

# Aspen Environmental Group

## PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E JEFFERSON-MARTIN 230KV TRANSMISSION PROJECT

**To:** Billie Blanchard, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date:** March 8, 2006

**Subject:** Monthly Report #7: February 1, 2006 – February 28, 2006

**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site throughout the month of February along Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and the Jefferson and Martin Substations.

#### **SEGMENT 1**

Table 1A presents the construction activities along Segment 1 during February. Along Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard, the daytime shift worked Monday through Friday and a few Saturdays during the month of February. Crews conducted cable splicing, fiber optic cable splicing, conduit proofing, conduit trimming at the towers located on the north and south side of Crystal Springs Dam, arm installation on towers, pot-head installation, and installation of conductor (Figure 1). PG&E Environmental Inspectors (EIs) and Biological Monitors were on-site during all construction activities. Traffic controls were placed around the manholes including flaggers, signs, and cones.

B&V and ILB are using the Caltrans Staging Yard on Hwy 92/Hwy 35 and the Caltrans Staging Yard at the corner of Skyline Boulevard and Hayne Road/Golf Course Drive to store materials and equipment for cable installation and overhead activities. Crews are still using the Staging Yard at 50 Edwards Court in Burlingame to store equipment and materials.

Table 1A - Segment 1 Construction Activities during February 2006

Week	Manhole Installation	Conduit Installation	Stubout Installation	Proofing Conduit	Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling	Splicing Cable	Tower Installation at Dam Crossing
Feb 1 – Feb 4	Complete	Manhole #1 into the Jefferson Substation	Complete	Complete	Fiber optic cable pulled at various locations throughout the segment	Fiber optic cable spliced at various locations throughout the segment	NA
Feb 5 – Feb 11	Complete	Manhole #1 into the Jefferson Substation and at Towers on either side of Crystal Springs Dam	Complete	Manhole #1 into the Jefferson Substation and at Towers on either side of Crystal Springs Dam	N/A	Cable and fiber optic cable spliced at various locations throughout the segment	NA
Feb 12 – Feb 18	Complete	NA	Complete	Complete	At towers on either side of Crystal Springs Dam	NA	Arms attached to towers
Feb 19 – Feb 25	Complete	NA	Complete	Complete	NA	Cable splicing at various locations throughout the segment	Pot-head installation
Feb 26 – Feb 28	Complete	NA	Complete	Complete	At Manholes on either side of the dam	Cable splicing at various locations throughout the segment	NA

NA – No Activity

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

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 1 starting February 1<sup>st</sup>.

One concern was issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors along Segment 1 during the month of February. On February 13, during preparations for arm erection near the dam crossing, a bucket truck made a U-turn on Skyline Boulevard and hit a live oak tree, breaking two of the branches. An arborist inspected the tree and had it trimmed.

The CPUC EM observed that Segment 1 construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

#### **SEGMENT 2 - UNDERGROUND**

Table 2A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 2 during February. All construction for Segment 2 is complete except cable pulling and splicing. Fiber optic cable pulling and splicing was conducted on February 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup>. Cable splicing and fiber optic cable splicing was conducted February 6<sup>th</sup> through February 10<sup>th</sup>. Cable splicing was conducted February 13<sup>th</sup> through February 17<sup>th</sup>. Communication box work, cable pulling and splicing were conducted February 21<sup>st</sup> through February 24<sup>th</sup> (Figure 2). Cable splicing and racking occurred February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at Manhole #38 in the SFPUC watershed. A PG&E EI was on-site to monitor construction activities.

B&V is now using the northern Caltrans Staging Yard at the corner of Skyline Boulevard and Hayne Road/Golf Course Drive to store materials and equipment for cable installation activities. Crews are still using the Staging Yard at 60 Edwards Court in Burlingame to store equipment and materials.

Table 2A – Segment 2 Underground Construction Activities during February 2006

Week	Manhole Installation	Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)	Stubout Installation	Proofing Conduit	Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling	Splicing Cable	Final Punch- list Work
Feb 1 – Feb 4	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Fiber optic cable pulling	Fiber optic cable splicing at various locations	Complete
Feb 5 – Feb 11	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	NA	Cable and fiber optic cable splicing at various locations	Complete
Feb 12 – Feb 18	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	NA	Cable splicing at various locations	Complete
Feb 19 – Feb 25	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Manhole #37 and Manhole #38	Manhole #37 and Manhole #38	Complete
Feb 26 – Feb 28	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	Manhole #37 and Manhole #38	Manhole #37 and Manhole #38	Complete

NA – No Activity

## **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 2 Underground starting February 1<sup>st</sup>.

The underground work area in the SFPUC Watershed will be surveyed after germination to ensure that star thistle was not introduced into the area.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors along Segment 2 Underground during February.

The CPUC EM observed that Segment 2 Underground construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements.

#### SEGMENT 2 – OVERHEAD

Table 3A presents the overhead construction activities along Segment 2 Overhead in the SFPUC Watershed during February. The line builder crew (ILB) worked Monday through Saturday of each week. ILB crews removed old towers, tower footings, and wire; erected new towers; compressed newly erected towers; moved transmission lines from the old towers to the new towers; installed travelers and jumpers; flew sock-line; pulled and sagged of conductor; performed dead-ending work; installed insulators; and expanded and repaired work pads (Figure 3). On February 17<sup>th</sup>, sock line was flown by helicopter from Tower #82A through Tower #93 (Figure 4). Towards the end of the month, scaffolding was set up around Tower #70A, which is the transition tower from the underground line to the overhead line (Figure 5). Burrow excavation continued throughout the month of February at various locations in the watershed. Restoration activities also occurred throughout the month of February at various locations in the watershed.

Table 3A - Segment 2 - Overhead Construction Activities during February 2006

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Week	Snake Burrow Clearing	Tree Clearing and Trimming	Biological Exclusion Fence Installation	Erosion Controls and Road Maintenance	New Tower Erected and Compressed	Old Tower Removed	Line Work	Restoration Work
Feb 1 – Feb 4	Near Tower #83	NA	NA	NA	Towers #82, #83, #86, #87, #90, #91 & #93	Towers #83 and #86	Wire removal at Towers #82, #83 & #84	NA
Feb 5 – Feb 11	Near Tower #81A	NA	NA	Towers #70A and #77, #79, #97	Towers #82A, #84, #85, and #88, #92	Towers #82, #84, #88, #89, #90, and #91	Transfer of wire from old Tower #90 to new Tower #90, wire removal from Tower #87 to Tower #93, Removal of conductor between Towers #83 - #87	Grass plugs planted between Towers #70 - #71
Feb 12 – Feb 18	Towers #81, #81A and #85	NA	NA	Towers #81, #82A, and #85	NA	Towers #75, #84, #92, and #93	Wire transfer from old Towers #93 & #94 to new Towers #93 & #94, Flying of sock line from Tower #82A to #93	Grass plugs planted between Towers #70 - #71
Feb 19 – Feb 25	Towers #78 and #80	Near Towers #82, #82A, and #84	NA	Towers #78, #80, #93A	NA	NA	Pulling of conductor, fiber optic cable, and 60 kV wire from Tower #82 - #93, line sagging	Grass plugs planted near Towers #73, #74, #83, #84, and #85
Feb 26 – Feb 28	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Towers #83, #85, #87	Grass plugs planted near Towers #76, #77, #79, and #80

NA – No Activity

## **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 2 Overhead starting February 1<sup>st</sup>.

On February 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, California red-legged frogs were observed within the watershed. On February 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, a San Francisco garter snake was observed within the watershed.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors along Segment 2 Overhead during February.

The CPUC EM observed that construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

#### Other incidents:

On Wednesday, February 1, a bucket truck on Segment 2 Overhead slid off the access road to Tower #86 and became stuck approximately five (5) feet off of the road. Several other vehicles were required to pull the bucket truck out, causing rutting approximately 30 feet long and 10 feet wide. The majority of the rutting occurred within the approved workspace. On Thursday, February 2, Appian Construction completed the repairs to the access road.

## SEGMENT 3

Table 4A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 3 during February. Crews worked Monday through Friday during the day on Glenview Drive, San Bruno Avenue, and Huntington Drive. Nighttime work was conducted Sunday night through Thursday nights. Work included dewatering of manholes and communications boxes, racking of manholes, excavation of trench, installation of conduit, duct proofing, paving, cable pulling and splicing, concrete and rock pouring, curb restoration. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls were in place at the construction sites including flaggers, signs, and cones.

Crews continue to use their staging yards under Highway 380 just east of Huntington Avenue and at the corner of Skyline Boulevard/Highway 35 and San Bruno Avenue.

Table 4A – Segment 3 Construction Activities during February 2006

	Table 4A – Segment 5 Construction Activities during February 2000							
Week	Manhole Installation	Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)	Stubout Installation	Proofing Conduit	Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling	Splicing Cable		
Feb 1 – Feb 4	Complete	200	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Feb 5 – Feb 11	Complete	250	NA	Various locations along the segment	Various locations along the segment	NA		
Feb 12 – Feb 18	Complete	350	NA	Various locations along the segment	Various locations along the segment	NA		
Feb 19 – Feb 25	Complete	Completed this week	NA	Various locations along the segment	Various locations along the segment	Various locations along the segment		
Feb 26 – Feb 28	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	Various locations along the segment	Various locations along the segment		

NA – No Activity

## **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 3 starting February 1<sup>st</sup>.

One concern was issued on Thursday, February 2, for inadequate protection and containment of stockpiles in the work area at the intersection of Glenview Drive and San Bruno Avenue. Corrective measures to contain and protect the stockpiles were implemented on Friday, February 3.

The CPUC EM observed that other construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

#### **SEGMENT 4**

Table 5A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 4 during February. No work was conducted along Segment 4 February 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>. Fiber optic cable splicing was conducted on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Cable splicing was conducted February 13<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>. Cable splicing was conducted on February 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. No work was conducted on February 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls were in place at the construction sites including flaggers, signs, and cones.

Table 5A – Segment 4 Construction Activities during February 2006

Week	Manhole Installation	Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)	Stubout Installation	Proofing Conduit	Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling	Splicing Cable
Feb 1 – Feb 4	Complete	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	NA
Feb 5 – Feb 11	Complete	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	Fiber optic cable splicing was conducted at various locations along the segment
Feb 12 – Feb 18	Complete	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	Fiber optic cable splicing was conducted at various locations along the segment
Feb 19 – Feb 25	Complete	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	Various locations along the segment
Feb 26 – Feb 28	Complete	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	NA

NA – No Activity

## **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 4 starting February 1<sup>st</sup>.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors during the month of February.

The CPUC EM observed that construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

#### **SEGMENT 5**

Table 6A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 5 during February. Crews worked Monday through Friday and a few Saturdays, during the day, conducting cable pulling, cable splicing, fiber optic conduit proofing, fiber optic cable pulling and splicing, and dewatering of manholes and communication boxes. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls were in place at the construction sites including flaggers, signs, cones, and k-rail.

Table 6A – Segment 5 Construction Activities during February 2006

Week	Manhole Installation	Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)	Stubout Installation	Proofing Conduit	Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling	Splicing Cable
Feb 1 – Feb 4	Complete	Complete	NA	Fiber optic from comm. box near Manholes #77, #79 to comm. box in Martin Sub	NA	Manholes #63, #64, and #66
Feb 5 – Feb 11	Complete	Complete	NA	At the very northern end of the segment	At the very northern end of the segment	At the very northern end of the segment
Feb 12 – Feb 18	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	At the very northern end of the segment	At the very northern end of the segment
Feb 19 – Feb 25	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	NA	At the very northern end of the segment
Feb 26 – Feb 28	Complete	Complete	NA	NA	NA	At the very northern end of the segment

NA - No Activity

## **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 5 starting February 1<sup>st</sup>.

One non-compliance was issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors during the month of February along Segment 5. On Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, two project-related vehicles were observed partially parked off the pavement on the vegetated road shoulder near Manhole #75 on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway.

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC EM issued a Project Memorandum for the non-compliance activity of February 14<sup>th</sup> where two project-related vehicles were parked partially off the pavement on the vegetated road shoulder. The CPUC EM observed that other construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

### **Other Issues:**

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, crews dug up an abandoned, broken pipe made of Trancite, which contains asbestos. PG&E reported that the pieces of the pipe were double-bagged and properly disposed of in a metal-covered drum, which was delivered to an appropriate waste facility.

#### **JEFFERSON SUBSTATION**

During the month of February, crews continued to work at the Jefferson Substation Mondays through Saturdays. Nighttime work was conducted on the evening of Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>. Trenching activities continued from Manhole #1 southeast into the substation. Work within the substation also continued and included wire removal and overhead wire installation, old tower removal, ground wire installation, concrete pouring for a communication box, cable pulling, concrete pouring for footings, framework installation and concrete pouring for the retention basin, installation of a transformer, and soil grading and removal (Figure 6). A full-time Biological Monitor was present during all work. A PG&E EI also visited the site periodically to ensure environmental compliance with project requirements.

## **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

One concern was issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors for the Jefferson Substation during February. On February 22, a PG&E crew conducted work in the wetland area located outside of the Jefferson Substation without a monitor present. PG&E reported that the construction supervisor mistakenly thought that a monitor had been scheduled. As soon as the discovery was made, a biological monitor was mobilized to the site.

On February 22, the CPUC EM observed that the silt fence on the southern side of the right-of-way and trench alignment entering the Jefferson Substation from Cañada Road needed maintenance. PG&E's EI was contacted regarding the issue. On February, 24, the CPUC EM observed that the silt fence still needed maintenance and repair. PG&E's EI was contacted again about this issue. The CPUC EM observed that other Jefferson Substation construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements.

#### MARTIN SUBSTATION

During the month of February, crews continued to work at the Martin Substation, Monday through Saturday. Work at the Martin Substation included trenching, backfilling, concrete pouring, fence installation, pole and tubing installation for the bus-line support structures, rebar installation for the reactor pad foundation, installation of post ballards to protect the new water line, and circuit switch structure construction. A PG&E EI inspected the site everyday for environmental compliance.

## **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

No concerns were issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors for Martin Substation during February.

The CPUC EM observed that all Martin Substation construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

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

Table 6 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Jefferson-Martin Project as of the end of January. With the exception of an NTP for the permanent Crystal Springs Dam crossing, no additional NTPs are anticipated.

## TABLE 6 NOTICES TO PROCEED

(Updated 03-08-06)

	Date	
NTP#	Issued	Description
#1	1-10-05	Segment 1, underground only Segment 5, unincorporated San Mateo County only
#2	3-08-05	Segment 2, underground only, not including SFPUC lands
#3	3-11-05	Segment 5, incorporated
#4	3-11-05	Segment 3
#5	3-30-05	Segment 4
#6	8-03-05	Segment 2 Underground in the SFPUC Watershed
#7	8-10-05	Martin Substation
#8	8-26-05	Segment 2 Overhead
#8 Amendment	12-21-05	Segment 2 Overhead; remove additional trees between Towers #70A and #71 for line clearance purposes.
#9	9-01-05	Jefferson Substation expansion area and construction of the temporary Lower Crystal Springs Overhead Dam Crossing

## **ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

Three Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) and nine Project Memorandums (PMs) have been issued by the CPUC EMs for the project as of the end of January (see Table 7).

## TABLE 7 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS

(Updated 03-08-06)

Project Memo or NCR	Date Issued	Description	Follow-Up Activities
NCR (Level 3)	2-01-05	Segment 2 Overhead – Dismantling and removal of woodrat nests along the overhead route without consulting with CDFG.	PG&E consulting with CDFG on how to proceed.
PM	2-09-05	Segment 1 – Breach of trenching activities into vegetated drainage on east side of Cañada Road between MH #7 and MH #8.	PG&E consulting with CDFG and USFWS on how to proceed.
PM	2-16-05	Segment 5 – Dewatering of Manhole #67 vault pit without consulting with RWQCB on handling of water.	PG&E consulting with RWQCB on how to pro- ceed with storm water and groundwater.
PM	3-04-05	Segment 1 – Hummingbird nest found near Manhole #5 on Monday, Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup> , and not reported to CPUC or CDFG until Thursday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	PG&E discussing better communication between PG&E and subcontractors.
PM	5-27-05	Segment 2 Underground – Construction went past the City of Burlingame's Encroachment Permit on May 25 <sup>th</sup> , and May 26 <sup>th</sup> .	PG&E response submitted 6-14-05.
PM	5-27-05	Segment 2 Underground – Several traffic control violations were observed. A traffic control flagger left his post several times which endangered the public.	PG&E response submitted 6-14-05.
PM	6-01-05	Segment 1 – End dump parked on vegetation in the Caltrans right-of-way disturbing vegetation	PG&E response submitted 6-15-05.
PM	6-20-05	Segment 1- Construction vehicle parked on vegetation near the Caltrans yard	PG&E response received 6-22-05
NCR	7-13-05	Segment 1 – Construction vehicle parked on vegetation at Station # 287+00 on the night of July 11 <sup>th</sup> .	PG&E response received
NCR	7-22-05	Segment 1 – Cable Pulling truck and trailer rolled off the road onto vegetation at Manhole #3 on July 18 <sup>th</sup> .	PG&E response received
PM	10-27-05	Segment 4 - Inadequate clean-up on the roadway in several locations on Hillside Avenue.	PG&E response received
PM	2-16-06	Segment 5 – Two construction vehicles parked off the road on the vegetation on February 14 <sup>th</sup> .	Awaiting PG&E's formal response

## **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

Table 8 represents the Variance Requests submitted and approved to date for the project. No Variance Requests were submitted during the month of February.

## TABLE 8 VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS

(Updated 03-08-06)

Variance	Date			CPUC Approval
Request #	Submitted	Description	Status	Date
1	1-14-05	40 Edwards Court, Burlingame – Paved parking lot that is fenced to be used as a staging yard.	Approved	1-18-05
2	2-04-05	Staging yard, Airport Boulevard & North Access Road., South San Francisco.	Approved	2-09-05
3	2-22-05	Change compliance timing for Mitigation Measure U-1c, corrosion, from pre-construction to during construction.	Approved	3-04-05
4	4-28-05	Staging yard, Herman Street and Forest Lane, City of San Bruno	Approved	5-03-05
5	5-12-05	Jefferson Substation Expansion Area – Cap well, empty water out of tank into truck, and remove tank from property	Approved	5-20-05
6	5-24-05	Staging yard for Segment 4 construction, intersection of Antoinette Lane and Mission Road, City of South San Francisco.	Approved	5-26-05
6 Modification	6-22-05	Additional staging yard for Segment 4, next to yard approved in Variance #6.	Approved	6-28-05
7	06-06-05	Intrusion into vegetated areas at several locations along Segment 1.	Approved	6-13-05
8	7-14-05	Modification of the trench depth along a 400-foot section of trench north of S. Spruce Avenue (Segment 4).	Approved	7-19-05
9	7-15-05	Staging Yard for Segment 4 off of Hillside Drive in the City of Colma.	Approved	8-17-05
10	7-22-05	Expansion of Jefferson Substation	Approved	8-31-05
11	8-04-05	Intrusion into vegetated shoulder at 7 locations along Segment 1.	Approved	8-18-05
12	8-18-05	Additional workspace along road in Segment 2 underground in the SFPUC Watershed.	Approved	8-22-05
13	10-06-05	Staging Yard for Segment 3 at north- east corner of Skyline Boulevard and San Bruno Avenue in the City of San Bruno.	Approved	10-06-05
14	1-05-06	Retention basin and associated drainages at the Jefferson Substation	Approved	1-09-06
15	1-10-06	Work in SFPUC watershed on a holiday (MLK Jr. Holiday) and close public trails	Approved	1-11-06

## **UPCOMING ITEMS:**

PG&E holds the following weekly meetings to review issues and upcoming events:

- Segment 1 on Friday (8:00 a.m., San Mateo B&V office) and Tuesday (8:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 2 Overhead on Tuesday (10:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 3 on Tuesday (9:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 5 on Monday (3:00 p.m., South SF Mueller/InfraSource Staging Yard) and Tuesdays (8:30 a.m., Hayward B&V office); and
- Cable pulling meeting on Tuesday (12:30 p.m., Hayward B&V office).



**Figure 1** – View looking north at towers on either side of Crystal Springs Dam, Segment 1, February 7, 2006.



**Figure 2** – Crews splicing at Manhole #38, Segment 2 Underground in the SFPUC watershed, February 24, 2006.



**Figure 3** – Crews setting top portion of Tower #82A, Segment 2 Overhead, February 7, 2006.



**Figure 4** – Helicopter flying sock line from Tower #82 through Tower #93, Segment 2 Overhead, February 17, 2006.



**Figure 5** – Scaffolding built around Tower #70A, Segment 2 Overhead, February 24, 2006.



**Figure 6** – Crews working with crane from lift at the Jefferson Substation, February 7, 2006.