



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

## **Project Memorandum PG&E Northeast San Jose**

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Project Manager  
**Date:** July 16, 2002  
**Re:** Weekly Report #7: July 8 2002 – July 14, 2002  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

### **Summary of Activity:**

On July 10, the CPUC EM conducted a site visits of the Los Esteros Substation site. The CPUC EM and Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) looked at the south side of the building structure where Essex was proposing to install barriers/coverings over the windows and doors so that the baby birds do not fledge into the work area, in accordance with Variance Request #4. The CPUC EM and Essex EI also discussed leaving half of one window open near the nest in the thistle on the south side of the building so that fledging birds will be able to escape construction by going into the building and out the other side. The proposed barrier plan was approved by Aspen on July 12. The CPUC EM found a new nest with eggs in the thistles on the west side of the building, thought to be a mocking bird nest. Substation site was in compliance with mitigation measures.

The CPUC EM conducted site visits of the Laguna Creek/Cushing Parkway site where crews were paving the bore exit site on the north side of the creek. The trench going north on Cushing Parkway from that bore pit is not complete. Crews were paving some of the trench and some of it was plated. Crews were also pot-holing north of the bore location in the middle of Cushing Parkway. Site was in compliance with mitigation measures.

On Thursday, July 11, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation site and met with the Essex EI to review nesting activity at the building structure. No new nests were observed. No crews were working at the site, but a television crew was on site interviewing a PG&E representative.

The CPUC EM conducted site visit of Laguna Creek/Cushing Parkway site later that night where crews were working on excavating and shoring the trench. An old abandoned storm drain was discovered and documented by the Essex EI who took photos. PG&E was planning on tearing it out so they could lay their pipes. Crews were working slowly around a gas line they discovered earlier.

CPUC EM and Essex EI discussed this morning's incident where one of the Essex EI gave one of the crew members permission to drive across a newly created road/path through a field from the property on the corner of Cushing Parkway/Fremont Boulevard to Line F. Another Essex EI came out to the site during the incident and informed the crew member that he was not to drive through that area without proper authorization from the CPUC (TEWS or Variance). The Essex EI put up a sign near the newly created road/path that said "No Project Access." K-rails have been put in position at Line F creek and some equipment is being stored within the right-of-way.

**Environmental Compliance:**

CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR. As noted above, an Essex EI corrected an incident where an unauthorized access route was being used.

**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

No NTPs were issued during the subject week.

**Variance Requests:**

On July 9, Variance Request #5 was submitted for a proposed extra work space area for the Line F bore (Variance Request #5). The subject site was reviewed by the CPUC EM on July 10. CPUC approved Variance Request #5 on July 12.

**TABLE 1  
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE  
(Updated 7-16-02)**

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