



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

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

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Project Manager  
**Date:** September 4, 2002  
**Re:** Weekly Report #14: August 26, 2002 – September 1, 2002  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Jody Fessler

### **Summary of Activity:**

On Tuesday, August 27, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Fremont Boulevard construction in the early afternoon. Crews were paving over the left line trench at approximate Station 48+00 from the left line man-hole vault #4 heading south. The CPUC EM observed that the staging area at Agua Caliente Creek (Line F) was dusty and should be watered before the night shift begins work. The CPUC EM also noted that the sidewalks and street needed to be swept from Line F south to the end of where current construction is taking place. There were some sandbags around a storm drain that needed to be removed and replaced at the south end of the business complex in front of man-hole vaults #4. At man-hole vault #3 at the northern end of Fremont Boulevard near Cushing Parkway, crews had k-rails and traffic controls set up around the vaults. The CPUC EM notified the Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) regarding the dust issues at Agua Caliente Creek (Line F), road and sidewalk cleaning along Fremont Boulevard by vaults #4, and sandbags that need replacing. The Essex EI informed the CPUC EM that the staging area at Agua Caliente Creek had already been watered down before the night shift started work and that he would make sure construction management was informed of the other issues.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation site in the evening. In speaking with on-site personnel, the CPUC EM learned that there have been major dust problems at night when the dump trucks come to deposit soil from the trenching activities on Fremont Boulevard, including several complaints from the next-door neighbor about the dust. In addition, it was learned that trucks were going over the 10 mph speed limit and kicking up dust. Finally, the CPUC EM learned that on August 26, at around 3:30 AM, one of the dump truck drivers forgot to put the back of his truck down after dumping. On his way out of the substation site and the Calpine property, he hit his truck on a telephone wire while taking a turn and flipped the truck over spilling diesel fuel out onto the access road. The CPUC EM was later informed by the Essex EI that Northern Linelayers' Safety Coordinator went out to the site soon after the incident happened and cleaned up the spill. The dump truck subcontracting company was immediately dismissed from the project. The CPUC EM was informed later that night by the Essex EI that crews were watering down the area where they are depositing soil so that dust is minimized.

On Wednesday, August 28, the CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Fremont Boulevard construction in the evening. Crews were trenching south of man-hole vault #4 on the left line to approximate Station 51+80. Crews were also laying conduit, pouring cement slurry, and paving over the trench as they proceeded. Another crew started trenching south of man-hole vault #4 on the right line with an asphalt grinder machine. The machine was creating a lot of dust, resulting in a work stoppage to repair the machine. A third crew was working on backfilling man-hole vault #3 at the northern end of Fremont Boulevard near Cushing Parkway. The CPUC EM met with the Essex EI and reviewed the City of Fremont's Encroachment Permit for traffic controls and the Traffic Control Plan submitted to the City. The damaged sandbags previously observed around a storm drain at the end of the business complex south of man-hole vaults #4 on Fremont Boulevard had been replaced.

The CPUC EM observed a great egret in Agua Caliente Creek (Line F) near bore site.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Los Esteros Substation site in the evening and inspected vehicles for oil leaks. Some oil absorbent boards had been placed under some of the leaks, but the CPUC EM notified the Essex EI that there should be more coverage or the vehicles should be removed from the site. The CPUC EM observed dump trucks entering the substation site and dumping soil from trenching activities on Fremont Boulevard. Dust did not appear to be a problem since the area was being watered as dumping occurred. The CPUC EM observed dump trucks going the speed limit. The dump truck diesel fuel spill on the access road into the Calpine property was inspected and the site had been cleaned-up sufficiently.

**Environmental Compliance:**

On August 27, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in EIR and other permitting requirements, with the exception of dust abatement and maintenance of sandbags. In addition, it was reported to the CPUC EM that trucks weren't adhering to the 10 mph speed limit at the Los Esteros Substation site and that a dump truck had toppled over the previous evening, resulting in a diesel spill.

On August 28, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in EIR and other permitting requirements, with the exception of equipment/vehicle leak prevention.

**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

No NTPs were issued during the subject week. A conference call to discuss pre-construction compliance for the tower installation NTP is scheduled for Friday, September 6.

**Variance Requests:**

No Variance Requests were submitted or reviewed during the subject week.

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE**  
 (Updated 9-4-02)

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