



# **Aspen** Environmental Group

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

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** November 13, 2002  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #24: November 4, 2002 – November 10, 2002  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

### **Summary of Activity:**

#### **Monday, November 4:**

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation site in the evening. The ground had been well watered. The CPUC EM walked around the entire site and observed that the site was orderly and clean. The CPUC EM also observed that all silt fences were properly installed and had been maintained. No bird species were observed by the CPUC EM during the site visit.

Throughout the evening and night, the CPUC EM conducted several site visits of construction along the underground segment of the project. At the U.S.D. Lagoon #4 bore, the CPUC EM observed that crews were starting to work on tie-ins between the bore and manhole vault #5 south of the bore along Fremont Boulevard. Later in the night, crews were backfilling the trench near the bore entrance with engineered soil and excavating south towards manhole vault #5. At manhole vaults #6 behind the business park, crews were working on fixing some irrigation pipes. They were planning to fix the pipes, bury them, and repave a sidewalk at that location before it started raining; rain was expected Wednesday night, November 6. At manhole vault #7 on the right line, crews were starting to trench north from the vault on the right line. Later in the night, crews were paving the trenched areas between manhole vaults #6 and #7. Crews were observed conducting pot-holing activities just south of manhole vaults #8 where the construction right-of-way crosses Bayview Parkway. Behind the Mervyn's facility, crews were trenching north on the left line from approximate Station 123+00 north. Crews were also pouring cement slurry in the trench as crews finished laying down conduit.

#### **Tuesday, November 5:**

Throughout the evening and night, the CPUC EM conducted several site visits of construction along the underground segment of the project. At the U.S.D. Lagoon #4 bore, crews were excavating south towards manhole vault #5 on the left line. Water was seeping into the trench where they had poured cement slurry. Water was being pumped out of the trench and into the Baker tank, and then was being released into the storm drain. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) has been testing the pH of the water where it outlets into the storm drain and so far, the pH levels have been acceptable. Crews re-contoured part of the berm near where the exit bore pit was. It will need some kind of erosion control soon. The Essex EI said he would discuss this issue with construction management. Later in the night, the CPUC EM conducted another site visit of the U.S.D. Lagoon #4 bore. Crews were still excavating south on the left line. Traffic controls were set-up around the construction area, which includes the intersection of Fremont Boulevard and W. Warren.

The CPUC EM also conducted a site visit of the construction behind the business park. Crews were installing conduit in trenches between manhole vaults #6 and #7. Later in the evening, crews were trenching from approximate Station 93+10 south on the left line. Crews only trenched around 15 feet when they ran into some utilities that were not marked on their drawings. None of the utilities were broken, but they had to go back to where they first started trenching and dig a deeper trench under the

utilities so their conduit would fit. Later in the night, crews were getting ready to install conduit in the trenched areas that were complete.

Behind the Mervyn's facility, crews were excavating the trench on the left line from the northern end of the Mervyn's property at the fence line heading south. Crews were also pouring cement slurry in the trenches behind the Mervyn's facility.

The CPUC EM also conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation site in the night. The CPUC EM observed that the ground had been well watered and the site was orderly. The CPUC EM spoke with the First Alarm Security Guard who said there had not been any problems at the site that he was aware of. The CPUC EM was informed by the Essex EI that no one had seen the burrowing owl for three days; on October 31 the owl was observed temporarily perched on a pile of pre-cast cement blocks stored on site. The CPUC EM observed the dump trucks coming onto the site and dumping soil on the northeastern side of the property. The CPUC EM observed that the dump truck drivers were adhering to the established speed limit.

**Wednesday, November 6:** Crews sent home at 2:00 a.m because of rain.

**Thursday, November 7:** No work occurred due to rain event.

**Environmental Compliance:**

On November 4, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permitting requirements.

On November 5, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with the mitigation measures adopted in EIR and other permitting requirements. However, the Essex EI was notified that some kind of erosion control will need to be installed at the U.S.D. Lagoon #4 bore site; rain was forecasted for the evening of November 6.

**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

No NTPs were issued during the subject week. A draft NTP for 230kV tower construction was forwarded to CPUC on October 30. This NTP is still being reviewed by CPUC.

**Variance Requests:**

On October 23, Variance Request #7 was submitted for CPUC review. Variance Request 7 proposes the use of a portion of the Mervyn's property for equipment and material storage for underground construction. CPUC approved this request on November 12.

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE**  
**(Updated 11-13-02)**

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