



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: February 1, 2005
Subject: Weekly Report #26: January 23, 2004 – January 29, 2005
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

FANITA JUNCTION TO LOS COCHES SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on January 26 and 27 to review construction progress and Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPPP) issues. Clean-up work was observed during the site visit. Other work observed during the site visit in the areas covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #1 and NTP #3 included the following:

The concrete crew worked on the large foundation at Fanita Junction to fit the steel tower. The bolts did not extend out from the foundation far enough to account for the thickness of the steel pole's base. The foundation is being chipped back to expose enough of the bolt thread to properly anchor the new pole.

A crew worked at Tower Site 1300 to dress up the site and set boulders in appropriate locations.

Environmental Compliance:

Best Management Practices (BMPs) have been installed around the pad locations and crews have repaired the pads and the access roads that were not passable after the early season storms. The access roads on this segment were not impacted by erosion to the same extent as the roads on the Los Coches to Miguel Substation segment; however, many were not passable after the recent storms without damaging the road surface. Access to Fanita Junction was shifted to through the landfill after the original access through Santee Lakes became impassable following the recent storms.

An Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) was on-site for spot-checking environmental compliance issues on the project.

The CPUC EM contacted Mary Turley, SDG&E, regarding the ineffectiveness of the BMPs installed on the project. While to date, no resource damage has occurred, SDG&E was notified that in the event of future resource damage due to inadequate BMPs, SDG&E would be issued written non-compliance notification. A meeting is scheduled for February 3 to discuss SDG&E's proposed improvements to its BMP practices.

LOS COCHES TO MIGUEL SUBSTATION SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on January 26 and 27 to review construction progress and SWPPP issues. Drilling and concrete pouring activities were observed in the area covered by Notice to Proceed (NTP) #2 during the subject week. Access problems on Wind River Road caused SDG&E to divert crews to alternate locations.

The CPUC EM met with the local property owners, a representative of a San Diego County Supervisor, and the SDG&E Project Manager and the transmission engineer to review site conditions at Tower Sites 481 and 493 on January 26. The in-field meeting was in response to the second letter from local residents and the County Supervisor received by the CPUC Project Manager with complaints about the pole location. The CPUC EM stayed after the field meeting to answer property owner questions and concerns. The CPUC EM verified that the location where the pad grading and foundation drilling have been started match the location in the project documents (Figures 2-2 and 4-10 in the Environmental Impact Report). The major concern of the local property owners, beyond the location of the poles, was notification and public involvement in the process. Aspen has obtained a list of the local property owners and is checking the names against the property owners list provided by SDG&E and the list of Scoping Meeting participants. A summary of the field meeting was provided to the CPUC via email following the meeting. Property owners blocked access to this section of right-of-way on January 27 and SDG&E is pursuing a court order to gain access to the pole location. The incident was covered by the local print and television news services. No work was scheduled at the location the remainder of the week (see Figure 1).

Concrete crews worked on pouring the first pole foundation leaving the Miguel Substation (see Figure 2). The light rains early in the week caused significant mud issues on the asphalt access road adjacent to the foundation. Material left on the road from cleaning out the excavation has spread out, leaving the road extremely slippery. This material needs to be cleaned from the road to prevent the sediment from entering the adjacent drainages.

The foundations for Pole Sites 10 and 20 have been excavated and the concrete crew has prepared both sites for pouring. The pours were delayed due to the condition of the access road to the sites.

Environmental Compliance:

Access to some portions of the right-of-way was not possible due to the recent rains. A crew attempted to access Pole Site 181 and became stuck on the muddy access road. The crew left the right-of-way during the recovery process (see Figure 3). The impact was in a previously disturbed area and no vegetation was impacted, however the crew was informed of the access road restrictions. The EI reviewed the impacts and added an additional sign to remind crews to remain on the approved access roads.

A steel plate was placed over the small drainage in the road to provide safe access to Pole Sites 10 and 20 (see Figure 4). The CPUC EM and SDG&E are reviewing the requirements for access over ponded or flowing water. Silt fencing was correctly placed around the spoils at Pole Site 20 (see Figure 5).

The CPUC EM contacted Mary Turley, SDG&E, regarding the ineffectiveness of the BMPs installed on the project. While to date, no resource damage has occurred, SDG&E was notified that in the event of future resource damage due to inadequate BMPs, SDG&E would be issued written non-compliance notification. A meeting is scheduled for February 3 to discuss SDG&E's proposed improvements to its BMP practices.

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. NTP #3 to address the 230 kV construction work on Miramar Naval Air Station was issued by CPUC November 16. NTP #4 for upgrading of the 230 kV transmission system between the Miguel and Mission Substations, and installation of the 15-mile temporary 230 kV line from Miguel to Los Coches Substations was issued by CPUC on December 20.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No Variance Requests were received during the subject week.

TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 02/01/05)

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
6	10/20/04	Work on Sunday, October 31 at Tower Site 925 to comply with a Cal ISO outage schedule.	Completed	10/26/04

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 02/01/05)

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 – No work occurred at Pole Locations 481 or 493 during the subject week.



Figure 2 – The concrete crew placed concrete outside the Miguel Substation.



Figure 3 – A crew left the access road after becoming stuck in the mud on the way to Pole Site 181.



Figure 4 – One plate was placed on the access road to Pole Sites 10 and 20 to allow safe passage over the cut.



Figure 5 – Upon completion of the excavation, silt fencing was placed correctly at Pole Site 20.