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#### PROJECT MEMORANDUM Delta DPA Capacity Increase Substation Project

To:Junaid Rahman, CPUCFrom:Vida Strong, Aspen Project ManagerDate:March 7, 2008Subject:Weekly Report #19: February 24, 2008 – March 1, 2008

## CPUC ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR (EM): Jody Fessler

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site Tuesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**SUBSTATION SITE:** 

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

On Monday, construction crews excavated a trench and installed a drainage culvert along the hillside on the south side of the substation site. On Tuesday, crews set the final grade on the stakes within the substation site and dewatered the western half of the substation by pushing water around to evaporate it and then blading the area (see Figures 1 & 2). On Wednesday, crews graded the substation and set a catch basin at the south end of the site. On Thursday, crews continued to work on setting the final grade at the substation site. On Friday, the final grade at the substation site was completed.

#### ACCESS ROAD:

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

On Tuesday, the CPUC EM and the PG&E Environmental Inspector (EI) observed that an erosion problem had occurred at wetland #4 on the south side of the access road where an 18-inch culvert was installed under the road. Some of the rip-rap on the outfall side (south side of access road) failed and stormwater eroded part of the bank to an unnamed tributary to Sand Creek (see Figures 3 & 4). The CPUC EM informed the PG&E EI and the PG&E Inspector that CDFG would need to be consulted before repairing the erosion problem since it is within their jurisdiction. On Thursday, PG&E representatives, the PG&E EI, and a PG&E engineer, met at the site to discuss possible repairs to the culvert outlet and the bank of the unnamed tributary to Sand Creek. The PG&E engineer will draw up plans for repairing the erosion problem.

On Friday, the access road was graded and watered to repair ruts caused by the heavy trucks hauling soil to the substation site.

#### **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.

### **Environmental Compliance:**

The CPUC EM noted that there was an erosion problem at the wetland #4 culvert outfall to an unnamed tributary to Sand Creek. PG&E is working on a solution to this problem. The CPUC EM observed that all other work activities were in compliance with the approved Mitigated Negative Declaration and other permit requirements. On Friday, repairs were made to the wildlife exclusion fencing where wood stakes were broken and the fence was starting to sag. 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 contained in a visquene-lined straw bale area. 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.

	Date	Date	
Variance #	Requested	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.

## TABLE 1 VARIANCE REQUESTS

(Updated 3-7-08)

#### 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 – PG&E Delta Substation site, February 26, 2008.



**Figure 2** – Crews blading the western side of the substation site to dry it out, February 26, 2008.



**Figure 3** – Erosion problem at culvert outfall for Wetland #4 on south side of access road, February 26, 2008.



**Figure 4** – Erosion problem at culvert outfall for Wetland #4 on south side of access road, February 26, 2008.