



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 16, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #56: October 6, 2003 – October 12, 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.

As reported by Essex, as-built packages were delivered to the City of Pleasanton and the Zone 7 Water Agency and Alameda Flood Control and Conservation District during the week of September 29th. Zone 7's release is expected to be obtained about mid-October. The City of Pleasanton's release is pending the release from Ruby Hills. The release from Ruby Hills is pending some financial issues.

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. December 1 is the planned line energization date for this segment. Essex has begun preparing pre-energization notices to be distributed to all property owners along the alignment.

At the Cayetano Substation site, the contractor continued component structure installation. Work was completed on the fence around the perimeter of the station and a gate has been installed. The contractor now plans to lock the station area after work hours. Numerous trenches and holes have been excavated within the substation pad for tie-ins to the station components. A water truck continually waters the area for dust suppression (see Figure 1).

During the subject week, crews finished pulling cable between vaults DC-21 and the cable termination structures at the Transition Station. The contractor continued cable and fiber splicing at vaults CC-3, DC-22, CC-6, and DC-25 (see Figure 2).

Last month, the juvenile burrowing owls, which had occupied the nest located approximately 295-feet from the PSD yard site, began to disperse. The Essex EI has continued inspections of the burrow area. During the subject week, no owls were spotted in and around the nest.

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. After construction activities, the barricade and resource signs were reinstalled along the 100-foot buffer.

Crews continued grading operations 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 wetland mitigation site for the Dublin Ranch Development. Crews applied additional water to suppress fugitive dust along the disturbed project right-of-way. PG&E has begun road upgrade work. Because the road crosses three drainages, Essex met at the location with CDFG representative Janis Gan for agency review of the road upgrade and to request an amendment to the 1601 Streambed Alteration Agreement for the additional roadwork. The roadwork plans were subsequently downsized and the amendment was approved October 6. Ms. Gan requested that PG&E also coordinate with the Dublin Ranch Development planners HT Harvey & Associates to identify and mitigate hydrology impacts by the road upgrade to the wetland mitigation area project being constructed on both sides of the subject road. A meeting was held on October 8 between PG&E, Essex, PSD, Sturgeon Electric and HT Harvey & Associates. HT Harvey & Associates has requested that culverts be installed across the access road at three additional locations. Culverts will also be upgraded at the three existing drainage areas.

At the Transition Station, the contractor finished cable pulling to the Transition Station termination structures. Work continued at the fiber optic vault at the west side of the Transition Station. Grounding operations were started, a grid of shallow trenches were dug and copper wire installed. 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. During the subject week, Essex submitted a Temporary Extra Work Space (TEWS) request for access outside the Transition Station pad for grounding purposes during the connection from the Contra Costa-Newark line to the Transition Station poles. No clearing or grading will be required as part of the work and the area is within PG&E's existing easement. The clearance will begin on October 24th and the contractor estimates that no more than 10 days will be needed to complete the connections. Biological and cultural resource surveys were conducted. The request is currently under review.

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):

No new NTPs were issued during the subject week.

Variance Requests:

None.

Agency Personnel Contacts:

None.

VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS TABLE
(Updated 10/16/03)

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 – Watering to suppress dust at the Cayetano Substation, Phase Two.



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