



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

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

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** April 3, 2003  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #44: March 24, 2003 – March 30, 2003  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

### **Summary of Activity:**

#### **Wednesday, March 26:**

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #1(a) and (b), where crews were dead-ending cable at that location using a crane lift. No crews were working at poles #2, #3 or #4 at the time of the site visit. Crews were connecting jumpers to the cable at pole structure #5 using a crane lift on the Catella Property (see Figure 1). The CPUC EM noted that the areas around poles #1(a) and (b), and #5 were neat and clean, and that crews were staying within the defined work areas.

At the west end of Cushing Parkway at poles #9(a) and (b), crews were racking cable up the poles at that location using a crane lift. The oil spill near that location had been cleaned up. No work was being conducted at pole towers #8, #7, and #6(a) and (b) at the time of the site visit.

At poles #10 L and R, at the south end of Fremont Boulevard, crews were splicing and heating cable on pole #10 L. The CPUC EM observed a crew member throw a piece of cable shavings over into the King & Lyon's property, a sensitive resource area. The CPUC EM spoke with the crew Foreman and told him that the activity was not in compliance with mitigation measures. The CPUC EM then spoke with the Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) about the incident and he informed her he would speak with the crew supervisors. The OCI Project Manager phoned the CPUC EM in the evening to inform her that the activity would not happen again.

No work was being conducted around poles #11, #12, and #13 at the King & Lyons property nor along McCarthy Boulevard where poles #14 R & L, #15 R & L, #16, and #17 R & L are located. Finally, no work was being conducted at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property today.

Along the underground segment, crews were splicing cable and working in man-hole vaults #3, #6, #7, #8 and #9 all on the right line. The CPUC EM observed that crews were staying within their work areas and that all sites were neat and clean. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Mervyn's staging area and noted that the storm drains on the road entering the Mervyn's staging area and in the staging area had the sandbags replaced.

At the Los Esteros Substation, a crew was working at the site grounding and cable terminating (see Figure 2). Crews were also working in the Operations Building. The CPUC EM observed that the site was neat and clean.

In the field west of the Los Esteros Substation, crews were pulling cable between poles NT1 and NT7. The CPUC EM observed that crews were staying within the project work area and keeping the sites neat and clean.

**Wednesday, March 28:**

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #1(a) and (b) through pole structure #5, where crews were connecting jumpers to the cable at several pole locations using a crane lift. The CPUC EM observed that the work areas were neat and clean and that crews were staying within the project work areas.

At the west end of Cushing Parkway, a crew was working on connecting cable from the underground segment to the overhead segment. Crews were also working on connecting insulators to the overhead cable at poles #9(a) and (b) (see Figure 3). The CPUC EM observed that the work area was neat and clean.

No work was being conducted around poles #11, #12, and #13 at the King & Lyons property nor along McCarthy Boulevard where poles #14 R & L, #15 R & L, #16, and #17 R & L are located. Finally, no work was being conducted at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property today.

At the Los Esteros Substation, a crew was working at the site grounding and cable terminating. Crews were also working in the Operations Building. The CPUC EM walked around the site and observed that the site was neat and clean.

In the field west of the Los Esteros substation, crews were pulling cable between poles NT1 and NT7. The CPUC EM observed that crews were staying within the project work area and keeping the sites neat and clean.

Along the underground segment, crews were splicing cable and working in man-hole vaults #2, and #1 on Cushing Parkway. The CPUC EM observed that crews were staying within their work areas and that all sites were neat and clean.

On March 28, the CPUC EM provided Roosevelt Grant, CPUC Environmental Project Manager, and Susan Lee, Aspen Environmental Group, a tour of the NESJ Project construction activities.

**Environmental Compliance:**

On March 26, the CPUC EM observed a crew member throw cable shavings from the top of pole #10L onto the King & Lyon's property, a sensitive resource area. The CPUC EM spoke with the Essex EI and construction management regarding the incident. The CPUC EM noted that sandbags had been placed around storm drains at the Mervyn's staging yard. Also, the oil spill at the west end of Cushing Parkway had been cleaned-up. The CPUC EM observed that all other sites were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

On March 28, the CPUC EM observed that all sites were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

A recommended NTP for the Trimble to Montague 115kV upgrade was forwarded to CPUC on March 26.

**Variance Requests:**

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

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE**  
**(Updated 04-03-03)**

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  
March 26, 2003



Figure 2  
Los Esteros Substation  
March 26, 2003



Figure 3  
Poles #9(a) and (b)  
March 28, 2003