



235 Montgomery Street, Suite 935, San Francisco, CA 94104-3002 Tel. 415-955-4775, Fax 415-955-4776, www.aspeneg.com

## PROJECT MEMORANDUM SCE RIVERWAY SUBSTATION PROJECT

**To:** Jensen Uchida, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date:** April 22, 2008

**Subject:** Construction Status Report #4: March 9, 2008 – April 5, 2008

#### CPUC ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR (EM): Lynn Stafford

CPUC EM Lynn Stafford was on site April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008. During the visit, he met with Ed Lucas, SCE Inspector.

The SCE Riverway Project includes construction of a new 66/12-kilovolt (kV) low-profile substation on an approximately two-acre walnut orchard site in the City of Visalia, California. The project also includes installation of approximately 1,200 feet of underground 66 kV subtransmission lines starting at the intersection of Riggin Avenue and the extended North Mooney Boulevard and ending at the substation; and installation of new fiber optic cable and communication equipment to connect the substation to SCE's existing telecommunication system.

Currently, under Notices to Proceed #3 and #4, construction during this phase includes site grading, civil work, electrical and sub-transmission construction, site Landscaping, fence/gate, and Lighting. The civil work includes installation of temporary fencing, placement of crushed rock and shaker plates, installation of the ground grid, installation of concrete footings, placement of concrete pads, and the installation of conduit. Substation electrical and sub-transmission construction activities are also being conducted.

### PREPARATION OF LAYDOWN YARD:

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

Prior to the April 3<sup>rd</sup> CPUC EM site visit, the laydown yard had been prepared and stacked with materials for the civil phase of the Project. The site grading also had been completed.

#### **CIVIL CONSTRUCTION**

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

MCS Construction, Inc. began civil construction activities on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2008. By April 3<sup>rd</sup>, perimeter wall construction (see Figure 1) and power grid construction (see Figure 2) were well under way. The Mechanical Electrical Equipment Room (MEER), which will be the only building on site, was in place (see Figure 3). The temporary Edison construction office was in place and in operation (see Figure 4).

#### NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

Table 1 summarizes the NTPs issued to date for the SCE Riverway Substation Project.

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## TABLE 1 SCE RIVERWAY SUBSTATION PROJECT NTPS

(Updated 04-22-08)

NTP#	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
#1	October 10, 2007	October 16, 2007	Preliminary construction activities, including tree removal, preparation of a laydown yard adjacent to the substation site, and installation of temporary fencing.
#2	January 23, 2008	January 25, 2008	Installation of new fiber optic cable and communication equipment to connect the substation to SCE's existing telecommunication system.
#3	January 24, 2008	January 28, 2008	Grading and civil work, including substation site grading, installation of temporary fencing, placement of crushed rock and shaker plates, installation of the ground grid, installation of concrete footings, placement of concrete pads, and the installation of conduit.
#4	March 6, 2008	March 27, 2008	Substation electrical and sub-transmission construction activities. In addition, the site Landscaping Plan, fence/gate plans, and Lighting Plan were submitted which fulfill the remaining preconstruction requirements for the project.

#### **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

No Variance Requests have been submitted to date.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

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

There were several trenches two feet and greater deep. These trenches were provided with wood ramps at the close of each work day in order to prevent trapping of wildlife (see Figure 4).

The CPUC monitored surveyed the walnut grove and other surrounding areas bordering the project site on April 3, 2008. The bird species observed that have the potential to nest in the immediate vicinity of the Project site include mourning dove, Nuttall's woodpecker, American crow, American robin, western bluebird, house finch, lesser goldfinch, and house sparrow. Many sites for cavity and platform nesting bird species exist in the walnut grove immediately adjacent to the Project site. It is highly unlikely that Project activity will negatively affect any nearby nesting activity. The greatest amount of construction-produced sound occurred during the grading portion of the Project, which has been completed. Sound measurements taken by the CPUC EM on April 3, 2008 were below 60 decibels at the edge of the walnut grove adjacent to the Project site.

A concrete clear-out station was situated at the laydown yard.

The fueling station in the laydown yard was properly lined for spill containment.

There was no evidence of fuel, oil, lubricant, or other hazardous construction-related substance on the substrate at the Project site.

There was no evidence of food-related waste on the Project site.

Dust was under control at the Project site. All vehicles were required to exit the project site onto Riggin Avenue via a shaker plate to reduce movement of dirt onto the public road.

# PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



**Figure 1:** The substation perimeter wall construction was underway. The wall has been designed to match nearby new housing tract perimeter wall appearance. The photograph is of the east side of the wall, and faces northward.



**Figure 2:** The Mechanical Electrical Equipment Room (MEER), which will be the only permanent building on site, was in place, and will be equipped during the electrical construction phase of the Project. The photograph faces southward.



**Figure 3:** The construction of the underground power grid construction was underway. The photograph faces northwestward.



**Figure 4:** There were several trenches two feet and greater deep. These trenches were provided with wood ramps at the close of each work day in order to prevent trapping of wildlife. The temporary SCE construction trailer can be seen in the middle background. The MEER room is on the left. The building in the distant right corner is off site. The photograph faces southward.