

# Aspen Environmental Group

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

**To:** Billie Blanchard, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

**Date:** February 9, 2005

**Subject:** Weekly Report #3: January 30, 2005 – February 5, 2005

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

Aspen EM Jody Fessler was on site from January 31 through February 3 on Segments 1, 2 and 5 to monitor construction activities.

#### **SEGMENT 1:**

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

Construction activities continued during the subject week with excavation of manholes and the placement of vaults. No rain fell on the project area during the week. PG&E Environmental Inspectors (EI) were on-site to insure compliance with the adopted EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other mitigation measures. Two PG&E biological monitors were on-site to watch for sensitive species during construction. The following activities occurred on Segment 1 during the subject week:

- 1. On January 31, crews started excavating Manhole #7 (Station #102+00 to 108+00) and Manhole #8 (Station #125+00 to 119+00) south of the Pulgas Water Temple on Canada Road. The soil from Manhole #7 pit was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility), and the soil from Manhole #8 pit was transported to Forward Landfill in Manteca (Class 2 facility). Because of the lead content of the Manhole #8 soils, they were taken to a Class 2 facility. Crews finished digging the manhole vault pits to a level of approximately 12 feet, 10 inches. Crews shored Manhole #7 pit and Manhole #8 pit in the late afternoon and evening of the first day, compacted the bottom of the pit, and placed pea gravel in the bottom. On Tuesday, a large crane was used to lower the vaults into the excavated pits. Once the vault was set, crews poured cement slurry around and over the manhole vaults. (See Figures 1 through 4). After the load of cement slurry was emptied, the trucks washed out in the vault pits. On Tuesday, manhole rings were being set in the evening and through the night for both vaults. On Wednesday, more cement slurry was poured around the vaults. On Thursday, the crew finished with the pouring of the asphalt and compacting the road.
- 2. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Canada Road. Traffic control flaggers were in place at either end of the construction areas along Canada Road. Large vehicles were parked on either side of the manhole vault to keep vehicles and people from entering the area. Traffic cones were left in place blocking off the eastern lane. Bright lights were set up on either end of the project at night. A small night crew stayed on-site at night and did some work. A biological monitor also stayed at the site at night to observe construction, watch for animals, and in case a crew member needed to move their vehicle.
- 3. Stormwater from the rains of last week that ran along the east side of the road was re-routed around the vault sites through a black corrugated pipe with sandbags anchoring it on either end.
- 4. On February 3, crews started setting up Biological Exclusion Fencing along the west side of the road at Manhole #3 (Station #37+00) and Manhole #4 (54+25) on Canada Road. Excavation at these two locations is scheduled for February 7.

- 5. On Wednesday, February 2, crews were observed pumping out water from Manhole #7 vault pit with a water truck. PG&E EIs and construction management were reminded that they do not have a permit to discharge groundwater, only stormwater. They said they would use it for dust control.
- **6.** The CPUC EM observed crews finishing up with asphalt cutting for Manhole #3 vault pits on February 3.
- **7.** On Friday, January 4, a small crew conducted cleanup activities along Canada Road in preparation for the weekend traffic.

### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

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, OVERHEAD**

#### **Summary of Activity**

A Notice to Proceed hasn't been issued for Segment 2, Overhead. However, on January 31 when the CPUC EM was receiving a tour of the right-of-way, PG&E's biological consultants were observed preparing to remove woodrat nests.

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

- 1. On January 31, PG&E's biological consultants were observed preparing to remove woodrat nests in Segment 2 overhead. Neither the CPUC nor CDFG was consulted regarding this activity. On February 1, the CPUC issued a Non-Compliance Report level 3 for the unauthorized removal of woodrat nests.
- 2. Dave Johnston of the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and PG&E are working on resolving the woodrat nest removal issue for Segment 2 overhead.

#### **SEGMENT 5:**

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

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of Segment 5 on February 2 and February 3 and observed crews potholing and cutting asphalt. Traffic controls were set up along Guadalupe Canyon Parkway around the work area. Crews had storm drains covered with plastic and straw wattles to keep the cut asphalt dust and runoff from entering the drains. The CPUC EM observed crews using a sweeper with water to clean up dust (see Figure 5).

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

The CPUC EM observed that Segment 5 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):**

On January 10, 2005, NTP #1 was issued by CPUC to construct the Segment 1 (underground) and Segment 5 (unincorporated San Mateo County only) portions of the Jefferson-Martin 230 kV Transmission Project within San Mateo County.

#### **VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

Variance Request #2 for use of staging area in South San Francisco was submitted for review on February 4. The request is under review.

## TABLE 1 VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS

(Updated 02-09-05)

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, Old Bayshore Hwy & San Bruno Avenue E., South San Francisco.	Under review	

**UPCOMING ITEMS:** PG&E holds weekly meetings to review issues and upcoming events for Segment 1 on Monday (1:00 pm, San Mateo BV office) and Tuesday (8:00 a.m., Hayward BV office), and a weekly meeting for Segment 5 on Tuesdays (9:00 a.m., Hayward BV office).

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:** On January 31, Dave Johnston of CDFG was contacted by the CPUC EM to confirm that CDFG was consulted regarding the removal of woodrat nests. The CPUC EM was informed that CDFG had not been consulted, and on February 1, the CPUC issued a Non-Compliance Report level 3.

## **Photographs**



**Figure 1** – Crews excavating Manhole #7 vault pit along Cañada Road on Segment 1, January 31, 2005.



**Figure 2** – Crews setting up shoring at MH #7 along Cañada Road on Segment 1, January 31, 2005.



**Figure 3** – Crews setting Manhole #8 rings on Segment 1, February 1, 2005.



**Figure 4** – Manhole #8 paving complete on Segment 1, February 3, 2005.



**Figure 5** – Crews sweeping road and erosion controls in place on Segment 5, February 2, 2005.