



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

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

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** May 29, 2003  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #52: May 19, 2003 – May 25, 2003  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

### **Summary of Activity:**

#### **Saturday, May 24:**

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #1 L and R, where three wooden poles were observed laying in the right-of-way. The field to the north of the poles has been plowed or disked recently. No construction was observed at that location. Next, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of poles #2, #3, #4 and #5 and did not observe any construction at those locations. The CPUC EM observed that all sites were neat and clean.

At the west end of Cushing Parkway near poles #9 L and R, the CPUC EM noted that the area around the poles was neat and clean. There are still a few empty cable reels in the right-of-way between poles #9 L and R and pole #8. No crews were observed working at poles #9 L and R, #8, #7, or #6 L and R at the time of the site visit.

Along the underground segment, no crews were observed working at the man-hole vaults. The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Mervyn's staging area. Most of the vehicles, equipment and materials have been removed from the site. The site was observed to be neat and clean.

At the south end of Fremont Boulevard, crews were observed working in the driveway near pole #10 R re-doing the sidewalk. Crews were staying within their work area and the sites were neat and clean.

No crews were observed at the King & Lyon's property or along McCarthy Boulevard at the time of the site visits later in the afternoon. No work was being conducted at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant's property today.

In the field west of the Los Esteros Substation, the CPUC EM observed a burrowing owl sitting on a traffic cone in the field about 350 feet away from pole #30. There were five boom trucks with crews working at four different poles. Crews were working at pole #30 near Highway 237 and Zanker Road (see Figure 1). That line will run from the substation to Nortech. The hawks that were nesting across Zanker Road have fledged the nest. They were observed flying back to the nest to feed, but did not seem bothered by construction activities. Crews were also working at pole #29 and the line that runs from the substation to Trimble-Montague. Another crew was working at pole #NT7 and the line that runs from the substation to Trimble-Nortech. The last crew was working at pole #MA-04 and the lines that run from the substation to Agnews across the freeway, and also to the Montague circuits to pole #29. PG&E crews were working in the field west of the substation connecting to Calpine's CECEF line, which goes to the Nortech circuit (see Figure 2). All of the crews were observed to be staying in their work areas and the sites were neat and clean.

In the early evening, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation, where electrical

crews were working at various locations at the substation site. Additional crews have laid more base rock and done some road paving at the site. More fencing has been erected around some of the electrical equipment at the site. The CPUC EM observed that the site was neat and clean.

**Environmental Compliance:**

On May 24, 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):**

CPUC issued the NTP for the Trimble to Montague 115kV upgrade on April 8.

**Variance Requests:**

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

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE**  
**(Updated 05-29-03)**

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
10	04/17/03	Delay implementation of landscaping at the Los Esteros Substation.	Completed	04/29/03



Figure 1  
ILB Crews Working at Pole #30 in the Field West of the Los Esteros Substation  
May 24, 2003



Figure 2  
PG&E Crews Working in the Field West of the Los Esteros Substation  
May 24, 2003