



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM

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

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC

From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager

Date: May 5, 2005

Subject: Weekly Report #39: April 24 – April 30, 2005.

CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

FANITA JUNCTION TO MIGUEL 138/69 kV ACTIVITIES, NTP #1 AND #2

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on April 27th and April 28th to review construction progress and Storm Water Pollution Prevention (SWPPP) issues. Only limited construction activities were observed during the site visit due to the rain event the night of April 27th and into the morning of April 28th. PAR did not work on April 28th due to rain. Much of the 138 kV work on the segment has been completed. The construction of the foundations for the 138 kV portion of the project has been completed and the civil construction crews have demobilized from the project. Work observed during the site visit in the areas covered by Notices to Proceed (NTP) #1 and #2 included the following:

1. PAR crews worked on stringing and associated activities for the bundled 230 kV and 138 kV conductor during the subject week. These activities are described in the 230 kV section below.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Several sites that were restored earlier in the project are now starting to get new vegetation. Depending on the schedule for restoration of the rest of the disturbed sites, revegetation may have to wait until the next growing season for the plants to get established prior to summer.
2. 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 CPUC EM could not access several areas of the project after the rain without damaging the road surfaces. A review for any SWPPP issues will be conducted the following week, once the roads are passable.
3. The road to Fanita Junction needed repair before work could continue. The access road was covered with mud and grading would just force the mud off the approved access road. The CPUC EM previously reminded SDG&E that the mud from the access road could not be pushed outside the footprint of the existing access road. However, as previously reported, some mud has been pushed from the road during recent grading activities and will have to be addressed prior to any rains. Most of the excess mud has been removed, but the site still has not been restored or stabilized. The CPUC EM will review the area for any impacts following the recent rainfall.
4. An Essex EI was on-site for spot-checking environmental compliance issues on the project. Biologists worked to survey gnatcatcher areas prior to construction. The construction crews were reminded by Essex that surveys need to be conducted prior to work in many areas. In addition, although some brushing activities may to be completed after the March 1st deadline under Variance Request #10, the cut vegetation should be moved away from the contiguous habitat immediately and under the supervision of an EI.

MISSION TO MIGUEL SUBSTATION 230 kV ACTIVITIES, NTPs #3 AND #4

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC EM conducted site visits on April 27th and April 28th to review construction progress and SWPPP issues related to installation of the permanent and temporary 230 kV systems. Only limited construction activities were observed during the site visit due to the rain event the night of April 27th and into the morning of April 28th. PAR did not work on April 28th due to rain.

PERMANENT 230 kV INSTALLATION

NTP #3 was issued to address 230 kV work on Marine Corps Air Station Miramar prior to the NTP for all 230 kV work to address the expiration of a permit with the Navy. NTP #4 addressed the permanent upgrading of the 230 kV transmission system between the Miguel and Mission Substations. The following were the main construction activities or issues that occurred during the subject week:

1. Wilson crews worked above Willow Road setting the upper and lower sections of Steel Pole 576666 on the foundation (see Figure 1). The crew set the first section and secured the bolts prior to the rain and returned after the rain to complete the raising of the steel pole.
2. PAR transmission line crews worked at Pole Site 440 working on the conductor strung during the previous week (see Figure 2).

TEMPORARY 230 kV INSTALLATION

NTP #4 also addressed the installation of the 15-mile temporary 230 kV line from Miguel to Los Coches Substations. Other than clearing of vegetation prior to March 1st, Wilson is waiting to complete their temporary 230 kV work between Miguel to Los Coches Substations until after PAR completes the work on the 138 kV system and the temporary stringing of conductor. Once PAR has finished work on the segment, the Wilson Construction crews will start the upgrades to the existing towers. The installation of the temporary wood poles has been completed. Although the steel 138 kV poles currently being installed by PAR between Los Coches and the Miguel Substation will be permanent, the 230 kV conductor is being strung temporarily to facilitate the early energization of the line. The following were the main construction activities or issues that occurred during the subject week:

1. PAR crews worked to attach travelers and make other preparations on the 138 kV steel poles in preparation for stringing activities of the 138/230 kV bundled conductors.
2. The CPUC EM met with SDG&E and the Essex EI to review a proposed TEWS for guard structures on the south side of Highway 94 (see Figure 3). Guard structures were required to protect a combination distribution and transmission line on the south side of Highway 94 and PAR started clearing vegetation to make room for the guard structures. SDG&E stopped the clearing and informed the CPUC EM to arrange a field meeting. The vegetation removed was non-native; however, any ground disturbance in the area would require a variance request. In order to work in the area during the planned outage over the weekend, SDG&E decided to use boom trucks to hoist a guard structure over the other lines instead of applying for a variance. The degraded coastal sage scrub habitat on the north side of Highway 94 will be avoided during stringing activities.

Environmental Compliance:

1. The Wilson crew used a water truck to control fugitive dust on the steep access road above Willow Road, at the adjacent yard, and to clean any tracked material from the public roadway (see Figure 4).
2. 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.
3. An Essex EI has been working closely with the Wilson crews to perform any necessary training and arrange for any required biological surveys.

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 16th. 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 20th.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

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

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

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 st 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 th .	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 st at Tower Site 925 to comply with a Cal ISO outage schedule.	Completed	10/26/04
7	01/13/05	Reconfiguration of approved stringing/snubbing sites at Pole Sites 10 and 961.	Completed	01/17/05
8	02/03/05	Work after 7pm, February 8 th at Pole 1210 to complete the concrete pour at the wet-hole.	Completed	02/04/05
9	02/16/05	Perform construction activities on Sunday, February 20 th at Pole Site 493.	Completed	02/17/05
10	03/10/05	Clearing of coastal sage scrub habitat after March 1 st on the project during the 2004/2005 nesting season.	Completed	3/22/05
11	03/14/05	Work after 7pm at Pole 411 to complete the concrete pour at the wet-hole.	Completed	03/16/05
12	03/14/05	Work on Sunday, March 20 th to string cable at eight towers to comply with a Cal ISO outage schedule. Modification added for line work north of Los Coches Substation.	Completed	03/17/05
13	03/28/05	Work on Cesar Chavez holiday, Thursday March 31 st .	Not Required	N/A
14	03/29/05	Work on Sunday, April 3 rd and Sunday, April 10 th to string cable to comply with Caltrans/ Highway Patrol lane closure requirements.	Completed	3/30/05
15	04/15/05	Programmatic variance to work on outside the approved construction schedule with prior approval from the CPUC EM.	Completed	4/19/05

UPCOMING ITEMS: None

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS: None

TABLE 2
TEWS TRACKING
(Updated 05/05/05)

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
7	Los Coches to Miguel	02/11/05	Southwest of Pence Road, San Diego County	Approved from 02/16 to 04/16	02/16/05
8	Los Coches to Miguel	03/11/05	Helicopter fly pad for 138 kV installation, Padre Water District	Approved from 03/16 to 05/16	03/16/05
9	Mission to Fanita	03/18/05	Helicopter fly pad for 138 kV installation, Padre Water District	Approved from 03/21 to 05/21	03/21/05
10	Los Coches to Miguel	03/29/05	PAR staging and show-up yard on Jamacha Road.	Approved from 03/29 to 05/29	03/29/05
11	Los Coches to Miguel	04/29/05	Placement of two cranes to create a guard structure south of Hwy. 94..	Approved from 04/29 to 06/29	04/29/05

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 Wilson crew worked on setting the upper section of Steel Pole 576666.



Figure 2 – The PAR crew worked on the conductor at Site 440.



Figure 3 – The CPUC EM met with SDG&E and the Essex EI to review the requested guard structure locations at Highway 94.



Figure 4 – The Wilson crew watered the access road above Willow Road.