



30423 Canwood Street, Suite 215, Agoura Hills, CA 91301-4316
Tel. 818-597-3407, Fax 818-597-8001, www.aspeneg.com

**PROJECT MEMORANDUM
SDG&E'S SUNRISE POWERLINK PROJECT**

To: Billie Blanchard, Project Manager, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: March 29, 2011
Subject: Weekly Report 26 – March 13 to March 19, 2011

INTRODUCTION

This report provides a summary of the construction and compliance activities associated with the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project. This report is organized as follows:

- Transmission Line Construction
- Substation Construction and Upgrades
- Construction Yards and Other Workspaces

A summary of the Notices to Proceed with construction and Variance Request activity are also provided (see Tables 1 and 2, respectively, near the end of this report). Finally, a summary of Temporary Extra Workspace and non-compliance activity are provided in Tables 3 and 4, respectively.

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitors (EM): Cassandra Garza, Brian Woodward and Valerie Yep

TRANSMISSION LINE CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

1. Link 1, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:

- Conventional foundations drilling, concrete pours and cleanup were conducted at Towers EP208, EP209, EP210, EP211, EP213, EP214, EP219, EP244, EP208, EP213, EP214, EP215, EP213, EP214, EP215, and EP218.
- Structure assembly within yards was conducted for EP200A-1, EP201-3, EP202-3, EP203-3, EP204-3, EP205-2, EP206-1, EP207, EP208, EP 209-1, EP210, EP211, EP217-1, EP218-1, EP243, EP194-2, EP195-1, EP197-2, EP199-3, EP223-1, EP226-1, EP227, EP228, EP229-1, EP231A, EP236-1, EP238-1, EP239-1, EP243, and EP253-2.
- Structure erection occurred at EP210, EP211, and EP24.
- Micropile surveys, drilling, proof testing, grouting, trimming and clean up was conducted at EP224-1, EP221-2, EP221A, EP225-1, EP227, EP232-1, EP235-1, EP238-1, EP253-2, EP230-1, EP238-1, EP221-A, EP221-2, EP225-1, EP235-1, EP224-1, EP229-1, EP230-1, EP221-2 (see Figure 1).
- Driveway work was conducted at EP220-1, EP238, EP243, and the pull sites for EP220-1, EP225 through EP226-1, EP236-1, EP237-1, and EP239-1 through EP242.
- Access road construction was conducted at EP239 and EP252-1.
- Work began on the temporary platform at EP253-2.
- Work at the pull site at EP219-1 occurred.
- 12 kV relocation along McCain Valley Road continued (see Figure 2).



2. Link 2, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:
 - Micropile drilling preparation occurred at Towers EP80 and EP 81.
 - Structure assembly within yards was conducted for EP45-1, EP72, EP73, EP75-2, EP76-2, EP77, EP78, EP81, EP82, EP86-1, EP87-1, and EP88-2.
 - Access road work occurred at EP84-B.
3. Link 4, 220 kV Underground Transmission Line:
 - Potholing occurred at Vaults V17R and V18R, Station 134+00, and along Alpine Boulevard between the 1800 block and Tavern Road.
 - Excavating occurred (including ins-and-outs and trenching) at the Interstate 8 jack-and-bore, V3R, V4R, V5R, V7R, V8L, V9L, V13L, V15L towards V16L, V17L towards V16L, V19L, and Alpine Boulevard at South Grade Road.
 - Pre-drilling, drilling, and saw cutting occurred at V8L, V10L, V15R, V17R, V18L, V18R, V19L, and Alpine Boulevard from the 1800 block west to Tavern Road.
 - Encasement pouring occurred at V16L.
 - Prepping and cleaning of manholes occurred at V2L, V3L, and V17L.
 - V4R and V7R were set (see Figure 3).
 - Well work/dewatering occurred at V11L.
4. Link 5, 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line:
 - Tower Staging and Access Pad (TSAP) preparation occurred at Tower CP51-2.
 - Structure assembly within yards was conducted for CP41-2, CP69-2, CP42-1, CP43-1, CP44-1, CP45-1, CP46-2, CP47-2, CP49-1, CP63-3, CP66-2, CP67-3, and CP68-1.
 - Access road construction occurred at CP31-2.
 - Work on the 69 kV Reconductoring Line on Tie Lines (TL) 6916 and 639 continued.
 - On TL 6916 a vault was set and trenching continued.
 - On TL 636, wire was pulled from 36 to 61.
5. Pre-Construction surveys were performed throughout Link 1, 2 and 5 with appropriate monitors.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors were present as applicable during all transmission line construction activities.
2. Link 1, 500 kV Overhead Transmission Line:
 - A male Quino checkerspot butterfly (QCB) was observed by a USFWS permitted biologist outside the northwest corner of the permanent pad at EP235-1.
 - On March 14, 2011, an incident occurred at EP 252-1 where a bulldozer was driven on and off site, which had not been cleared for construction (see Figure 4). A small amount of tracking occurred and the SDG&E Link Lead was notified.
 - On March 16, 2011, an incident occurred at EP 214 where groundwater was removed from a drilled hole and spread back onsite; however, a dewatering plan had not been submitted. Water was immediately pumped into a water truck and taken off site to be tested.
 - BMPs were installed at EP225 and EP232-1.

3. Link 4: BMP installation and maintenance continued along Alpine Boulevard, at Bauer Bridge, and the Loritz property.
4. Link 5: A buffer for California gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica*) was established on an access road for 69 kV work in the vicinity of Miramar (see Figure 5). BMPs were installed at CP31-2.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Transmission Line Construction activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

Agency Representatives during Construction (other than EMs):

None.

SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADES

Summary of Activity:

1. Suncrest Substation, Link 3: Rough grading continued on Bell Bluff Truck Trail (BBTT) and the pad. Hydromulch tacifier was applied to inactive slopes along BBTT and the pad. A retention basin was created in the southern drainage to collect groundwater.
2. Imperial Valley Substation Upgrade: Excavations for conduit and foundations continued. Pouring for foundations and wire pulling occurred.
3. San Luis Rey Substation: Wiring and caulking took place.
4. Encina Substation: Forms were built and backfilled. Work on new breakers occurred. Demolition, drilling and pouring concrete, and replacement of old disconnects also occurred (see Figures 6 & 7).

Environmental Compliance:

1. All applicable Biological, Cultural, Paleontological, and Native American monitors have been present during ground disturbing activities at all substations.
2. A Biological Monitor has been at San Luis Rey Substation for all work, including monitoring the big horned owl nest and the approved buffer reduction area.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memoranda were issued during the subject period for Substation Construction and Upgrade activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

Agency Representatives during Construction (Other than CPUC EMs):

None.

CONSTRUCTION YARDS AND OTHER WORKSPACES:

Summary of Activity:

1. Delivery of equipment, monopoles and wire reels continued at the Alpine Construction Yard. Construction of additional temporary offices commenced. Set up of additional field offices continues, primarily work inside the portable.
2. Herbicide was sprayed at the helicopter temporary landing area for the Alpine Regional Field Office.
3. Material staging continued at the Rough Acres Construction Yard.
4. No work occurred at the Thomas Yard.
5. Hauling and structure assembly occurred at the Jacumba Valley Ranch Yard. The yard continues to be utilized for helicopter activities.
6. Construction of the water retention pond at the Wilson Yard was completed. Tree frog eggs were relocated from shallow pools inside the yard.

7. Access road construction occurred at the Helix Construction Yard. An active raptor nest affected access to the yard. Steel hauling and tower assembly continued.
8. Tower assembly and helicopter operations continued at the Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard.
9. Access road improvements occurred at the SWAT Construction Yard.
10. Access road improvements, hauling and structure assembly at the Kruetzkamp Construction Yard.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Biological, Cultural, and Native American monitors have worked with crews at the construction yards to define approved work areas and sites to avoid.
2. It was noted to the SDG&E Link Lead that there were several lids to wooden containers strewn about the Thomas Yard (see Figure 8).
3. The Bartlett-Hauser Construction Yard required BMP repair & improvement.

No Non-Compliance Reports or Project Memorandums were issued during the subject period for Construction Yards and other workspace activities. Non-Compliance activities for the project to date are summarized in Table 4.

Agency Representatives during Construction (other than CPUC EMs):

None.

CPUC NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTPs)

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC Notice to Proceed activity for the SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project through March 29.

TABLE 1
CPUC NTPs
(Updated 03/29/2011)

NTP#	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
#1	01/04/10	04/28/10	25	San Luis Rey Substation Upgrades
#2	02/08/10	04/29/10	23	South Bay Substation Upgrades
#3	02/26/10	05/20/10	Yard	Alpine Yard 18
#4	01/26/10	05/28/10	Yard	Alpine Yard 18A
#5	02/05/10	09/28/10	Yard	Rough Acres Yard, Phase 1
#6	05/26/10	09/28/10	24	Encina Substation Upgrades
#7	05/28/10	09/28/10	Telecomm	White Star Communication Facility
#8	06/09/10	10/06/10	Substation	Pomerado Substation Upgrades
#9	06/09/10	10/06/10	Substation	Scripps Switchyard/Substation Upgrades
#10	10/13/10	11/23/10	15	Link 4, Alpine 230 kV Underground Construction
#11	10/19/10	12/15/10	13	Link 3, Suncrest Substation/Wilson Construction Yard
#12	11/30/10	12/23/10	Yard	Rough Acres Yard, Phase 2
#13	11/09/10	01/14/11	2-18, 20-22	Links 1, 2, and 5, overhead construction on non-federal Lands
BLM #1	01/19/11	02/03/11	1	Imperial Valley Substation upgrades.

VARIANCE & TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE REQUESTS

Variance and Temporary Extra Workspace (TEWS) requests submitted through March 29 are presented in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

TABLE 2
VARIANCE REQUESTS
(Updated 03/29/2011)

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Segment #	Description
#1	11/04/10	11/10/10	Yard	Thomas Yard (El Centro, CA)
#2	12/22/10	03/18/11	Yard	Sycamore Estates Construction Yard. Response to inquiry received 02/23.
#3	01/06/10	01/18/11	All	Modification to tree trimming requirements.
#3 MOD	01/25/11	01/26/11	All	Modification to brush clearing requirements.
#4	01/13/11	03/01/11	Yard	Helicopter Temporary Landing Pad area at the Alpine Regional Field Offices.
#5	02/01/11	02/09/11	Yard	Site improvements at the Wilson Construction yard and along Bell Bluff Trail
#6	02/01/11	03/01/11	Link 5	Variance from Mitigation Measure H-1a (CC) to allow work outside of the dry season.
#7	02/11/11	02/17/11	Link 3	Additional work areas for construction trailers, parking, etc.
#8	03/02/11	03/08/11	Link 2	Alternate access route to Structure EP 27.

TABLE 3
TEMPORARY EXTRA WORKSPACE (TEWS) REQUESTS
(Updated 03/29/2011)

TEWS Request	Date Requested	Date Approved	Segment #	Description
TEWS #1	11/01/10	11/01/10	White Star	Asphalt paved area for vehicle parking and staging
TEWS #2	03/17/11	03/18/11	Link 4	Parking on Puetz Valley and Alpine Blvd
TEWS #3	03/17/11	03/18/11	Link 4	Parking on Harbison Canyon and Alpine Blvd
TEWS #4	03/22/11	03/23/11	Link 5	Storage on One Father Junipero Sierra Trail
TEWS #5	03/24/11	03/24/11	Link 4	Parking at 3900 Willows Rd. West
TEWS #6	03/24/11	03/24/11	Link 4	Parking at 5840 Willows Rd. East

NON-COMPLIANCES & INCIDENTS

Project Memorandum, Non-Compliance Reports, and other incidents that have occurred through March 29 are presented in Table 4.

TABLE 4
NON-COMPLIANCES (NC), PROJECT MEMORANDA (PM), AND OTHER INCIDENTS
 (Updated 03/29/2011)

Type	Date	Location	Description
Incident	11/1/2010	White Star	Delivery of a rebar cage outside of the approved disturbance area.
PM #1	12/7/2010	Thomas Yard	Failure to report unanticipated biological resources within 48 hours.
PM #2	02/11/2011	EP 242, Link 1	Unauthorized ground disturbance at EP 242
Incident	02/17/2011	EP 244, Link 1	Nest incorrectly marked at entrance to EP 244.
Incident	02/18/2011	Alpine HQ	Emergency weather landing and storage of 3 helicopters at Alpine HQ.
NC #1	03/08/2011	Suncrest Substation	Army Corp of Engineers issued NC for not complying with Special Conditions 19, 21 and 23 of DA Permit SPL-2007-00704-SAS.
Incident	03/12/2011	EP 252, Link 1	Bulldozer was delivered at site prior to CPUC clearance being given.
PM #3	03/15/2011	CP 67-3, Link 5	Staking crews operating and delivered by helicopters within Golden Eagle Buffer area.
Incident	03/15/2011	EP 214, Link 1	Dewatering approximately 1 gal of groundwater from an excavation hole without having submitted a dewatering plan to the CPUC.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1: Micropile grouting at EP 225-1, Link 1.



Figure 2: 12 kV relocation along McCain Valley Road, Link 1.



Figure 3: Vault being set, Link 4.



Figure 4: Bulldozer tracking at EP 252-1, Link 1.



Figure 5: Signage marking buffer of California gnatcatcher nest, Link 5.



Figure 6: Encina Substation excavation.



Figure 7: Footers poured at Encina Substation.



Figure 8: Wooden lids scattered throughout the Thomas Yard.