



# **Aspen** Environmental Group

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

**To:** Billie Blanchard, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** July 20, 2005  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #26: July 10, 2005 – July 16, 2005  
**CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM):** Jody Fessler and Jenny Slaughter

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site July 13<sup>th</sup> through July 15<sup>th</sup> along Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

CPUC EM Jenny Slaughter was on site July 11<sup>th</sup> through July 14<sup>th</sup> along Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

### **SEGMENT 1:**

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

Construction activities continued during the subject week with the excavation of trenches, installation of conduit, excavation of stubouts at manholes, and manhole preparation work. At the Cañada Road manholes, manhole preparation and cable pulling are being conducted during the day. Work north of Cañada Road on Highway 92/Highway 35/Skyline Boulevard on Segment 1 is now being conducted at nights. Approximately 1112 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the week. Throughout the week the weather was warm with coastal fog in the mornings and mild to hot afternoons. 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. A PG&E EI/Biological Monitor was on-site at the manholes during preparation work and cable pulling activities, and at least two PG&E EIs/Biological Monitors were on-site during nighttime activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. The following activities occurred on Segment 1 during the subject week:

1. On Sunday night, July 10<sup>th</sup>, crews continued to excavate trench between Manholes #23 and #22B on Skyline Boulevard at the Sawyer Camp Trail entrance. The work hours at that location were from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., Sunday through Friday. 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. Biological Exclusion Fencing (BEF) was installed on the west side of the road in that location. There was one PG&E EI in the construction zone at all times. Crews conducted asphalt paving of the trench on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Clean-up activities were done on Thursday night. All materials and traffic controls were removed from the construction area early in the morning on Friday.
2. Night trenching work continued on Skyline Boulevard/Highway 35 this week starting the night of July 10<sup>th</sup>. Skyline Boulevard/Highway 35 was closed to public traffic from the Bunker Hill exit off Highway 280 southbound to the Highway 35/Highway 92 Interchange from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., Sunday night through Friday morning. Crews continued trenching activities between Manholes #19 and #18, and from Manhole #18 south to the Highway 35/Highway 92 Interchange (see Figure 1). Crews did some excavation, installed conduit, and poured cement slurry in the trench. The soil from the trenching activities was transported to Ox Mountain landfill in Half Moon Bay (Class 3 facility). BEF was installed at this location. One PG&E EI was on-site to ensure environmental compliance. Some paving was done on Wednesday and Thursday nights, and on Friday morning, trench plates were placed over the trenched area that was not completed in preparation for the weekend.

3. On the night of July 10<sup>th</sup>, excavation of Manhole #22B stubouts and Manhole #23 stubout on the south side began. The stubout work continued throughout the week with the excavation of the stubout areas, installation of shoring and conduit, and pouring of cement slurry over the conduit. On Thursday night, the area was paved over. Stubout work also continued at Manhole #19 on Highway 35/Skyline Boulevard. On Thursday night, the area was paved over.
4. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Skyline Boulevard at the construction sites. Traffic control flaggers were in place at either end and in the middle of the construction areas along Skyline Boulevard. Bright lights were also set up at either end of traffic controls and in the construction zone at night.
5. Cable pulling between Manholes #3 and #4 started this week on Cañada Road. Traffic controls were placed around the manholes including signs and cones. A PG&E EI was present during this work at the manholes to ensure environmental compliance.
6. 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.
7. No San Francisco garter snakes or California red-legged frogs were sighted during the subject week along Segment 1.
8. On Friday morning, crews conducted clean-up activities along Skyline Boulevard 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 for Segment 1 on July 11<sup>th</sup> for a truck being parked off of the road and in the vegetation near Station #287+00. The CPUC EM also issued a Non-Compliance Report for this incident due to the many times similar incidents have occurred on this segment.

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 conducted trenching activities and worked at stubouts throughout the week on Skyline Boulevard. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, SWPPP, and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 2 during the subject week:

1. On July 11<sup>th</sup>, trench excavation continued on Skyline Boulevard between Manholes #35 and #34. The trench was excavated throughout the week, conduit installed, and cement slurry poured over the conduit. Approximately 705 linear feet of conduit was installed in the trench during the week. Paving was done on Friday in this area (see Figure 2). Some steel plates remained on the road over the trench where the trench was not ready to be paved.

2. Throughout the week, crews worked at Manhole #30 stubouts, Manhole #29 stubouts, and Manhole #28 stubouts. The stubouts were excavated, conduit installed, cement slurry poured, and the stubout areas of Manholes #30 and #29 paved over on Friday. The stubouts of Manhole #28 were plated with steel plates and cold patch compacted around the plates.
3. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and flaggers) were set up on Skyline Boulevard at the trenching and manhole locations during active construction.
4. 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.
5. Clean-up activities were conducted at the end of each day at the active construction sites. A street sweeper is running daily along Skyline Boulevard from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### **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-compliances were issued by PG&E EIs during the subject week for Segment 2.

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. A multi-agency meeting was held on July 12 to discuss Segment 2 overhead tree removal and compliance issues.

### **SEGMENT 3:**

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

Construction this week consisted of work at Manholes #40 and #41 on San Bruno Avenue, and trenching and pot-holing activities on Huntington Avenue along Segment 3 in the City of San Bruno. The week's activities are as follows:

1. On Monday, trenching and pot-holing activities commenced on Huntington Avenue and continued throughout the week (see Figure 3). Crews started the trenching activities on the north end of Huntington Avenue, where the transmission line enters the BART right-of-way, and are working their way south in the street. Because the crews have been concentrating on manhole installation, no conduit was installed throughout the week. Trenching operations have started and conduit installation is expected to occur starting next week.
2. On Monday, crews continued to work at Manhole #40 and started work at Manhole #41 on San Bruno Avenue. The Manhole #40 vault was placed in the pit on Monday. Cement slurry was poured around and over the vault. The manhole was plated with steel plates at the end of each day. On Wednesday, Manhole #41 was excavated and shored and pea gravel was placed in the bottom of the pit. The manhole vault was set on Friday and the area backfilled with cement slurry. The manhole pit was plated at the end of each day with steel plates.

3. Traffic controls were set up around the work areas. Traffic controls included signs, cones, and flaggers to help direct traffic around the construction sites.
4. Crews continue to use their staging yard under Highway 380 just east of Huntington Avenue.

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

Bird surveys continued throughout the week and nests were spot-checked for disturbance caused by construction activity.

No non-compliances were issued by PG&E EIs during the subject week for Segment 3.

On Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC EM noted that there was no k-rail surrounding Manhole #41 pit on San Bruno Avenue. The CPUC EM spoke with B&V's Safety Manager and he informed her that they are supposed to have k-rail around the manhole pits per their approved traffic control plans. K-rail was placed around the pit on Friday; however, the City of San Bruno had it removed because of fears the road would not support that much weight. After discussing the issue further, the City of San Bruno has left the decision to use k-rail up to B&V to determine. If the subcontractor thinks k-rail cannot be used in a specific location, then B&V is to be notified and another option for traffic protection around the manhole pits shall be explored. The CPUC EMs observed that all other Segment 3 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:**

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

Segment 4 construction continued this week with trenching activities north of South Spruce Avenue in the BART right-of-way, south of the South San Francisco BART station in the BART right-of-way, and between Manholes #56 and #58 along Lawndale Drive. Crews also worked at Manhole #59 location on Hillside. Approximately 606 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the subject week. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction to ensure compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, SWPPP, and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 4 during the subject week:

1. Trenching activities continued this week north of South Spruce Avenue in the BART right-of-way. The trench was excavated and shored, conduit installed, cement slurry poured over the installed conduit, and the trench backfilled with native soil. The B&V Inspectors conducted the required soil/air monitoring at that site throughout the week. Construction crews also did visual and odor monitoring for contaminants at the site.
2. Trenching activities continued this week just south of the South San Francisco BART Station in the BART right-of-way. Signs and cones were set up near the work area alerting people driving into or parking at the BART station of construction activities.
3. Trenching activities continued throughout the week between Manholes #56 and #58 within the median of Lawndale Drive. Crews excavated trench, installed conduit, poured cement slurry over and around the conduit, and backfilled the area with native soil. Traffic controls, including cones and signs, were set up along Lawndale Drive directing vehicles around the work area. A street sweeper cleaned the road several times a day at that location.
4. Work at Manhole #59 started this week with the excavation of the manhole pit (see Figure 4). Crews finished excavating and shoring the pit on Thursday. The manhole pit was plated at the end of each day with steel plates that had cold patch compacted around them.

## **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 this week for Segment 4.

On July 14<sup>th</sup>, the CPUC EM noted that there were no k-rails around Manhole #59 pit on Hillside. The issue was discussed with B&V's Safety Manager and k-rail will be used starting this week. No work was done at this location on Friday. The CPUC EMs observed that all other Segment 4 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:**

### **Summary of Activity:**

Construction this week included trenching activities on East Market Street in Daly City, bridge attachment work of conduit on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, the movement of k-rail from Bayshore Boulevard to the east side of San Bruno Mountain on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, and some clean-up on Bayshore Boulevard in the City of Brisbane. There was a PG&E EI on-site to ensure compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR, SWPPP, and other permit requirements. The following activities occurred on Segment 5 during the subject week:

1. During the day shift, some light work occurred along Bayshore Boulevard. Crews moved k-rails from Bayshore Boulevard to the east side of San Bruno Mountain on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway in the City of Brisbane in preparation for trenching activities along Guadalupe Canyon Parkway. Clean-up work was also done along Bayshore Boulevard.
2. During the night shift, crews continued to work at the intersection of Bayshore Boulevard and Guadalupe Canyon Parkway. Trench was excavated, conduit installed, and cement slurry poured over and around the conduit. Work at this intersection is only allowed at night by the City of Brisbane Encroachment Permit.
3. The construction zone along Bayshore Boulevard is in the middle of the road with one lane of south-bound 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.
4. Traffic controls (signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Bayshore Boulevard from the intersection of Guadalupe Canyon Parkway to Geneva Street in Brisbane and on East Market Street in Daly City. Bright lights were set up on either end of the construction area at night in the City of Brisbane.
5. Work in Daly City on East Market Street started on Monday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. Trench was excavated, conduit installed and cement slurry poured over the conduit. Some transite pipe was discovered in the trench area on Monday and Tuesday. PG&E sent out a special crew to handle and remove the transite pipe since it contains asbestos. Approximately 300 linear feet of conduit was installed throughout the week.
6. Conduit attachment work on the bridge at the top of San Bruno Mountain on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway started this week (see Figure 5). Crews excavated trench on either side of the bridge, installed conduit and conducted the bridge attachment at that location.
7. 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 that 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.

The CPUC EM reviewed and approved two Temporary Extra Work Space requests for Segment 5 during the subject week. Both areas were requested for additional paved parking areas off the right-of-way in Daly City.

No non-compliances were issued by PG&E’s EIs during the subject week for Segment 5.

The CPUC EMs observed that all 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 7-20-05)

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:**

Two Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) and six Project Memorandums (PMs) have been issued by the CPUC EMs for the project to date (see Table 2).

**TABLE 2**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS**  
 (Updated 7-20-05)

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 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 reviewing NCR

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

On July 14, Variance Request #8 was submitted to allow a reduction in the trench depth along a 400 foot section of Segment 4 north of South Spruce Avenue. An information inquiry was sent to PG&E on July 15 and a response submitted on July 18. CPUC approved the subject variance on July 19.

On July 15, Variance Request #9 was submitted for use of a staging Yard for Segment 4 off of Hillside Drive in the City of Colma. An information inquiry was sent to PG&E/Opus on July 18.

**TABLE 3  
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS**  
(Updated 7-20-05)

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
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.	Under Review. Information request to PG&E/Opus sent 7-18-05.	

**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 on Friday (10:00 a.m., San Bruno B&V office) and Tuesday (9:30 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 3 on Tuesday (11:00 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:**

The CPUC EMs spoke with the BART Inspector, the City of Colma Inspector, and the City of Brisbane Inspector several times throughout the week.



## Photographs



**Figure 1** – Night trench work between Manholes #19 and #18, Segment 1, July 13, 2005



**Figure 2** – Crews paving on Skyline Boulevard between Manholes #34 and #35, Segment 2 Underground, July 15, 2005



**Figure 3** – Trenching operation along Huntington Ave, Segment 3, July 14, 2005.



**Figure 4** – Crews working at Manhole #59 on Hillside Drive, Segment 4, July 14, 2005





**Figure 5** – Crew conducting bridge attachment on the top of San Bruno Mountain on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, Segment 5, July 14, 2005.