

SPEN Environmental Group

PROJECT MEMORANDUM
PG&E - TRI-VALLEY 2002 CAPACITY INCREASE PROJECT
To: Ken Lewis, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: December 11, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #64: December 1, 2003 – December 7, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather included scattered storm events throughout the subject week. Phase Two activities are complete except for minor erosion control installation. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) did not conduct any environmental training during the week. Essex does not anticipate the need for any additional crew trainings. The Essex EI has reduced monitoring to pre- and post-storm event inspections.

Phase One:

The major build activities of the Phase One section of the Tri-Valley Project are complete and the line was officially released to operations in early-July. On November 5, PG&E notified CPUC/Aspen that they were in receipt of the final Phase One signoffs from the City of Pleasanton, Ruby Hills Homeowners Association, and Zone 7. These signoffs conclude all construction related indemnifications between PG&E's Contractor, Infrasource/Mueller Pipeliners, PG&E, and the above entities. As a result, this concludes reporting requirements for the Phase 1 component of the Project. However, the CPUC EM will continue to spot check the Phase One segment to ensure that installed erosion controls for the project remain in place and functioning.

In weekly Report #63, the CPUC EM reported tour observations of the Phase One portion of project. It was noted that the area south of the Arroyo Del Valle had almost no vegetation within the area of construction. Buck Jones, the PG&E Planner responded to Aspen that in the spring of this year the City of Pleasanton had requested that the noted area south of the Arroyo del Valle not be seeded post bore operations because immediate bridge/street widening work was scheduled. Aspen had been informed of the request at the time. However, the work has not yet occurred and currently a fairly large area upslope and in close proximity to the sensitive resource remains unvegetated, and the rainy season has begun. Mr. Jones also requested clarification of the location along "Old" Vineyard Avenue that had been hydroseeded, but did not show significant growth. That area lies off the roadway near the Vault 15 location. The Essex EI was notified and agreed that the cover was poor. The City of Pleasanton has however signed off on all restoration efforts.

On December 3rd, PG&E met with CPUC and Aspen representatives regarding the CPCN Order requirement to have PG&E remove redundant portions of the existing 60 kV system after completion of the Phase One 230 kV system. PG&E presented their planning study results which demonstrated that the entire 60 kV system is required to maintain overall transmission system flexibility to the Tri-Valley area, plus ensure service reliability to two major industrial customers in the area. PG&E stated that they have consulted with CAL-ISO planners who concur that segmental removal of any part of the 60 kV integrated network would not be acceptable. CPUC concurred with the PG&E and CAL-ISO conclusions, so therefore no portion of the existing 60 kV system will be removed.

Phase Two:

The soak test for the new 230 kV installation began on Monday, December 1. Testing and clearances continued through Tuesday, December 2. The Cayetano Substation was energized on Wednesday, December 3 at which time the Phase Two segment was officially released for operations. Essex had distributed pre-energization notices to all property owners along the alignment on October 31. Restoration including hydro-seeding and mulching along the Phase Two right-of-way are complete.

At the Cayetano Substation site, landscaping around the parameter is complete and crews have hydroseeded the area surrounding the station (see Figure 1).

At the PSD Contractor yard, crews have removed all remaining construction debris and equipment (except one forklift) as well as the trailer.

Crews have completed road upgrade and restoration operations east from Dagnino Road along the access road that follows the alignment to the Transition Station, part of which lies within a wetland exclusion buffer and wetland mitigation site for the Dublin Ranch Development. Crews have completed installing and upgrading the culverts, as previously requested by CDFG and HT Harvey and Associates (wetland mitigation site planners). The HT Harvey Project Manager also requested that PG&E leave the construction fencing in place around designated borrows and drainages. Crews have installed additional erosion controls including jute netting and hay bales within the drainage areas. The contractor has disked the disturbed right-of-way and has hydro-seeded all of the disturbed areas. After the seed application, crews then applied mulch, then tackifier. The recent rains have promoted growth of the applied seed. The contractor plans to install straw waddles across the steep slope between Stations 15+00 and 21+00. On November 17, the CPUC EM met with Buck Jones, PG&E Planner, who stated that the road culverts need to be set in concrete to maintain the road from being washed out during rain events. After PG&E correspondence with CDFG, Mr. Jones reported that no concrete will be installed at the culvert mouths.

At the Transition Station, crews have finished installations. The surrounding area has been hydro-seeded. Crews have installed a chain link fence with barbed wire around the station pad. Locked gates have been installed at the entrance road to the station.

Environmental Compliance:

For all operations, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in EIR and other permitting requirements.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

No new NTPs were issued during the subject week.

Variance Requests: None.

Agency Personnel Contacts: None.

				CPUC
Variance	Date			Approval
Request #	Submitted	Description	Status	Date
1	10/3/02	Temporary storage of bore pit spoils on the north side of the Arroyo del Valle bore crossing Stations 304+00 to 306+00.	Completed	10/17/02
2	12/19/02	40 feet of extra work space was requested on the south, east and west sides of the north bore pit associated with the Arroyo Del Valle jack and bore to install a sound barrier around boring operations, so that 24-hour construction could occur.	Completed	1/6/03
3	01/29/03	Approximate 200' by 300' extra workspace area east of the Isabel Ave jack & bore.	Completed	2/18/03
4	01/29/03	Approximate 120' by 320' extra workspace area north of the Hwy 84 jack & bore, and an 80' by 200' area south of the Hwy 84 bore.	Completed	2/18/03
5	02/12/03	Approximate 2.6-acre expansion of the approved Mueller Contractor Yard, City of Pleasanton.	Completed	2/25/03
6	05/19/03	Approximate 2.5-acre laydown area adjacent to the north side of May School Road for equipment and materials storage and contractor staging for the Phase Two portion of the project.	Completed	5/23/03
6-Modification	06/06/03	Allow clearing and grading at the 2.5-acre laydown area adjacent to the north side of May School Road.	Completed	7/8/03
7	07/01/03	Variance of Mitigation Measure 7.3 trench cover requirements to protect the San Joaquin Kit Fox deferring to the protocol outlined in the USFWS Biological Opinion.	Completed	7/22/03
8	7/25/03	Variance of Mitigation 7.4 for adjustments to burrowing owl protection mitigation measures per site-specific recommendations made by CDFG.	Completed	8/4/03
9	8/11/03	Variance to extend the PSD laydown yard, requesting an additional 82' by 270' area to the north of the yard, for parking and materials storage for the Phase Two portion of the project.	Completed	9/5/03

VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE (Updated 12/11/03)



Figure 1 – The area surrounding the Cayetano Substation has been hydro-seeded, Phase Two