



# **Aspen** Environmental Group

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

**To:** Billie Blanchard, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** June 8, 2005  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #20: May 29, 2005 – June 4, 2005  
**CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM):** Jody Fessler and Jenny Slaughter

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup> along Segments 1, 2, 4 and 5.

CPUC EM Jenny Slaughter was on site May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup> along Segments 1, 2, 4, and 5.

### **SEGMENT 1**

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

Construction activities continued during the subject week with the excavation of trenches, installation of conduit, and excavation of stub-outs at manholes. The weather was sunny and warm throughout the week with coastal fog in the evenings and early mornings. PG&E Environmental Inspectors (EIs) were on-site to ensure compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements. At least four PG&E EIs were on-site during daytime activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites and six to ten biological monitors were located on the west side of Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard to watch for frogs and snakes, and to make sure these species did not enter the work site. The following activities occurred on Segment 1 during the subject week:

1. On May 31<sup>st</sup>, crews started excavating trench between Manhole #4 and Manhole #5 on Cañada Road. Some conduit has been installed between Manhole #4 and Manhole #5, but it was not completed previously due to very wet soil conditions. A pilot vehicle was used in this area with a biological monitor riding along to look for snakes in the road. The soil from the trenching activities was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). Crews shored the trench as they excavated. Conduit was installed in the trench as the excavation progressed, and cement slurry was poured around the conduit as it was installed. Approximately 800 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the week. Biological monitors were placed on the west side of the biological exclusion fencing (BEF) along Cañada Road. There were at least three EIs in the construction zone at all times. A small crew was on-site during the night to watch the construction area. An EI also stayed at the site at night to observe construction, watch for animals, and check under vehicles and equipment in case a crew member needed to move their vehicle. Crews conducted asphalt paving of the trench on Wednesday. Clean-up activities were done on Thursday. All materials and traffic controls were removed from the construction area at the end of the day Thursday and no work was conducted along Segment 1 on Friday.
2. On Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, crews began excavating the Manhole #5 stub-outs on Cañada Road and tie in Manhole #7 to Manhole #8. The stub-outs and tie-ins had conduit installed throughout the week and were completed by the end of the week.
3. Proofing activities were conducted during the night shift throughout the week on Cañada Road. Crews were blowing string, pulling tape, pulling sponges, pulling wire brush, and pulling mandrels through the conduit. Grouting and cleaning of the manholes was also done.

4. Night trenching work continued in the Caltrans area on Skyline Boulevard this week starting in the early morning of May 31<sup>st</sup>. Skyline Boulevard/Highway 35 was closed to public traffic from the Crystal Springs Dam to the Highway 35/Highway 92 Interchange from midnight to 5:00 a.m. Monday, and from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., Tuesday through Friday. From Manhole #20, crews continued to trench south, installed conduit, and poured cement slurry in the trench. Approximately 350 linear feet of conduit was installed in the Caltrans area throughout the week. The soil from the trenching activities was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). On Friday night, trench plates were placed over the trenched area that was not completed yet in preparation for the weekend. BEF was installed at this location. One or two PG&E EIs were always on-site to ensure environmental compliance.
5. On the early morning of May 31<sup>st</sup>, excavation of Manhole #21 stub-outs began in the Caltrans area. Work at this location occurred last week, but was not finished. K-rails were set up around the construction area and traffic diverted around the work zone. Flaggers were in place during the day to direct traffic and a biological monitor was stationed on the west side of the BEF. The stub-outs were excavated, shoring installed and conduit installed. Cement slurry was finished being poured Thursday, and the area paved over Friday.
6. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Cañada Road at the construction site. Traffic control flaggers were in place at either end and in the middle of the construction areas along Cañada Road. A pilot vehicle was being used where there were stretches of traffic controls longer than 350 feet to slow traffic down as well as look out for San Francisco garter snakes. A biologist rode along in the pilot vehicle to look for snakes and frogs that may have gotten in the road. Traffic lights were set up at either end of traffic controls at night. Bright lights were set up at either end of traffic controls and in the construction zone at night.
7. Crews continue to use their staging yards at 40 Edwards Court in Burlingame and the southern Caltrans site along the Caltrans right-of-way on Highway 92/Highway 35.
8. No San Francisco garter snakes (SFGS) were sighted during the subject week along Segment 1.
9. On Thursday and Friday, crews conducted clean-up activities along Cañada Road and in the Caltrans area, respectively, in preparation for the weekend.

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

Bird surveys continued throughout the week along the segment from the Jefferson Substation north along Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard to Hayne Road.

One non-compliance was issued by PG&E's EIs on May 31<sup>st</sup> when a vehicle left the approved right-of-way (paved roadbed and disturbed shoulder) and traveled within adjacent vegetation for a distance of approximately 200 feet (Figure 1).

The CPUC EM issued a Project Memorandum on June 1<sup>st</sup> for the above mentioned activity.

On Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, the CPUC EM noted some oil spots in the construction area between Manhole #4 and Manhole #5. The CPUC EM pointed these out to PG&E's EI who asked construction management to clean them up.

The CPUC EMs observed that all other 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 & OVERHEAD**

### **Summary of Activity**

A Notice to Proceed (NTP) was issued for the Segment 2 underground portion, not including SFPUC lands, on March 8<sup>th</sup>. However, no NTP has been issued for the overhead component of Segment 2.

The CPUC EMs conducted site visits of the underground segment throughout the week. Crews were working at Manhole #30, Manhole #34, Manhole #36 stub-outs, and between Manhole #36 and Manhole #37, throughout most of the week. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 2 during the subject week:

1. Trench excavation continued between Manhole #36 and Manhole #37 at the corner of Skyline Boulevard and Trousdale Drive throughout the week. The trench was excavated throughout the week, conduit installed, and cement slurry poured over the conduit. Approximately 295 linear feet of conduit was installed in the trench during the week. Paving was done on Friday in this area.
2. Work continued at Manhole #36 stub-outs starting on Tuesday. Conduit was installed in the stub-out pits, cement slurry poured and steel plates placed over the area on Friday.
3. On Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, crews started working at Manhole #34 stub-outs. The stub-outs were excavated and conduit installed in the stub-outs throughout the week. Trench plates were placed over the stub-outs at the end of each day. More work has to be done at this location before the stub-outs can be paved over.
4. At Manhole #30, crews continued to excavate the pit throughout the week and install shoring (see Figure 2). They are having cave-in problems at this location. Steel plates were placed over the pit at the end of each day.
5. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and flaggers) were set up on Trousdale Drive and Skyline Boulevard at the trenching location, the manhole locations, and the saw-cutting areas during active construction.
6. Crews continue to use the Northern Caltrans Staging Yard at the corner of Skyline Boulevard and Hayne Road. Crews are also using the Staging Yard at 60 Edwards Court in Burlingame to store equipment and materials.
7. Clean-up activities were conducted at the end of each day at the active construction sites.

### **Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys continued throughout the week from Hayne Road north along Skyline Boulevard to Trousdale Drive for the underground segment, and from Trousdale Drive north along San Andreas Lake west and parallel to Highway 280, and Skyline Boulevard to Glenview Drive for the overhead segment.

No non-compliance was issued by PG&E EIs during the subject week.

The CPUC EMs observed that all Segment 2 underground 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.

PG&E continues to work with CDFG regarding woodrat removal activities that previously occurred along the overhead portion of Segment 2 without CDFG concurrence. PG&E is also consulting with USFWS and CDFG regarding biological resources along the entire overhead segment.

#### **SEGMENT 4**

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

Segment 4 construction continued this week with the excavation of trench between Manhole #48 and Manhole #49 at the southern end of the segment in the BART right-of-way. Crews also worked at Manholes #52, #54, and #56. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 4 during the subject week:

1. On Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, excavation of trench and installation of conduit continued between Manhole #48 and Manhole #49 in the BART right-of-way (see Figure 3). Crews continued to work at this location throughout the week. Approximately 350 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the week. The trench area had chain link fence sections placed over the trenches at the end of each day and the construction zone was surrounded by snow fencing. No vehicles can access this area after work hours without unlocking a chain across the access road.
2. On Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, Manhole #52 pit north of West Orange Street in the parking lot of the Boys and Girls Club was excavated and the vault set on Wednesday. Cement slurry was poured over and around the vault on Wednesday and Thursday and the area paved over on Friday. The pit area was covered with plywood at the end of each day and the work area surrounded with chain link fencing.
3. Excavation of Manhole #54 within the BART right-of-way started this week. On Friday, crews were having problems stabilizing the pit and worked late. The pit was covered with plywood and had chain link fencing up around the area at the end of each day.
4. Manhole #56 in a landscaped island in the South San Francisco BART parking lot was excavated in the beginning of the week, the vault pit installed throughout the week, the area backfilled, and the soil re-contoured to grade toward the end of the week.

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

Bird surveys continued throughout the week along the BART right-of-way.

No non-compliances were issued by PG&E's EIs during the subject week.

On June 1, proposed soil testing methods for contaminants for the BART right-of-way north of South Spruce Street were submitted by Black & Veatch. The proposed methods were reviewed by the Aspen technical expert and comments provided on June 1. A response was not provided by Black & Veatch by the end of the subject week.

The CPUC EMs observed that all Segment 4 construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements.

#### **SEGMENT 5**

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

Construction activities started on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, after the City of Brisbane issued a new encroachment permit for 24 hour closure of lanes all along Bayshore Boulevard, allowing crews to work seven days a week for the next 8 weeks. There was a PG&E EI on-site to ensure compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 5 during the subject week:

1. On Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, crews started working at Manhole #77 on Bayshore Boulevard in Brisbane. The pit was excavated throughout the week. On Friday, cave-in problems were jeopardizing the road and active traffic lanes. Crews shored the pit around 8:00 p.m. Friday night and poured cement slurry around the shoring to secure the active road (see Figure 4). Cement slurry was finished being poured around the shoring Saturday morning and gravel was placed in the pit throughout the rest of the day.
2. Trench was excavated throughout the week starting on Wednesday and heading south of Manhole #78. Some unmarked old utilities were encountered on Saturday in the trenching area. PG&E Inspectors are in the process of determining what the old utilities are and if they are still in use. Approximately 175 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the week.
3. Crews continued to break up the asphalt between Manhole #78 and Manhole #77 with their excavator throughout the week where saw-cutting of the trench area had already taken place.
4. Saw-cutting activities were observed occurring on Friday south of Manhole #77 for future trenching work.
5. The construction zone along Bayshore Boulevard is in the middle of the road with one lane of southbound traffic blocked off. K-rails run along both sides of the construction zone and the only access to the construction zone is at either the south end or north end of the zone.
6. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Bayshore Boulevard from the intersection of Guadalupe Canyon Parkway to Geneva Street in Brisbane. 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 light work. Safety monitors were in place in the Controlled Access Zone (CAZ) to keep track of how many people were in the construction area and if they were CAZ trained.
7. Conduit still has to be attached to the bridge at the top of San Bruno Mountain on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway. Once the brackets are made, construction crews will complete the bridge work.
8. Construction crews continue to use their staging yard at the corner of North Access Road and South Airport Boulevard for the storage of equipment, materials and two trailers they are using for office space. Three Baker tanks are on site at that location.

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

Bird surveys continued throughout the week along the segment from approximately Orange Court east along Guadalupe Parkway and Bayshore Boulevard to the Martin Substation.

Biological monitors spot-checked nests for disturbance along the active construction zones.

No non-compliances were issued by PG&E's EIs during the subject week.

On Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC EM noticed that there needed to be more dust control in the work area along Bayshore Boulevard. On Friday, dry saw-cutting residue on the road was blowing into traffic. The CPUC EM informed construction management that there needed to be dust controls implemented and they immediately sprayed water on the area. On Saturday, dust from a load of gravel that was

being placed into the bottom of Manhole #77 was creating a lot of dust as the excavator moved the gravel from the dump truck to the pit. The CPUC EM spoke with PG&E's EI who informed construction management of the issue. Work was stopped at that location until a water truck was brought to the area and the gravel watered down. This solved the dust issue. The CPUC EMs observed that all other 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):**

Table 1 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Jefferson-Martin Project to date.

**TABLE 1**  
**NOTICES TO PROCEED**  
(Updated 6-8-05)

NTP #	Date 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

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

One Non-Compliance Report (NCR) and six Project Memorandums (PMs) have been issued for the project to date (see Table 2).

**TABLE 2**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS**  
(Updated 6-8-05)

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 reviewing Project Memorandum.
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 reviewing Project Memorandum.
PM	6-01-05	Segment 1 – End dump parked on vegetation in the Caltrans right-of-way disturbing vegetation	PG&E reviewing Project Memorandum

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

Variance Request #7 was submitted on June 6<sup>th</sup> to allow for intrusion into vegetated areas at several locations along Segment 1. This request is under review.

**TABLE 3**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS**  
 (Updated 6-8-05)

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, 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
7	06-06-05	Intrusion into vegetated areas at several locations along Segment 1.	Under Review	

**UPCOMING ITEMS:**

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

- Segment 1 on Friday (12:00 p.m., San Mateo B&V office) and Tuesday (8:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 3 on Tuesday (11:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 2 on Friday (10:00 a.m., San Bruno B&V office) and Tuesday (9:30 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 4 on Monday (1:00 p.m., San Bruno B&V office) and Tuesday (10:15 a.m., Hayward B&V office); and
- Segment 5 on Monday (3:00 p.m., South SF Mueller/InfraSource Staging Yard) and Tuesdays (8:45 a.m., Hayward B&V office).

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:**

None.



## Photographs



**Figure 1** – Truck disturbing vegetation in Caltrans right-of-way on Skyline Boulevard, Segment 1, May 31, 2005



**Figure 2** – Crews shoring Manhole #30 on Skyline Boulevard, Segment 2 Underground, June 1, 2005



**Figure 3** – Crews securing trenching area north of Manhole #48 in the BART right-of-way, Segment 4, June 1, 2005



**Figure 4** – Shoring being installed at Manhole #77 on Bayshore Boulevard, Segment 5, June 3, 2005