



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

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

**To:** Billie Blanchard, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** May 9, 2006  
**Subject:** Monthly Report #9: April 1, 2006 – April 30, 2006  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site on a part-time, random basis throughout the month of April along Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, and the Jefferson and Martin Substations.

The PG&E Jefferson-Martin 230kV transmission line was energized on Saturday, April 29, 2006.

### **SEGMENT 1**

The following describes the construction activities along Segment 1 during April. Along Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard, the daytime shift worked Mondays through Saturdays throughout the month. Crews conducted tower work at the transition towers on the north and south sides of Crystal Springs Dam, installed pot-heads on the transitions towers, flew sock-line at the transition towers, pulled the transmission lines at towers, installed jumpers, conducted fiber optic cable stringing and splicing at the towers, conducted ground wire installation, conducted jacket testing of underground cable, tagged communication vaults, replaced a culvert under Highway 92/Highway 35, inspected manholes, dewatered manholes, and replaced corroded hardware inside manholes (see Figure 1). PG&E EIs and Biological Monitors were on-site during all construction activities. Traffic controls were placed around the manholes including flaggers, signs, and cones.

Final paving of Segment 1 has started and will continue through the month of May.

B&V and ILB are using the Caltrans Staging Yard on Hwy 92/Hwy 35 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.

### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 1 throughout the month of April.

On April 8, two sub-adult California red-legged frogs (CRLF) were observed along Segment 1. On April 14, seven CRLF were observed along Segment 1.

PG&E's Environmental Inspectors issued one concern along Segment 1 during the month of April. On April 17, a concern was issued for culvert replacement work on Highway 92 (just east of Skyline Boulevard) that was conducted without the presence of a biological monitor. A monitor was mobilized to the site immediately upon discovery. Work had only occurred on the road shoulder and was in an area with low potential for sensitive resources. PG&E EIs reported that no sensitive resources were affected.

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

## **SEGMENT 2 - UNDERGROUND**

The following describes the construction activities along Segment 2 Underground during April. Work took place along Segment 2 Underground Mondays through Sundays sporadically throughout the month. Crews conducted manhole inspections, dewatered manholes, conducted cable splicing, jacket testing, fiber optic cable testing, communication vault work, and replacement of corroded hardware inside manholes. A PG&E Environmental Inspector was on-site to monitor construction activities. Traffic controls were placed around the manholes including flaggers, signs, and cones.

B&V is still using the Staging Yard at 60 Edwards Court in Burlingame to store equipment and materials.

### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

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 April.

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 1 presents the overhead construction activities along Segment 2 Overhead in the SFPUC Watershed during April. Crews worked Mondays through Sundays throughout the month. Crews conducted fiber optic line pulling and dead-ending, splicing of fiber optic cable at Tower #81A, installation of bird diverters on the fiber optic line from Towers #78 through #81, removal of old tower foundations, pot-head work at Tower #70A, scaffolding removal at Tower #70A, grouting at new tower bases, ladder installation on towers, marking of towers, gate installations, racking at Towers #70A, #78, and #93A, and equipment demobilization from the project site (see Figure 2 and 3). PG&E EIs and Biological Monitors were on-site with each crew during all construction activities.

Restoration, including the maintenance and replacement of existing access roads and the removal of new access roads in the watershed is scheduled to start in June.

**Table 1 – Segment 2 - Overhead Construction Activities during April 2006**

Week	Snake Burrow Clearing	Tree Clearing and Trimming	Biological Exclusion Fence Installation	Erosion Controls and Road Maintenance	New Tower Work	Old Tower Removed	Line Work	Restoration Work
April 2 – April 8	NA	NA	NA	NA	Grouting at bases of Towers #77, #78, #79, and #80	Concrete foundation removal at Towers #78, #79, and #80	Towers #70A, #77–#81, and #81A	NA
April 9 – April 15	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	Concrete foundation removal at Towers #75, #77, and #83	NA	NA
April 16 – April 22	NA	NA	NA	NA	Grouting at base of Towers #72, #81, #81A, #90, #92, and #93 Ladder installation at Towers #76–#78, #82, #86–#88	NA	Towers #70A, and #76–#88	NA
April 23 – April 29	NA	NA	NA	NA	Tower #70A and #91	NA	Towers #93	NA

NA – No Activity

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys were conducted along Segment 2 Overhead throughout the month of April.

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

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 3**

The following describes the construction activities along Segment 3 during April. Work took place along Segment 3 Mondays through Fridays sporadically throughout the month. Work included manhole inspections, dewatering of manholes, replacement of corroded hardware inside manholes, cable splicing, fiber optic cable splicing repair, communication vault labeling, road restoration, pot-head work at Tower #93A, and scaffolding removal and concrete work at the base of the tower. 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.

ARB crews moved out of their staging yards under Highway 380 just east of Huntington Avenue and at the corner of Skyline Boulevard/Highway 35 and San Bruno Avenue at the end of March.

### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors along Segment 3 during April.

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 4**

The following describes the construction activities along Segment 4 during April. Work took place along Segment 4 Mondays through Fridays sporadically throughout the month. Work included manhole inspections, dewatering of manholes, replacement of corroded hardware inside manholes, fiber optic cable splicing repair, and placement of identification tags on communication vaults. 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.

### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

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

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**

The following describes the construction activities along Segment 5 during April. Work took place along Segment 5 Mondays through Fridays sporadically throughout the month. Work included manhole inspections, dewatering of manholes, replacement of corroded hardware inside manholes, cable splicing, fiber optic cable splicing repair, soil sampling, and median restoration along Bayshore Boulevard. 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.

### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

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

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.

### **JEFFERSON SUBSTATION**

During the month of April, crews continued to work at the Jefferson Substation Mondays through Sundays. Work included fiber optic cable splicing, work on the riser structure within the substation, pot-head installation work, electrical work, erosion and sediment control measure maintenance and installation, and water pumping from the retention ponds (see Figure 4). 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:**

The following two concerns were issued by PG&E's Environmental Inspectors for the Jefferson Substation during April. On April 3 and April 4, concerns were issued for insufficient stockpiles of erosion and sediment control materials at the substation. The depleted stock piles were replenished by April 5.

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 April, crews continued to work at the Martin Substation, Monday through Friday. Work at the Martin Substation included pot-head installation; fiber optic cable work; scaffold and tent disassembly and removal; bus line, support structure, and ground wiring installation; ground wire and cable tray cover installation; reactor wire attachment; manhole inspections; dewatering of manholes; replacement of corroded hardware inside manholes; and general clean-up (see Figure 5). 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 April.

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

**TABLE 2**  
**NOTICES TO PROCEED**  
(04-30-06)

<b>NTP #</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Description</b>
#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 ten Project Memorandums (PMs) have been issued by the CPUC EMs for the project as of the end of April (see Table 3).

**TABLE 3**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS**  
(04-30-06)

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 proceed 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 sub-contractors.
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> .	PG&E response received
PM	3-03-06	Jefferson Substation – Lack of functional erosion controls	PG&E response received 3-20-06

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

Table 4 represents the Variance Requests submitted and approved to date for the project. Variance Request #16 was approved on April 17<sup>th</sup> for the installation of a fault satellite (FaulSat), global positioning system (see Table 4).

**TABLE 4**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS**  
(04-30-06)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval 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 northeast 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
16	3-24-06	Install FaulSat system onto the JM 230kV transmission circuit. Four GPS stations will be installed on existing poles. A bore from Tower #70A to a 12kV line for power will also be needed.	Approved	4-17-06



## Photographs



**Figure 1** – Pot-head installation on tower at the south side of Crystal Springs Dam, Segment 1, April 17, 2006.



**Figure 2** – Area where crews removed old Tower #75 concrete footings by hand, Segment 2 Overhead in the SFPUC watershed, April 13, 2006.





**Figure 3** – Crews installing lightning arrestors and jumpers at Tower #70A, Segment 2 Overhead in the SFPUC Watershed, April 18, 2006.



**Figure 4** – New erosion controls on the right-of-way into the Jefferson Substation, April 13, 2006.



**Figure 5** – New construction at the substation,  
Martin Substation, April 17, 2006.