



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

## **PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E – TRI-VALLEY 2002 CAPACITY INCREASE PROJECT**

**To:** Roosevelt Grant, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** January 8, 2003  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #16: December 30, 2002 – January 5, 2003  
**CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM):** Anne Sweet

### **Summary of Activity:**

Weather was mostly clear with rain early in the subject week. Project activity was minimal due to the holidays.

Minor operations at the Arroyo del Valle bore (see Figure 1) continued during the subject week. Dewatering of the north and south bore pits occurred. Crews continued to excavate the southern bore pit. Because of the cultural resource sensitivity of the area, a cultural monitor was on-site during all ground disturbing activities.

On December 19, PG&E submitted Variance Request 2 to allow for the construction of a temporary sound wall along the eastern, western, and southern boundaries of the Arroyo del Valle northern bore pit to allow for 24-hour/day bore operations. In order to construct the sound wall, 40 feet of extra workspace was also requested for sound barrier installation around the bore. On January 2, prior to CPUC, California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and Zone 7 Water District approval of Variance Request 2 (see below), crews started auguring holes for the sound wall on the east and south sides of the Arroyo del Valle northern bore pit (see Figure 2). A Project Memorandum was issued documenting the non-compliance activity. At that time, both the Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) and Project Manager were notified by the CPUC EM that if work continues without approvals, a Non-Compliance Report (NCR) would be issued on January 3. On January 3, the CPUC EM arrived on-site at the Arroyo del Valle northern bore pit, where work had been halted to avoid issuance of the NCR.

The extension of the Streambed Alteration Agreement permit granted by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) for the Arroyo del Valle bore expired on December 29, 2002. On January 3, the CPUC EM spoke with Janis Gan of the CDFG and was informed that the Streambed Alteration Agreement for the Arroyo del Valle bore has been extended for another five weeks effective from the expiration of the first permit extension.

On December 31, the Essex EI informed the CPUC EM of a small gasoline spill into the storm drain near the Arroyo del Valle southern bore pit. The spill was contained and cleaned up immediately. Sand bags were placed around the drain. The contractor also inspected all project vehicles to find the source of the leak.

During the subject week, the CPUC EM toured New Vineyard Road. No work was viewed at vaults 13 A and 13 B between Stations 42+00 and 44+00, which remain incomplete. Crews started excavation of the Vault 14A and 14 B pits between Stations 60+00-63+00 (see Figure3).

Boring operation restarted on Friday, January 3, at the Ruby Hills entrance location from Station 151+00 to 154+00 along “Old” Vineyard Road. Pipe was jacked under the road. The drilling returns were added to the spoils pile next to the bore pit.

Crews started excavation for Vaults 6A and 6B as well as 7A and 7B which lie along “Old” Vineyard Road between Highway 84 and Isabel Avenue.

Minimal work continued during the subject week on vaults 4A and 4B and associated tie-ins from Stations 54+00 to 56+00. Crews tied in the conduit to vaults 2A and 2B from Station 17+50 to 19+50.

The CPUC EM toured the Transition Station area. Erosion control was inspected and appeared to be containing run-off.

**Environmental Compliance:**

A Project Memorandum was issued on January 2, which stated:

*Construction activities occurred on January 2, 2003 within the proposed extra workspace outlined in Variance Request 02 without variance approval. In addition the CPUC has not been notified of Zone 7 Water District concurrence of construction within the districts jurisdiction. Work occurred on the south, east, and west sides of the north bore pit associated with the Arroyo del Valle jack-and-bore at approximate Stationing 300+00.*

On December 31, a small amount of gasoline spilled into the storm drain near the Arroyo del Valle southern bore pit. The spill was contained and cleaned up immediately.

For all other operations, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in EIR and other permitting requirements.

**Notices to Proceed (NTP):**

NTP #3 was approved by the CPUC and distributed on December 12. This NTP completes the Phase One portion of the Tri-Valley Project.

**Variance Requests:**

On December 19, PG&E submitted Variance Request 2 to allow for the construction of a temporary sound wall along the eastern, western, and southern boundaries of the Arroyo del Valle northern bore pit to allow for 24-hour/day bore operations. In order to construct the sound wall, 40 feet of extra workspace is also requested for sound barrier installation around the bore. The CPUC EM contacted the City of Pleasanton regarding the permit status allowing 24-hour/day bore operations. On December 26, Phil Grubstick, City of Pleasanton, left a message with the CPUC EM stating that the 24-hour work permit is in place, and that 24-hour work cannot commence until the sound wall is constructed around the bore area. On January 3, the CPUC EM was notified by the Zone 7 Flood Control District that approval for work within the access road to the south of the bore pit has been granted. On January 3, the CPUC EM spoke with Janis Gan, CDFG, who at that time gave concurrence for the work proposed in Variance Request 2 (the extra work space along the south side of the bore pit was reduced to avoid CDFG jurisdiction). Variance Request 2 was approved by the CPUC on January 6.

**Agency Personnel Contacts:**

December 26: City of Pleasanton: Phil Grubstick, Assistant Director of Public Works/City Engineer.

December 31: Zone 7 Water District: David Lun, Flood Control Releases

December 31, January 2: Zone 7 Water District, Joe Seto, Permitting

January 3: CDFG, Janis Gan

January 3: Zone 7 Water District, Jeff Tang, Engineer

**TABLE 1**  
**VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE**  
**(Updated 01-08-03)**

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	10/3/02	Temporary storage of bore pit spoils on the north side of the Arroyo del Valle bore crossing Stations 304+00 to 306+00.	Completed	10/17/02
2	12/19/02	40 feet of extra work space was requested on the south, east and west sides of the north bore pit associated with the Arroyo Del Valle jack and bore to install a sound barrier around boring operations, so that 24-hour construction could occur.	Completed.	1/6/03



Figure 1  
 Arroyo del Valle crossing at Bernal Avenue (bore location).



Figure 2  
Construction south of the Arroyo del Valle northern bore pit within Zone 7 Water District Jurisdiction.



Figure 3  
Vault 14A and 14B excavation along New Vineyard Road.