



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Roosevelt Grant, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: October 9, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #55: September 29, 2003 – October 5, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear throughout the subject week. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) conducted several environmental trainings throughout the week for new construction personnel.

Phase One:

The major build activities of the Phase One section of the Tri-Valley Project are complete and the line was officially released to operations in early-July. Restoration work concerning a land sinkage problem resulting from project construction activities near the Ruby Hills entrance location along Vineyard Avenue has been done. Soil compaction tests have been conducted and final sign-offs will be obtained from landowners, as well as the City of Pleasanton, once all of the compaction reports are reviewed.

Phase Two:

The Essex EI reduced monitoring beginning October 1, from full- to part-time now that the duct bank installation for Phase Two is complete.

At the Cayetano Substation site, the contractor continued component structure installation. Work also continues on the fence around the perimeter of the station. Numerous trenches and holes have been excavated within the substation pad for tie-ins to the station components. An additional trailer has been placed at the back of the substation site. On September 29, the CPUC EM observed that there was a hole that was covered with plywood; however the plywood had an approximate 12" square notch cut out of the end. Thus wild life would be able to get in making the cover ineffective (see Figure 1). The Essex EI was notified.

During the subject week, crews finished pulling operations between Vault DC-25 and the cable termination point structures at the Substation. Crews also pulled cable between Vaults CC-2 and DC-21 and the cable termination structures at the Transition Station (see Figure 2).

Recently, the juvenile burrowing owls, which had occupied the nest located approximately 295-feet from the PSD yard site, began to disperse. During the subject week, two owls were spotted in and around the nest. On September 25, CDFG representative Janis Gan sent an E-mail authorizing work within the previously mentioned 160-foot buffer.

During the subject week, crews graded over the alignment and restored drainage features along May School Road. An archeologist was brought to the site to view restoration work up to the cultural discovery sidewalk area and within the resource buffer.

Crews have finished backfilling east from Dagnino Road along the access road that follows the alignment to the Transition Station, part of which lies within a wetland exclusion buffer and future wetland mitigation site for the Dublin Ranch Development. Along the access road, crews continued grading operations over the installation during the subject week. Crews applied additional water to suppress fugitive dust along the disturbed project right-of-way. On September 29, the CPUC EM observed that a porta-pottie outhouse was stationed within 5 feet of drainage and a septic truck and worker emptying the facility was on site. A very bad smell was coming from the area and the CPUC EM called the Essex EI and voiced concerns over the proximity of the unit to the drainage. If a spill were to occur, either the human refuse and/or the chemical would be hugely detrimental to the drainage area. The Essex EI reported that the unit was moved away from the drainage. During the subject week, Essex contacted the CPUC EM and PM concerning upgrades to the access road. The project EIR allows for all-weather upgrades to roads. Because the road crosses three drainages, Essex met at the location with CDFG representative Janis Gan for agency review of the road upgrade. Ms. Gan requested that PG&E install three culverts and minimize disturbance as much as possible. The CPUC PM recommended that Dublin Ranch Development planners should be consulted because of the wetland mitigation area project being constructed on both sides of the road.

At the Transition Station, the contractor continued to pull cable to the Transition Station termination structures. During pulling operations, a spill of poly lube occurred at the structure and crewmembers promptly cleaned up the lubricant (see Figure 3). A fiber optic vault at the west side of the Transition Station was installed and trench excavated. The Essex EI reported that at the end of each workday, all open holes are being covered by plywood or ramped to avoid entrapment of wildlife.

Environmental Compliance:

On September 29, the CPUC EM observed that there was a hole that was covered with plywood; however, the plywood had an approximate 12” square notch cut out of the end. Thus wild life would be able to get in making the cover ineffective. The Essex EI was notified of the problem.

On September 29, the CPUC EM observed that a porta-pottie outhouse was stationed within 5 feet of drainage. The Essex EI was notified and the porta-pottie was relocated.

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):

No new NTPs were issued during the subject week.

Variance Requests:

None.

Agency Personnel Contacts:

None.

VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 10/9/03)

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 laydown 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.	Completed	5/23/03
6-Modification	06/06/03	Allow clearing and grading at the 2.5-acre laydown area adjacent to the north side of May School Road.	Completed	7/8/03
7	07/01/03	Variance of Mitigation Measure 7.3 trench cover requirements to protect the San Joaquin Kit Fox deferring to the protocol outlined in the USFWS Biological Opinion.	Completed	7/22/03
8	7/25/03	Variance of Mitigation 7.4 for adjustments to burrowing owl protection mitigation measures per site-specific recommendations made by CDFG.	Completed	8/4/03
9	8/11/03	Variance to extend the PSD laydown yard, requesting an additional 82' by 270' area to the north of the yard, for parking and materials storage for the Phase Two portion of the project.	Completed	9/5/03



Figure 1 – Ineffective cover of an open hole at the Cayetano Substation, Phase Two.



Figure 2 – Cable pulling activities at the Vault location along the access road leading to the Transition Station, Phase Two.



Figure 3 – Cable pulling activities at the Transition Station. Lubricant was spilled at the site and a crewmember promptly cleaned it up, Phase Two.