



# **Aspen** Environmental Group

## **PROJECT MEMORANDUM SDG&E – MIGUEL-MISSION 230 kV #2 PROJECT**

**To:** Jensen Uchida, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** June 29, 2005  
**Subject:** Weekly Reports #46 and #47: June 12 – June 25, 2005.  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Christopher Meyer

### **FANITA JUNCTION TO MIGUEL 138/69 kV ACTIVITIES, NTP #1 AND #2**

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

Weekly Reports #46 and #47 have been combined due to the minimal activity on the project during the two-week period. The CPUC EM conducted site visits on June 15<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> to review the clean-up progress, vegetation clearing, and Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPPP) issues. The 138 kV work on the segment has been completed and the PAR crews have demobilized from the project. During the site visit, crews worked on clean-up and grounding poles. Work observed during the site visit in the areas covered by Notices to Proceed (NTP) #1 and #2 included the following:

1. PAR crews worked on clean-up activities during the subject week with the assistance of a technician from Testing Engineers. The crews worked on the pads east of Magnolia Avenue in Santee, regrading the site and placing BMPs (see Figure 1). The work was completed during the week of June 13<sup>th</sup> and the crew demobilized from the project.
2. A small PAR crew continued working to repair or replace grounding rods/wires that did not pass initial testing.

#### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. An Essex EI was on-site during the clean up activities in the Santee area.
2. Several sites that were restored earlier in the project have revegetated. SDG&E has determined that revegetation of remaining sites will have to wait until the next growing season for the plants to get established prior to summer.
3. The CPUC EM reviewed the restoration completed on the road to Fanita Junction during the subject week. Access has been restored through the creek at Santee Lakes, though not by project personnel (see Figure 2). The area was recontoured and BMPs were placed (see Figure 3). The vegetation on the edges of the access road has been mowed for the fire season (see Figure 4).

### **MISSION TO MIGUEL SUBSTATION 230 kV ACTIVITIES, NTPS #3 AND #4**

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

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on June 15<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> to review the vegetation clearing progress and SWPPP issues related to installation of the permanent and temporary 230 kV systems. Other than vegetation clearing, no construction work occurred on the 230 kV portion of the project during the site visit.

## PERMANENT 230 kV INSTALLATION

NTP #3 was issued to address 230 kV work on Marine Corps Air Station Miramar prior to the NTP for all 230 kV work to address the expiration of a permit with the Navy. NTP #4 addressed the permanent upgrading of the 230 kV transmission system between the Miguel and Mission Substations. Construction of the permanent 230 kV system has been rescheduled to resume on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Work was delayed one week due to ISO restrictions on line outages.

Clearing crews returned on June 23<sup>rd</sup> to start removing vegetation around the existing lattice towers and in locations requiring new steel poles. The crews started south of Interstate 8 and worked to the southwest, re-clearing vegetation that has grown under the towers in the past year (see Figure 5).

## TEMPORARY 230 kV INSTALLATION

NTP #4 also addressed the installation of the 15-mile temporary 230 kV line from Miguel to Los Coches Substations. The temporary 230 kV system has been completed and the temporary line was energized on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Environmental Compliance:**

1. The Essex EI was on-site with the Asplundh clearing crews and worked ahead with the foreman to identify sensitive areas. The Essex EI worked with Asplundh and Wilson to reduce the amount of clearing and protect mature native brush if possible. The vegetation removed was primarily non-native, invasive plants and no sensitive species habitat was disturbed during the site visit. SDG&E understands that any clearing work conducted in coastal sage scrub or maritime succulent scrub habitat will have to be in compliance with the conditions found in the CPUC approval letter for Variance Request 10.

### **NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):**

NTPs #1 and #2 have been issued by CPUC for access road upgrade/construction and 138/69 kV tower installation along the Fanita Junction to Los Coches and Los Coches to Miguel segments. NTP #3 to address the 230 kV construction work on Miramar Naval Air Station was issued by CPUC November 16<sup>th</sup>. NTP #4 for upgrading of the 230 kV transmission system between the Miguel and Mission Substations, and installation of the 15-mile temporary 230 kV line from Miguel to Los Coches Substations was issued by CPUC on December 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

No Variance Requests were submitted during the subject weeks.

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS**  
(Updated 06/29/05)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	07/07/04	Use of five storage and staging areas on the Los Coches to Fanita Junction Section for the duration of the project.	Completed	07/23/04
2	08/10/04	Clearing of coastal sage scrub habitat before September 1 <sup>st</sup> on the Miguel to Fanita Junction section during the 2003/2004 nesting season.	Completed	08/13/04
3	09/01/04	Grading and clearing in quino checkerspot butterfly habitat after October 15 <sup>th</sup> .	Completed	09/14/04
4	09/06/04	Allow work on Saturdays near recreational facilities.	Completed	09/14/04
5	09/27/04	Use of six storage and staging areas on the Los Coches to Fanita Junction Section for the duration of the project.	Completed	10/06/04
6	10/20/04	Work on Sunday, October 31 <sup>st</sup> at Tower Site 925 to comply with a Cal ISO outage schedule.	Completed	10/26/04
7	01/13/05	Reconfiguration of approved stringing/snubbing sites at Pole Sites 10 and 961.	Completed	01/17/05
8	02/03/05	Work after 7pm, February 8 <sup>th</sup> at Pole 1210 to complete the concrete pour at the wet-hole.	Completed	02/04/05
9	02/16/05	Perform construction activities on Sunday, February 20 <sup>th</sup> at Pole Site 493.	Completed	02/17/05
10	03/10/05	Clearing of coastal sage scrub habitat after March 1 <sup>st</sup> on the project during the 2004/2005 nesting season.	Completed	3/22/05
11	03/14/05	Work after 7pm at Pole 411 to complete the concrete pour at the wet-hole.	Completed	03/16/05
12	03/14/05	Work on Sunday, March 20 <sup>th</sup> to string cable at eight towers to comply with a Cal ISO outage schedule. Modification added for line work north of Los Coches Substation.	Completed	03/17/05
13	03/28/05	Work on Cesar Chavez holiday, Thursday March 31 <sup>st</sup> .	Not Required	N/A
14	03/29/05	Work on Sunday, April 3 <sup>rd</sup> and Sunday, April 10 <sup>th</sup> to string cable to comply with Caltrans/ Highway Patrol lane closure requirements.	Completed	3/30/05
15	04/15/05	Programmatic variance to work on outside the approved construction schedule with prior approval from the CPUC EM.	Completed	4/19/05
16	5/05/05	Work on Sunday, May 8 <sup>th</sup> to catch up on transmission line work..	Completed	5/05/05
17	5/09/05	Parking of a crane truck in the vegetation approximately 500 feet southwest of Pole Site 10.	Completed	5/10/05
18	05/11/05	Work on Sunday, May 15 <sup>th</sup> to catch up on transmission line work..	Completed	5/12/05
19	05/20/05 MOD- 5/27/05	Waiver from the 30 day noticing period prior to energizing the temporary 230 kV line as required by Mitigation Measure PS-2a.	Request Rescinded 6/8/05	N/A
20	05/26/05	Work on Sunday, May 29 <sup>th</sup> to stay on schedule for energizing the line.	Completed	5/31/05

**UPCOMING ITEMS:** None

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:** None

**TEMPORARY EXTRA WORK SPACE REQUESTS:**

Table 2 presents the Temporary Extra Work Space (TEWS) Requests processed to date.

**TABLE 2**  
**TEWS TRACKING**  
(Updated 06/29/05)

Number	Segment	Date Received	Description	Status	Approval Date <sup>1</sup>
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	14000 Block of Willow Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
1	Los Coches to Miguel	07/24/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/26 to 9/26	See Variance Request #2
2	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	1600 Block Sweeney Court, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
3	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	2300 Willow Glen Drive, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
4	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	South of terminus of Camino Monte Sombra, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
5	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	Southeast of 2600 block Pence Drive, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
6	Los Coches to Miguel	08/26/04	North side of Singing Vista Way, San Diego County	Approved from 08/27 to 10/27	See Variance Request #2
7	Los Coches to Miguel	02/11/05	Southwest of Pence Road, San Diego County	Approved from 02/16 to 04/16	02/16/05
8	Los Coches to Miguel	03/11/05	Helicopter fly pad for 138 kV installation, Padre Water District	Approved from 03/16 to 05/16	03/16/05
9	Mission to Fanita	03/18/05	Helicopter fly pad for 138 kV installation, Padre Water District	Approved from 03/21 to 05/21	03/21/05
10	Los Coches to Miguel	03/29/05	PAR staging and show-up yard on Jamacha Road.	Approved from 03/29 to 05/29	03/29/05
11	Los Coches to Miguel	04/29/05	Placement of two cranes to create a guard structure south of Hwy. 94.	Approved from 04/29 to 06/29	04/29/05

<sup>1</sup>For TEWS requests, Approval Date reflects EM approval date. TEWS approvals valid for 60 days only.

\*TEWS submitted as a contingency while Variance Request #1 was under review.

## Photographs



**Figure 1** – The PAR crew regraded the pad at Pole Site 1310 and placed BMPs.



**Figure 2** – The access across the creek above Santee Lakes was restored as part of the access and fire prevention activities in the area. This is not project-related activity.



**Figure 3** – The PAR crew repaired the area off the access road to Fanita Junction.



**Figure 4** – Vegetation has been mowed along the access roads to Fanita Junction for the fire season. This is not a project-related activity.



**Figure 5** – The Asplundh crew, subcontracted to Wilson, cleared ruderal vegetation from under towers in preparation for the permanent 230 kV work.