



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

## **PROJECT MEMORANDUM**

### **LODI GAS KIRBY HILLS NATURAL GAS STORAGE FACILITY PROJECT**

**To:** Junaid Rahman, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** June 28, 2006  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #5: June 18, 2006 – June 24, 2006  
**CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM):** Jody Fessler

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site June 19<sup>th</sup>, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, and June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **PIPELINE SEGMENT:**

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

Construction activities continued this week with the trenching of the 16-inch pipeline right-of-way west of Olson Road and started west of the staging yard and Shiloh Road. Crews continued the stringing and welding pipe sections together from where they left off from last week. Pipe was then coated, jeeped, and lowered in the trench. The right-of-way east of Olson Road is completed and restored. The only area left to complete is where the pappose spikeweed population is near a seasonal drainage (see Table 2). The bore pits on either side of the railroad were excavated.

Trenching of the right-of-way for the 12-inch flow-line at Kirby Hills from the compressor station toward the well sites continued during the subject week (see Figure 1). Crews also welded, coated, jeeped, and lowered the 12-inch flow line. The 4-inch temporary line was laid out in the right-of-way this week and welded at Kirby Hills.

The staging area off Shiloh Road is being used for the staging of materials and equipment for the pipeline construction. Lodi Gas and Rockford, the construction contractor, also have work trailers staged on the site. The welding crew built test headers for hydrotesting at the yard during the week.

Water trucks were observed often watering down the right-of-way for dust control.

A Jones & Stokes Environmental Inspector (EI) was on-site to ensure compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements.

#### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, the CPUC EM walked the right-of-way with the Lodi Gas EI from the creek bore south of the abandoned house northwest to the staging yard. The CPUC EM noted that several trees would be impacted by trenching activities through the area (see Figures 2 & 3). The CPUC EM also observed a great-horned owl using one of the eucalyptus trees, a fledgling logger-headed shrike using a California buckeye tree (see Figure 4), two barn owls using the abandoned house (see Figures 5 & 6), and barn swallows nesting in the abandoned house. The CPUC EM informed the Lodi Gas EI and construction management that nesting bird surveys would need to be completed and submitted to the CPUC and CDFG for review and approval prior to construction in the area. Also, the CPUC EM informed the Lodi Gas EI and construction management that a Variance Request would need to be submitted for impacts to any trees. On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, around 1 p.m., the CPUC EM observed an excavator moving trash and debris into a dumpster approximately 40 feet away from the eucalyptus tree and California buckeye where the great horned owl and the fledgling logger-

headed shrike had been observed the day before. The CPUC EM informed the Lodi Gas EI that the work was too close to the trees and that a 300-foot buffer needed to be maintained until further approval from the CPUC and CDFG was issued. The CPUC EM observed that other construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements.

**WELL SITES:**

Grading at well site S-10 in the Kirby Hills was completed this week. Grading at well site S-1 continued through the week. The temporary compressor was set at well site S-10.

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

The CPUC EM observed that all construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements.

**KIRBY HILLS COMPRESSOR STATION SITE:**

Earth work activities at the Kirby Hills Compressor Station continued this week and involved compacting the soil and preparatory work for foundations. Water trucks were observed regularly watering the site for dust control.

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

The CPUC EM observed that construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements.

**METERING STATION SITE:**

On Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, PG&E started work outside the metering station parameter on the east side. They excavated around their existing 32-inch gas line that they are tapping into to supply gas to the LGS project.

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

On Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC EM observed PG&E working in the vicinity of the metering station and parking their vehicles and equipment on the metering station site (see Figure 7). The CPUC EM informed the Lodi Gas EI and construction management that work in the area should not continue until bird surveys were completed. Work stopped and bird surveys were completed that afternoon. Lodi Gas had also forgotten to request the NTP for the metering station work, which was done immediately. The CPUC EM observed that all other construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permit requirements.

**NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):**

Table 1 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Lodi Gas Kirby Hills Project to date.

**TABLE 1**  
**NOTICES TO PROCEED**  
(Updated 6-28-06)

NTP #	Date Issued	Description
#1	5-19-06	Pipeline Portion
#2	5-31-06	Civil (grading) and piping construction of the well sites, and civil (grading) construction of the compressor station
#3	Under Review	Foundation/Structural construction on the compressor station and well sites. Drilling of three new storage wells.
#4	6-20-06	Civil portion only of the natural gas receiving/metering station
#5	Under Review	Metering station foundation, structural, piping, electrical, and instrumentation construction.

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

Table 2 presents the Variances requested and issued by the CPUC for the Lodi Gas Kirby Hills Project to date.

**TABLE 2**  
**VARIANCE**  
(Updated 6-28-06)

NTP #	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
#1	6-01-06	6-05-06	Request to trench through ephemeral wetland area approximately 70 ft. west of Olson Road.
#2	5-31-06	6-08-06	Lodi gas would like permission to trench through an area with a CNPS listed plant (pappose spikeweed). CPUC approval contingent upon CDFG concurrence. 6/21 – CDFG feedback provided and forwarded to J&S.
#3	6-16-06	6-16-06	Request to trench through two ephemeral wetland areas west of Shiloh Road.
#4	6-27-06	6-28-06	Request for additional workspace on the west side of Shiloh Road for the Shiloh bore.
#5	6-28-06	Under review by CPUC	Removal of two small eucalyptus trees and trenching through the root system of two larger trees.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

One Project Memorandum has been issued by the CPUC EM for the project to date. On June 27<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC EM observed dump trucks dumping spoils from the Kirby Hills site on a levee road in an adjacent wetland area. The CPUC EM requested to review permits for this activity. The landowner provided Lodi Gas with the 2006 Annual Application for the USACE Wetlands Maintenance, a copy of a letter from the USACE to the Suisun Resource Conservation District dated May 31, 2006, and a letter from the Suisun Resource Conservation District to the landowner dated June 5, 2006. The CPUC EM reviewed these documents and has concluded that the work activities are in compliance with the USACE approval. The Project Memorandum serves as a reminder that all permits for construction activities related to the Kirby Hills Natural Gas Storage Facility project be submitted and approved by the CPUC. Also, if changes to project activities as described in the MND occur, a Variance Request shall be submitted.

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

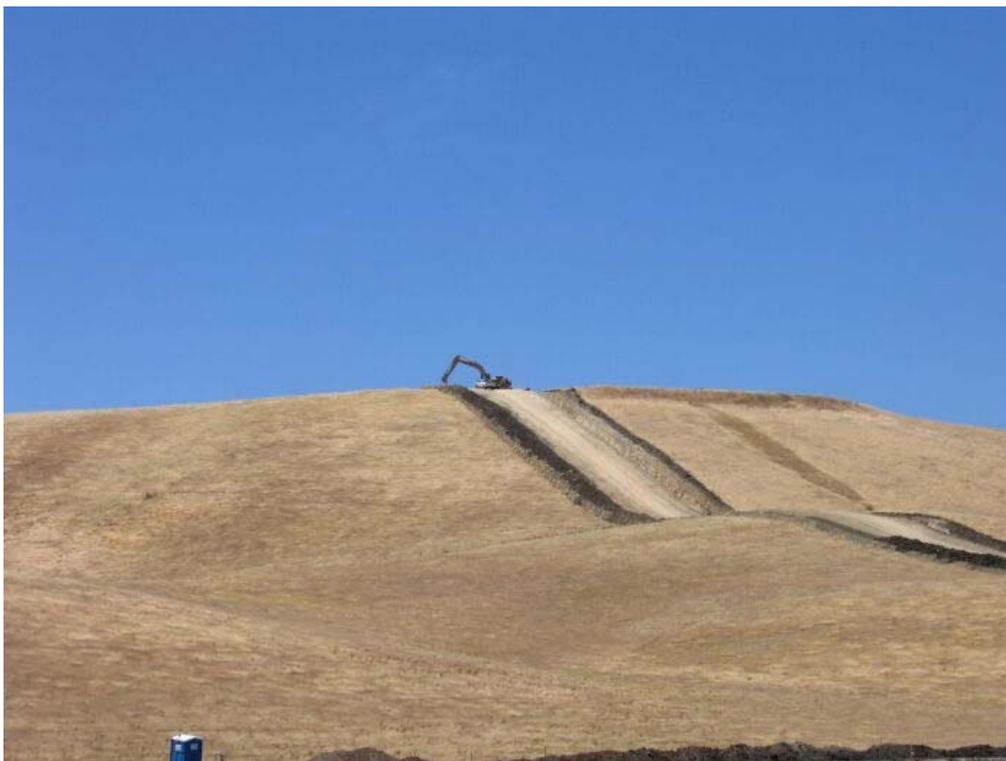
**UPCOMING ITEMS:**

Lodi Gas holds a weekly conference call on Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. (PST) to review issues and upcoming events.

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:**

The CPUC EM has been communicating with Jenny Marr of CDFG regarding the pappose spikeweed population and bird nesting issues.

## Photographs



**Figure 1** – Trenching above compressor station to S-10 well site, June 22, 2006.



**Figure 2** – Two large eucalyptus trees near trench line in right-of-way, June 22, 2006.



**Figure 3** – Center line of trench (white stake) going through young eucalyptus trees looking southwest from staging yard, June 22, 2006.



**Figure 4** – Center line of trench (white stake) looking northeast toward staging yard and running adjacent to eucalyptus tree and California buckeye tree, June 22, 2006.



**Figure 5** – Abandoned house where barn owls roost and barn swallows nest,  
June 22, 2006.



**Figure 6** – Barn owl roosting in upstairs room,  
June 22, 2006.



**Figure 7** – PG&E working adjacent to metering station and tapping into 32-inch existing natural gas line to supply LGS with natural gas for storage, June 19, 2006.