



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

## **PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E NORTHEAST SAN JOSE TRANSMISSION REINFORCEMENT PROJECT**

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** February 20, 2003  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #38: February 10, 2003 – February 16, 2003  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

### **Summary of Activity:**

#### **Wednesday, February 12:**

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of pole structures #1(a) and (b) in the morning. The poles are erected and half of the arms are connected. Pole structures #2, #3, #4, and #5 (see Figure 1) are fully erected and the arms are also all connected, as well as the temporary travelers. The CPUC EM noted that these sites were neat and clean. On the Catella Property (pole #5) the silt fencing was well maintained.

Later, the CPUC EM drove the underground segment of the property and observed crews working at man-hole vaults #3, #4, and #5. These crews were working on splicing cable down in the man-hole vaults. At man-hole vault #7 on the right line, crews were working in the vault heating the cables in order to straighten them out so splicing will be easier. Each cable takes approximately six hours to heat and straighten out. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the tie-in work at the south end of Fremont Boulevard from the underground to the overhead. Crews were working on paving part of the street at that location.

At the Los Esteros Substation, electrical crews quit working in the morning due to the rainstorm. A crew was working in the Operations Building. The CPUC EM observed that the site was wet, but neat and clean.

At the field west of the Los Esteros Substation site, a crew was pouring pole foundation #27. The field has become very soft and muddy and the crew is hoping to be done and out of the area by the end of the day. Another crew was also working on pole foundation pit #25 on the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property.

Later in the afternoon, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the King & Lyon's property where poles #11, #12, and #13 will be placed. The CPUC EM met with the Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) at pole site #12 and discussed the work area and access (see Figure 2). PG&E and Essex have been working closely with the King & Lyon's environmental consultants in order to comply with mitigation measures and permit requirements. The final construction plans should be finished shortly and passed around for approval by the property owners as well as the Corps.

#### **Thursday, February 13:**

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #1(a) and (b), #2, #3, #4, and #5 in the late morning. No new construction was observed at these locations. At poles #9(a) and (b) at the west end of Cushing Boulevard, the CPUC EM observed that crews were working on the tie-in from the underground segment to the overhead segment. At pole #8, crews were connecting arms to the upper portion of the pole before it is placed on top of the pole that has already been erected. Pole #7 has been erected with arms and temporary travelers. Poles #6(a) and (b) have still been only partially erected.

The CPUC EM drove along the underground segment and observed crews set-up at man-hole vaults #2, #3, #4, and #5. The CPUC EM was informed that crews were heating cable in the man-hole vaults as well as splicing cables. Crews were also planning on pulling cable between man-hole vaults #8 and #9 in the afternoon, but had not set-up their equipment at those locations yet.

At the Los Esteros Substation (see Figure 3), separate electrical crew were working on insulators and both transformers. The CPUC EM observed that the site was neat and clean.

A crew was working at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property at pole foundation site #20.

**Environmental Compliance:**

On February 12, the CPUC EM observed that the project was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

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**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

No NTPS were issued during the subject week.

**Variance Requests:**

On February 4, Variance Request #9 was submitted to install ground wire peaks and string optical ground wire (OPGW) from the 230kV towers being built as part of the NESJ Project to the Newark Substation utilizing the existing Metcalf to Newark/Tesla to Newark No. 2 transmission line easement. This request was approved by CPUC on February 18.

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE**  
**(Updated 02-20-03)**

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	6/11/02	Disposal of excavated material, corner of Fremont Boulevard and Cushing Parkway, Fremont.	Completed	6/11/02
2	6/13/02	Material/equipment yard, 42400 Boyce Road, Fremont.	Completed	See Underground NTP
3				
4	6/26/02	Reduce biological buffer from 250 to 15-feet at existing structure, Los Esteros Substation.	Completed; 25-foot buffer approved.	7/5/02
5	7/9/02	Extra work space area for Line F bore, west of Fremont Blvd.	Completed	7/12/02
6	9/6/02	Change the location of the permanent access road to the Los Esteros Substation.	Completed	9/23/02
7	10/23/02	Use of a portion of the Mervyn's property for equipment and material storage for underground construction.	Completed	11/12/02
8	10/23/02	Use of a laydown yard at 800 Spreckles Ave., City of Alviso, for equipment and material storage for overhead construction.	Completed	10/31/02
9	02/04/03	Install ground wire peaks and string optical ground wire (OPGW) from the 230kV towers being built as part of the NESJ Project to the Newark Substation utilizing the existing Metcalf to Newark/Tesla to Newark No. 2 transmission line easement.	Completed	02/18/03



Figure 1  
Pole Structure #5 on the Catella Property  
February 12, 2003



Figure 2  
Pole area #12(a) and (b) on the King & Lyon's Property  
February 12, 2003



Figure 3  
Los Esteros Substation  
February 13, 2003