



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Ken Lewis, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: November 13, 2003
Subject: Weekly Report #60: October 3, 2003 – November 9, 2003
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear early in the subject week, followed by scattered showers and heavy rainfall toward the end of the week. The Essex Environmental Inspector (EI) continued to conduct environmental trainings during the week for new construction personnel, primarily landscape contractors.

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. On November 5, PG&E notified CPUC/Aspen that they were in receipt of the final Phase One signoffs from the City of Pleasanton, Ruby Hills Homeowners Association, and Zone 7. These signoffs conclude all construction related indemnifications between PG&E's Contractor, Infrasource/Mueller Pipeliners, PG&E, and the above entities. As a result, this concludes reporting requirements for the Phase 1 component of the Project. However, the CPUC EM will continue to spot check the Phase One segment to ensure that installed erosion controls for the project remain in place and functioning.

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 distributed pre-energization notices to all property owners along the alignment on October 31. Reseeding along the project alignment will occur the week of November 10. PG&E has coordinated with landowners, CDFG, and surrounding mitigation area planners HT Harvey & Associates for appropriate seed mixes at the various locations.

At the Cayetano Substation site, the contractor continued component structure installation and testing. During the subject week, the landscape contractor continued installing irrigation line within the trench around the parameter of the substation. The CPUC EM notified the Essex EI of concerns that the trench needed additional ramping. Because the trench is so long and narrow (approx. 1-foot wide) ramping with boards proved difficult. As a result, crews have built up dirt mounds within the trench to ramp along the trench to allow wild life to escape entrapment (see Figure 1). The Essex EI reported that a water truck continually waters the area for dust suppression. During the previous week, three separate complaint calls were received from residents surrounding the substation. The light banks installed within the substation have emitted very bright light well into evening hours. PG&E responded to the residents that the lighting will be used up to 8:30 pm until the line energization date of December 1. PG&E stated that they will try and focus the light banks inward to the work in an effort to reduce the brightness. However on November 6, while on-site, the CPUC EM asked the crew Foreman about the evening lighting. The Foreman replied that the current lighting will not be reduced on December 1 as was reported by Essex. The CPUC EM returned to the location at 6:15 pm after nightfall to photograph the lighting (see Figure 2).

Crews have finished pulling cable between all vault locations and the cable termination structures at the Cayetano Substation and Transition Station. The contractor has finished all cable splicing at the vault locations. Minor work continues to occur within the Vaults and the Essex EI reported that the contractor covered all vault manholes at the end of each workday to prevent wildlife entrapment.

Over the last few months, the juvenile burrowing owls, which had occupied the nest located approximately 295-feet from the PSD yard site, have dispersed. During the subject week, the Essex EI continued to monitor the nest and surrounding area for owls. Owls were spotted in and around the original nest and two owls approximately 150 feet west of the PSD yard. The Essex EI reminded the contractor to stay out of all sensitive resource areas and to use caution when moving equipment and materials.

At the PSD Contractor yard, crews continue to remove equipment and cable reels.

Crews have completed road upgrade and restoration 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. Crews have completed installing and upgrading the culverts, as previously requested by CDFG and HT Harvey and Associates (wetland mitigation site planners). Crews have installed additional erosion controls including jute netting and hay bales within the drainage areas (see Figure 3). Within the USACE drainage, crews have placed wooden pallets to bolster the steel plates used to bridge the drainage along the temporary access road (see Figure 4).

At the Transition Station, crews have installed a chain link fence around the station pad.

On Friday, October 17, the CPUC EM signed the proposed Temporary Extra Work Space (TEWS) request for access outside the Transition Station pad for grounding and line stringing purposes during the connection from the Contra Costa-Newark line to the Transition Station poles. As documented, no clearing or grading will be required as part of the work, which is approved from October 17 to November 15. Biological and cultural resource surveys were conducted and no sensitive resources were identified; however, numerous burrows, which serve as potential CTS estivation habitat exist within the TEWS area. The Essex EI flagged the boundaries of the extra workspace and pin flags were placed at burrows. On Friday, October 24th, the contractor transferred the Contra Costa-Newark circuit to the monopole. Three lines remain to be restrung to the H-Frame structure; these activities are planned for November 13.

Environmental Compliance:

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 11/13/03)

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.	Completed	5/23/03
6-Modification	06/06/03	Allow clearing and grading at the 2.5-acre lay down 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 – Trench excavated for the irrigation system around the Cayetano Substation. Note the dirt mound within the trench line which serves to ramp the trench, Phase Two.



Figure 2 – Night lighting at the Cayetano Substation., Phase Two.



Figure 3 – Erosion Control installed in a drainage that crosses the access road leading to the Transition Station, Phase Two.



Figure 4 – Pallets placed in the USACE drainage along the access road leading to the Transition Station, Phase Two.