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# PROJECT MEMORANDUM DELTA DPA CAPACITY INCREASE SUBSTATION PROJECT

To: Junaid Rahman, CPUC

**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date:** February 27, 2008

**Subject:** Weekly Report #18: February 17, 2008 – February 23, 2008

# **CPUC ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR (EM):** Jody Fessler

CPUC EM, Jody Fessler, was on site Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **SUBSTATION SITE:**

# **Summary of Activity:**

On Monday, final grading of the substation pad was conducted in preparation for the start of lime treatment on Tuesday. Also, excavations were made where the transformer foundations will be placed in order to treat the soil with lime. The last three foundation excavations that were to be treated with lime were completed on Tuesday. Also, lime treating of the substation pad and foundation excavations began on Tuesday. On Wednesday, lime treatment of the substation pad continued and some of the foundation excavations were backfilled and compacted with the lime treated soil. Also, the culvert that will drain the SPCC pond was installed in the berm on the north side of the substation site. The berms are continuing to be built up above the substation surface. On Thursday, all of the foundation excavations were completely backfilled in preparation for final lime treatment. The top of the excavations and the road into the substation were then lime treated. On Friday, areas of the substation pad that were lime treated Thursday were remixed and recompacted (see Figures 1 & 2). Also, the SPCC pond was partially excavated to capture runoff from the site and a slope created at one end to allow wildlife to escape (see Figure 3).

# **ACCESS ROAD:**

# **Summary of Activity:**

On Friday, the entrance to the site off Heidorn Ranch Road was regraded to smooth out the gravel apron to prevent mud from transporting to the public roadway.

# STAGING AREAS:

# **Summary of Activity:**

The staging yard on the north side of Sand Creek was used to stage two trailers, park some employee vehicles and store materials. Rolled wattles, silt fencing and wildlife exclusion fencing are installed around the staging yard. At the time of the site visit, the CPUC EM noted that the staging yard was neat and clean.

#### **BRIDGE OVER SAND CREEK:**

#### **Summary of Activity:**

No work has been done on the bridge over Sand Creek. It is complete except for guard rails, which still need to be installed. The CPUC EM noted at the time of the site visit that erosion controls were in place around the creek area and grass is growing in the area that was previously seeded.

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# **Environmental Compliance:**

The CPUC EM observed that work activities were in compliance with the approved Mitigated Negative Declaration and other permit requirements. The wildlife exclusion fencing and erosion controls were in place at all of the work areas. Straw bales and wattles were in place under the bridge for additional erosion control. Heavy equipment was parked overnight in a designated area within the substation boundaries. The refueling trailer within the substation site was covered with plastic so that rain water would not get in the containment area (see Figure 4). The CPUC EM reviewed PG&E EI daily reports and survey reports. Environmental training of crew personnel was on-going as new crew personnel came onto the site.

# NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

On August 30, 2007, NTP #1 was issued by the CPUC for the PG&E Delta DPA Project. On August 29, 2007, PG&E requested authorization from the CPUC to commence with the civil/structural construction of the PG&E Delta DPA Capacity Increase Substation Project. The Project includes a proposed electric substation site, a new loop segment of an existing 230 kV transmission line, a temporary asphalt road, and a temporary bridge over Sand Creek in eastern Contra Costa County, within the limits of the City of Antioch, California. PG&E requested that NTP #1 include all construction activities related to the access road, bridge, substation, and transmission tower, as well as an extra staging area and a variance to Mitigation Measure CR-1. No additional NTPs are anticipated for the project.

# **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

No Variance Requests were submitted for review during the subject week. Table 1 presents the Variance Requests reviewed and approved by the CPUC for the PG&E Delta DPA Project to date.

TABLE 1 VARIANCE REQUESTS

(Updated 2-27-08)

Variance #	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
#1	7-26-07	8-30-07	Request to modify Mitigation Measure CR-1, which requires a 10 foot fenced protective buffer for the site boundary of CA-CCo-682H fronting on the improved access road for the Project. Approved under NTP #1.
#2	8-29-07	8-30-07	Request for a new laydown area south of the proposed access road as it veers southwest towards Sand Creek. Approved under NTP #1.
#3	10-17-07	10-17-07	Request to encroach 5 feet into the cultural buffer zone for the movement of equipment.
#4	10-30-07	10-30-07	Request to extend Sand Creek bridge work until November 3 and road work until November 9 (installation of wildlife exclusion fencing along road) as approved by USFWS. USFWS issuing amended BO that will allow work on access road throughout the winter.

# **SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

One Project Memorandum has been issued by the CPUC EM for the project to date. On October 17, 2007, the CPUC EM issued a Project Memorandum for the encroachment of equipment into the cultural buffer zone near the northern bridge foundation on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

No Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) have been issued by the CPUC EM for the project to date.

# **PHOTOGRAPHS**



**Figure 1** – Grading and compacting lime treated soil at the substation site, February 22, 2008.



**Figure 2** – Grading and compacting lime treated soil at the substation, February 22, 2008.



**Figure 3** – Retention basin/SPCC pond at the north end of the substation site, February 22, 2008.



**Figure 4** – Refueling area at the substation site covered with plastic due to rain, February 22, 2008.