She stated that the piles posed a public safety hazard and should be removed immediately. She issued a 'Failure to Comply' notice. Crews finished the spoils removal on February 15. City of Rocklin Inspector inspected the area again on February 15.

Photographs



Figure 1 – Tie-in to Transition Structure #9, February 16, 2006.



Figure 2 – Drainage #30 adjacent to the trenching operations, February 16, 2006.



Figure 3 – Thermal concrete pour adjacent to Drainage #30, February 16, 2006.

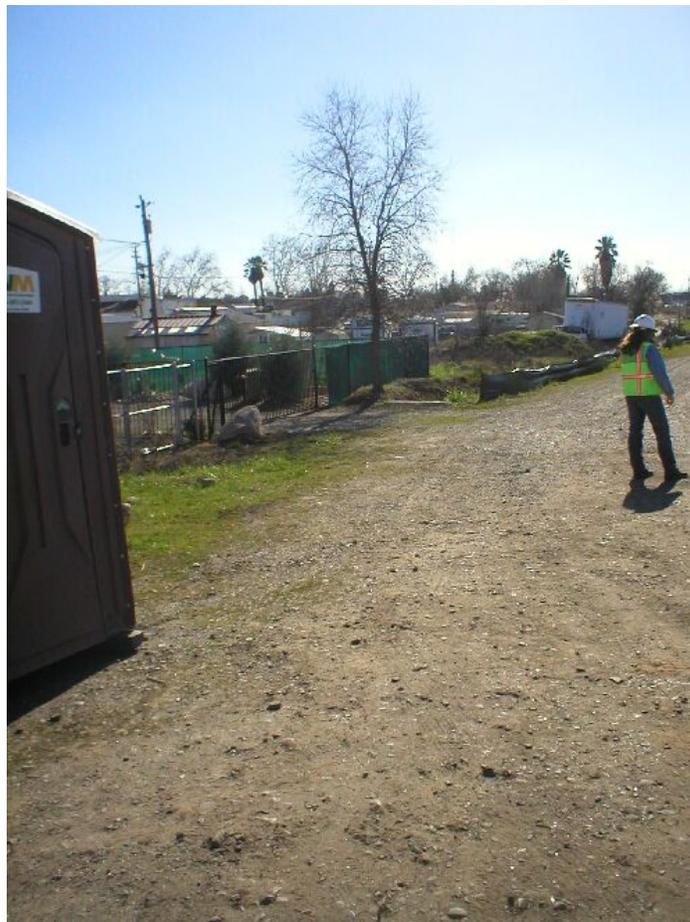


Figure 4 – Portable restroom facilities upslope of Drainage #30, February 16, 2006.