



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM SDG&E – MIGUEL-MISSION 230 kV #2 PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: October 20, 2004
Subject: Weekly Report #11: October 10, 2004 – October 16, 2004
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

Weather was clear throughout the subject week and the winds had only minor impacts on the project. Rain is expected in the future and crews worked on erosion control devices throughout the project.

FANITA JUNCTION TO LOS COCHES SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on October 12 and 13. The grading contractor worked on Tower Pad 1180 and the PAR crew erected tower sections in the area covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #1 during the subject week. The both activities occurred while the CPUC EM was on-site.

The grading crew worked at Tower Site 1180 during the subject week. The site is at the summit of a ridgeline and cannot be reached by the water truck or other heavy on-road vehicles due to the slope and condition of the road. A loader was used to move the excess spoils and rock to a location on the road accessible to the 6-wheeler dump truck. A trailer mounted water tank was used to control fugitive dust at the pad location. An operator worked with an excavator to move large boulders off the pad site prior to grading (see Figure 1). The operator took care to avoid rolling the boulders down the steep slopes on either side of Tower Site 1180. Representatives from SDG&E reviewed engineering changes at Tower Site 1160. No grading work took place at the location during the subject week (see Figure 2).

The PAR crew worked to erect the bottom section of the towers along the northern section of the project during the subject week. The drilling operations left many sites with loose soil in the proposed crane locations. The sites will have to be re-compacted before the crane for tower erection can be set up. The crew raised the lower section of the towers at Site 635 during the subject week (see Figure 3). The crew did not work during the last portion of the week to allow the other crews to prepare more locations and clean the loose spoils from the drilling operation from the crane pads.

Environmental Compliance:

Temporary Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been installed around the pad locations and spoil piles have been covered with plastic sheeting to control fugitive dust.

An Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) was on-site for spot-checking the spoil hauling activities. The CPUC EM walked the access trail and section of the right-of-way near Tower Site 1180 with the Essex EI and no significant environmental compliance issues were noted.

LOS COCHES TO MIGUEL SUBSTATION SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

The grading and clearing activities continued in the area covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #2 during the subject week.

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on October 12 and 13. A variety of work occurred between Tower Sites 172 and 1100 during the site visit. The grading contractors, Union and DCX, and the transmission contractor, PAR, have crews operating on the segment at this time.

A drilling crew worked at Tower Site 842 in very hard rock (see Figure 4). The drilling machine had to be anchored to the support truck to minimize swaying during the drilling. The crew repaired the gate on the access road after several hand tools and smaller materials were stolen from the site.

The other drilling machine worked in equally hard bedrock on Vista Rodeo (see Figure 5). The drilling machine was set up near several houses and the crew is required to be off the road by 7:00 pm. No noise complaints have been received despite the loud drilling due to the hardness of the bedrock. The operation was briefly stopped to allow a mechanic to address an oil leak on the drilling machine. Several sites throughout the project are on hold until blasting plans can be developed and implemented.

Environmental Compliance:

Water trucks were on-site to control fugitive dust during the various construction activities. An Essex EI was on-site for the grading and drilling work. The CPUC EM walked the right-of-way and did not observe any environmental compliance issues.

The fencing/screening issue at the staging area on Hillsdale Road is still pending. The existing vegetation on the north side of the SDG&E easement creates a natural screen and the property owner on the south side has requested that no temporary fence be installed. SDG&E is working with the adjacent property owners on construction of a more decorative permanent fence and has received letters from the property owners requesting that no temporary fence be installed.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

NTPs #1 and #2 have been issued by CPUC for access road upgrade/construction and 138/69 kV tower installation along the Fanita Junction to Los Coches and Los Coches to Miguel segments. SDG&E has not requested any additional NTPs at this time.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No Variance Requests were submitted for review during the subject week.

TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 10/20/04)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	07/07/04	Use of five storage and staging areas on the Los Coches to Fanita Junction Section for the duration of the project.	Completed	07/23/04
2	08/10/04	Clearing of coastal sage scrub habitat before September 1 on the Miguel to Fanita Junction section during the 2003/2004 nesting season.	Completed	08/13/04
3	09/01/04	Grading and clearing in quino checkerspot butterfly habitat after October 15.	Completed	09/14/04
4	09/06/04	Allow work on Saturdays near recreational facilities.	Completed	09/14/04
5	09/27/04	Use of six storage and staging areas on the Los Coches to Fanita Junction Section for the duration of the project.	Completed	10/06/04

UPCOMING ITEMS: SDG&E holds weekly meetings on Tuesday mornings to review issues and upcoming events.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS: None

TABLE 2
TEWS TRACKING
(Updated 10/20/04)

Number	Segment	Date Received	Description	Status	Approval Date ¹
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	14000 Block of Willow Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
*	Los Coches to Miguel	07/06/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/08 to 9/08	See Variance Request #1
1	Los Coches to Miguel	07/24/04	Vista de Montemar ½ mile north of La Cresta Road, San Diego County	Approved from 7/26 to 9/26	See Variance Request #2
2	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	1600 Block Sweeney Court, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
3	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	2300 Willow Glen Drive, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
4	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	South of terminus of Camino Monte Sombra, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
5	Los Coches to Miguel	08/14/04	Southeast of 2600 block Pence Drive, San Diego County	Approved from 08/16 to 10/16	See Variance Request #2
6	Los Coches to Miguel	08/26/04	North side of Singing Vista Way, San Diego County	Approved from 08/27 to 10/27	See Variance Request #2

¹For TEWS requests, Approval Date reflects EM approval date. TEWS approvals valid for 60 days only.

*TEWS submitted as a contingency while Variance Request #1 was under review.

Photographs



Figure 1 – The grading crew worked carefully to move large boulders at Tower Site 1180 without allowing spoils or rock to roll off the ridge line.



Figure 2 – The construction contractor reviewed engineering changes at Tower Site 1160.



Figure 3 – The PAR crew erected the lower section of the pole at Tower Site 635.



Figure 4 – The drilling crew worked in hard material at Tower Site 842.



Figure 5 – The second drilling crew worked near houses at the tower site on Vista Rodeo.