



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: May 22, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #35: May 12, 2003 – May 18, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear throughout the subject week. Erosion control was inspected project wide and repairs were made where needed. The CPUC EM paid special attention to raptor habitat and possible nests, as well as ground surveys for burrowing owl habitat along the right-of-way. Crews will begin mobilizing to the Phase Two substation site the week of May 19th; however, construction is not planned until the week of June 2. A supervisor Environmental Training Program for Phase Two will be held on Wednesday, May 21.

The major build activities of the Phase One section of the Tri-Valley Project are now complete. All conduit and vaults are completely installed. Outstanding tasks include transmission line splicing and proofing. These items are scheduled to be complete by the Phase One line energization deadline of May 22. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) has reduced monitoring from full-time to twice-weekly spot checks, but remains on-call. Mueller has reduced crews and continues with restoration activities.

During the subject week, crews finished backfilling and grading the installation south of the Arroyo del Valle (see Figure 1). Fiber splicing at numerous vault locations was observed along the project route. Crews also repaved over portions of the installation along “Old” Vineyard Road. Crews have installed jute netting and seeded the sloped area near the northern intersection of New Vineyard Road and “Old” Vineyard Avenue. Traffic Control Plans were implemented.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit of the Mueller Contractor Yard. All vehicles and equipment were being kept within the yard and the extra workspace area adjacent to the yard approved for use per Variance #5. The yard areas are being cleared of equipment and spoils.

At New Vineyard Road, fiber splicing crews were on-site at the Vault 12 location (see Figure 2). Crews continue road restoration efforts.

For the area between Highway 84 and the Transition Station, crews continue to do restoration work. On May 10, a diesel spill occurred near the Vault 4 area from Stations 46+00 to 54+00. The quantity of diesel is unknown, but approximated at 20 gallons. No resources were impacted. Crews removed the top layer of dirt and placed it in a dump truck for temporary storage at the Mueller yard. Most of the diesel was removed; however, the remaining soils smelled of diesel. After consultation with a hazardous materials remediation company, on May 14, crews spread a bio-remediation product called Micro Blaze. This product has been listed with the EPA as a bio-remediation agent on the National Contingency Plan. Mueller will continue sampling the spill site until adequate clean-up/remediation has occurred.

The CPUC EM inspected the Red Tail Hawk’s nest along the right-of-way along the Zone 7 Access Road east of Highway 84 at Station 61+00. The additional exclusion fencing installed in the area to prevent crew members from accidentally entering the exclusion zone remains intact.

Crews have finished the Transition Station foundation work, and have installed cyclone fencing around the station. Additional equipment was mounted to the cable and H-frame structure. Crews have installed base rock to the Transition Station pad. Minor clean-up activities occurred during the subject week. Erosion control devices were inspected and are being maintained.

Environmental Compliance:

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

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

The NTP for the Cayetano Substation, Phase Two, was issued by CPUC on May 6.

Variance Requests:

On May 19, PG&E submitted a Variance Request for use of a 2.5 acre lay down area adjacent to the north side of May School Road for equipment and materials storage and contractor staging for the Phase Two portion of the project. On May 19, the CPUC EM conducted a site tour of the requested area.

Agency Personnel Contacts: None

TABLE 1
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 05/22/03)

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
3	01/29/03	Approximate 200' by 300' extra workspace area east of the Isabel Ave jack & bore.	Completed	2/18/03
4	01/29/03	Approximate 120' by 320' extra workspace area north of the Hwy 84 jack & bore, and an 80' by 200' area south of the Hwy 84 bore.	Completed	2/18/03
5	02/12/03	Approximate 2.6-acre expansion of the approved Mueller Contractor Yard, City of Pleasanton.	Completed	2/25/03
6	05/19/03	Approximate 2.5 acre lay down area adjacent to the north side of May School Road for equipment and materials storage and contractor staging for the Phase Two portion of the project. Biological and Cultural Survey reports as well as landowner approvals have been submitted.	On May 19 the CPUC EM conducted a site tour of the requested area.	



Figure 1 – Backfill and grading are complete for the area south of the Arroyo del Valle.



Figure 2 – Splicing at the Vault 12 location along New Vineyard Road.