



Aspen *Environmental Group*

Project Memorandum PG&E Northeast San Jose

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Project Manager
Date: July 10, 2002
Re: Weekly Report #6: July 1, 2002 – July 7, 2002
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Jody Fessler

Summary of Activity:

On Monday July 1, crews were replacing a storm drain pipe on the north side of Laguna Creek where they had removed the old drain so that they could lay their pipes. Additional soil excavation was required from the area because the sides of the trench kept caving in. A lot of dirt and gravel was observed north of the trench where the storm drain is being replaced and was reported to the Essex Environmental Inspector (EI).

Crews were also working on excavating caved in soil in the trench on the south side of Laguna Creek. Pipes have been laid in the south trench and some cement poured, but shoring is still in place in some areas where they are trying to stabilize the trench sides. Later in the evening, crews were removing shoring from trench south of Laguna Creek. After shoring was removed, crews started filling trench with slurry. Around 9:30 p.m., a crew member found a gopher snake in the right-of-way under some pipes they were moving. The CPUC EM notified the Essex EI who caught the approximate 3 foot snake and relocated it to a dry grass corridor between Laguna Creek and the adjacent property on the corner of Cushing Parkway and Fremont Boulevard.

At the Los Esteros Substation site, a new active nest with eggs in it was discovered above the southeast door in the building structure on the property by the Essex EI and CPUC EM. A dead baby song sparrow was also found on the floor. The CPUC EM confirmed that there are baby house finches in the nest in the window on the east side of the building.

On Tuesday July 2, dirt and dust were still observed on the road and sidewalks, as well as the work area on the north side of Laguna Creek. The CPUC EM reported this to the Essex EI. Later in the afternoon, some crew members were sweeping the sidewalk to clean the dirt off. Cleaning was sufficient. Crews were paving the southern trench and working on filling the northern trench with slurry. Later in the evening, crews were getting ready to pave the northern trench. Around 8:00 PM, work slowed to almost a stop. Another PG&E project group came out to inspect this project because they are going to be working on a similar project elsewhere in the Bay Area. Later, crews continued to work on getting northern trench filled with slurry and were preparing it for paving. Crews started filling new bore pit south of Laguna Creek on Cushing Parkway with gravel so the bottom of the pit would be clean and even.

At the Los Esteros Substation site, two big mechanical crane trucks were parked on the Calpine property as well as a couple of SUVs. The CPUC EM was informed that the vehicles were with the Calpine Project. The Los Esteros site was being well watered to keep the dust down. The Essex EI informed the CPUC EM that another new nest was found, in addition to the nest found on July 1.

There are now a total of four active nests. The CPUC EM took pictures of the three active nests, but was not able to locate the fourth. A message was left with Megan Bracker, Essex, reminding them that they need to be photo-documenting nest sites at the Los Esteros Substation.

Environmental Compliance:

The Essex EI was informed about dirt/dust control on the road and sidewalk in and near the project area. As noted above, the dirt and dust was eventually addressed. Water in the Baker tank appeared pretty clear. No leaks from equipment were identified. All other construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

No NTPs were issued during the subject week.

Variance Requests:

On June 26, Variance Request #4 was submitted to reduce the originally proposed 250-foot buffer for nesting activity to 15 feet at an existing structure on the Los Esteros Substation site based on USFWS consultation. This request was approved by CPUC on July 5; however, the approved buffer was increased from 15 to 25 feet.