



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM

PG&E NORTHEAST SAN JOSE TRANSMISSION REINFORCEMENT PROJECT

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

Date: November 6, 2002

Subject: Weekly Report #23: October 28, 2002 – November 3, 2002

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Jody Fessler

Summary of Activity:

Wednesday, October 30:

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation site in the afternoon. The CPUC EM walked around the site and observed crews working on transformer foundations and the water truck watering down the site to control dust. While walking around the site, the CPUC EM observed a couple of black phoebes, a western meadowlark, and on the adjacent property to the west, a great blue heron. The CPUC EM spoke with the security guard from First Alarm who informed her that a bat had landed on his leg a couple of nights ago.

Throughout the evening, the CPUC EM conducted several site visits of construction along the underground segment of the project. At the U.S.D. Lagoon #4 bore, crews were setting up for the night shift. The entry pit has already been filled in. Cement slurry has been poured over the conduit in the exit pit and trench heading north. Later in the night, the CPUC EM observed that crews were working on pulling out the shoring from the sides of the exit pit and trench. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the trenching activities behind the business park at approximate Station 81+05 on the right line. Trenching was going very slowly at the noted location because of some subsurface irrigation pipes. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of trenching activities behind the Mervyn's facility later in the night. Crews were starting to trench north on the right line at approximate Station 119+75. Crews were pouring cement slurry south of Station 119+75 on the right line. The area was being kept very clean and orderly. The CPUC EM also conducted a site visit of vaults #9 and the area surrounding it where construction management wants a staging yard on Mervyn's property (Variance Request #7). Crews have kept all vehicles, equipment, and materials inside the right-of-way except during movement between different sites. Crews have not been using the proposed staging area and are waiting for Variance Request #7 to be approved by the CPUC.

Friday, November 1:

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Variance Request #8 laydown yard in the City of Alviso around noon. The CPUC EM met with the Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) and the Essex Biologist at the site. They were flagging the staging area and putting cones around the perimeter of the yard. The Essex EI showed the CPUC EM where the cultural resources were northwest of the staging yard. They consist of bottles (some broken and some whole), ceramic pieces, etc. The cultural resources are very spread out and it appeared that the field had been recently disked. The CPUC EM observed a marsh hawk flying over the disked field and hunting for prey.

Later in the afternoon, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation site. The CPUC EM observed crews working on foundations for the transformers and also crews doing some drilling into the ground. The CPUC EM walked around the site and looked for the burrowing owl. No burrowing owls were observed by the CPUC EM on this visit. The CPUC EM did observe some mourning doves, black phoebes, seagulls, and crows. The ground had been well watered recently to keep the dust down.

The CPUC EM also conducted a site visit of the Fremont Boulevard underground construction route. The CPUC EM observed that the U.S.D. Lagoon #4 bore is still not complete. There are still several pieces of equipment at that site, as well as the large baker tank. The CPUC EM observed crews paving behind the business park between man-hole vaults #6 and #7. At man-hole vaults #8 on the left line, there is still a portion south of the vault that is plated and has not been paved over yet. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the trenching work behind the Mervyn's facility and observed crews pouring cement slurry at that location. Near man-hole vaults #9, the CPUC EM observed that no vehicles, equipment, or materials were being stored outside of the right-of-way.

Environmental Compliance:

On October 30, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

On November 1, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in EIR and other permitting requirements.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

No NTPs were issued during the subject week. A draft NTP for 230kV tower construction was forwarded to CPUC on October 30. This NTP is still being reviewed by CPUC.

Variance Requests:

On October 23, Variance Request #7 and #8 were submitted for CPUC review. Variance Request 7 proposes the use of a portion of the Mervyn's property for equipment and material storage for underground construction. A recommendation regarding Variance Request #7 was forwarded to CPUC on October 28. This request is still being reviewed by CPUC.

Variance Request 8 proposes use of a laydown yard in the City of Alviso for equipment and material storage for overhead construction. Variance Requests #8 was approved by CPUC on October 31.

TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 11-06--02)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	6/11/02	Disposal of excavated material, corner of Fremont Boulevard and Cushing Parkway, Fremont.	Completed	6/11/02
2	6/13/02	Material/equipment yard, 42400 Boyce Road, Fremont.	Completed	See Underground NTP
3				
4	6/26/02	Reduce biological buffer from 250 to 15-feet at existing structure, Los Esteros Substation.	Completed; 25-foot buffer approved.	7/5/02
5	7/9/02	Extra work space area for Line F bore, west of Fremont Blvd.	Completed	7/12/02
6	9/6/02	Change the location of the permanent access road to the Los Esteros Substation.	Completed	9/23/02
7	10/23/02	Use of a portion of the Mervyn's property for equipment and material storage for underground construction.	10/28 – Recommendation to CPUC	
8	10/23/02	Use of a laydown yard at 800 Spreckles Ave., City of Alviso, for equipment and material storage for overhead construction.	Completed	10/31/02