



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: October 14, 2005
Subject: Weekly Report #79: October 1, 2005 – October 8, 2005
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet

Current construction of the PG&E Tri-Valley Project includes the Phase Three portion of the project, including construction of the overhead transmission line, underground alignment, North Dublin Substation, and Transition Station; all roadway and vault pad grading; and preparation of the 0.33-acre and 0.94-acre mitigation areas. Opus Environmental is providing the Environmental Inspectors for PG&E (PG&E EIs). Opus is providing environmental, as well as biological monitoring and oversight, including conducting environmental training of all new crew personnel. Road improvement and installation is being conducted by Granite Construction. The tower work is being conducted by PG&E. The underground construction is being engineered by Wilson Construction and is being completed by Ranger Construction. The substation work is being engineered by Black and Veatch who has subcontracted construction to Granite Construction.

Summary of Phase Three Activity:

Weather was clear and warm throughout the subject week. During the subject week, the PG&E EIs conducted environmental trainings as new crew members joined the project.

The CPUC EM monitored construction on October 4th and 5th.

The project mitigation measures require that the CPUC EM field validate the flagging of the right-of-way and resource exclusion boundaries prior to the start of construction. All project areas have been signed off including the bank stabilization work adjacent to Moller Road, which was approved on October 4. The CPUC EM conditioned the approval to have ready and on-site all of the necessary materials for an upstream coffer dam and water diversion pipe as outlined in the CDFG Streambed Alteration Agreement (see Figure 1).

Vault installation and tie-ins continued on the underground sections (see Figure 2). During the site tour, the CPUC EM noted that erosion controls protecting the two sensitive drainage areas along Manning Road, which intersect the trench line, were in need of repair. The PG&E EI was informed and repairs were made. Extending up and over the hill off of Manning Road and continuing to the Transition Station, crews are finishing up backfill and compaction of the double circuit trench line. Crews initially used a disk to break up the soil and then were able to strip the topsoil and stockpile it along the side of the right-of-way. Top soils are being backfilled over the completed installation. Crews have started restoration activities including reseeding. Crews also continue conduit proofing. Trenching through Cayetano Creek, which parallels Road 5, has been completed and backfill was completed during the subject week. California red-legged frogs (CRLF) were identified in the project right-of-way and surrounding areas of the creek. An approved biologist was at the location monitoring for frogs preceding and during construction. The PG&E EI issued an internal non-compliance to Ranger Construction during the subject week for going outside of the approved work areas. The CPUC EM was promptly notified.

Granite Construction continued disking and grading along Access Roads 6 and 7 during the subject week (see Figure 3). The area appeared to be watered frequently to cut down on construction related dust. Granite worked to install culverts along Road 7. At the Transition Station, Ranger Construction excavated for vault installation (see Figure 4).

Rock was installed around the new culverts on Moller Road near the substation site. Currently, sediment fencing is installed across the outlet of some of the installed culverts. The PG&E EI is working with the construction crews to remove the fencing and install appropriate erosion controls.

Granite Construction crews continued work in the mitigation pond site. A PG&E EI was present during all the work in the area in order to avoid any impact to the Congdon's tarplant. At least two populations of the rare plant were identified adjacent to the mitigation pond site and these areas were fenced off with orange fence for avoidance.

PG&E crews finished work on Tower 13 (see Figure 5) and installed line hangers on Towers 7 and 9 during the subject week. Materials are being transported to and from the work sites via helicopter or truck. A biological monitor was on-site with the tower crews during the week. The PG&E tower crews will not work on the Tri-Valley Project for the next two weeks.

Surveying, staking, clearing and disking occurred at the new substation site during the week.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

CRLF surveys were conducted on October 4, prior to initiating work on the Bank Stabilization Area. No CRLF were found; however, biologists reported several feral kittens in the area.

The PG&E EI reported that a Ranger Construction employee had driven approximately 40 feet outside of the limit of disturbance and then parked an all terrain vehicle immediately outside of the limit of disturbance line. Ranger Construction was warned about the problem.

On October 5, the PG&E EI issued a non-compliance to Ranger Construction when a truck driver, who had not attended the environmental training, drove 15 feet outside of the limit of disturbance line. He was subsequently trained.

The CPUC EM and PG&E EI witnessed a Ranger Construction employee driving approximately 25 miles per hour (mph) along the right of way exceeding the 15 mph posted speed limit. Ranger Construction was warned about the problem.

The CPUC EM observed that all other Phase Three construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements.

Phase Three portion of the project to date (see Table 1).

TABLE 1
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS
(Updated 10-14-05)

Project Memo or NCR	Date Issued	Description	Follow-Up Activities
PHASE THREE			
Project Memorandum	7/20/05	Crews have installed exclusion fencing as well as sediment fencing in areas with potential for spoils to slide in to sensitive areas. Numerous gaps were left in the fencing to allow moving cows. However, no exclusion signs have been installed in the gaps after repeated requests. In addition, the CTS exclusion zone was toured and no sensitive resource or exclusion signs to notify crews of the resource have been installed. Notifications were made to the PG&E EI. On July 14, an operator was not aware of the 500-foot CTS exclusion zone and a 400-foot by 20-foot area was scraped within the zone coming within 100 feet of the CTS burrow. The site Foreman when he realized what was occurring immediately stopped the operator. Opus notified Mary Hammer of the USFWS in an e-mail.	
NCR	7/26/05	A drainage off Manning Road was bridged by steel plates and the area extending upslope from the bridge had been graded up to and possibly within the drainage without an approved CDFG Streambed Alteration Agreement.	CDFG notification required
NCR	7/26/05	Construction at Pole location 9, 10, 11, and 12 and use of associated access roads were started prior to the CPUC EM verifying that proper flagging and exclusion fencing had been installed as required by Project mitigation measures. Directly upslope of a CTS/CRLF breeding pond burrow clusters were not fenced off and the site was left unmonitored though construction was occurring within 200 feet of the pond. Crews were using new routes which were not previously surveyed or approved.	PG&E must properly flag and fence the work and access areas, and provide maps and survey results. Burrow clusters must be fenced for exclusion.
NCR	7/29/05	Crews graded the other side of the drainage referred to in an NCR issued 7/26/05. Note that a CDFG Streambed Alteration Agreement has not been issued for the site.	CDFG notification required
Project Memorandum	8/21/05	Crews placed a dumpster outside of the project area and did not move it for three days.	Dumpster was removed 8/19/05

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

PG&E supplied the CPUC EM with e-mail and phone correspondence records with CDFG regarding work notifications and resource sightings and relocation.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

Table 2 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Tri-Valley Project to date. No additional NTPs are anticipated.

TABLE 2
NOTICES TO PROCEED
 (Updated 10/14/05)

NTP #	Date Issued	Description
#1	September 12, 2002	Phase One: Construction on of six different sections of the underground portion of the Vineyard Segment, within the City of Pleasanton, City of Livermore, and unincorporated Alameda County.
#2	October 10, 2002	Phase One: Construction of six additional sections of the underground portion of the Vineyard Segment, within the Cities of Pleasanton, Livermore, and unincorporated Alameda County
#3	December 12, 2002	Phase One: Construct the final sections of the Phase One portion Tri-Valley 2002 Capacity Increase Project, within the City of Pleasanton.
#4	May 5, 2003	Phase Two: Construction of the new 5-acre Cayetano Substation located at the intersection of North Livermore Avenue and May School Road.
#5	July 14, 2003	Phase Two: Construction of 2.3 miles of underground transmission line installation extending from the Cayetano Substation to the North Livermore Transition Station to be constructed at the Contra Costa–Newark Transmission Line Corridor
UAD NTP		Phase Two: Allow construction within the exclusion boundary of the May School road cultural resource discovery area.
#6	June 29, 2005	Phase Three: Construction of the overhead transmission line, the transition station, all roadway and vault pad grading, and preparation of 0.33-acre mitigation area.
#7	August 4, 2005	Phase Three: Underground construction and preparation of the 0.94-acre mitigation area.
#8	August 18, 2005	Phase Three: North Dublin Substation.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No Variance Requests were submitted for review during the subject week. Table 3 presents the Phase Three Variance Requests reviewed to date.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 10/14/05)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
PHASE THREE				
11	7/7/05	Variance to allow travel through homestead archaeological site C-Livermore-1H.	Completed	7/8/05
12	7/15/05	Variance to allow the use of staging areas as outlined in road plan drawings along the Phase 3 alignment.	Completed	7/26/05
13	7/29/05	Variance to use three staging areas. Two are located along the Moller Ranch Road. The last is located adjacent to the Cayetano Substation.	Incorporated into NTP #7	
14	8/12/05	Variance to use three access roads, and a laydown area.	Completed	8/19/05
15	8/19/05	Variance to use two laydown areas and one access road near road 6.	Completed	8/26/05
16	9/15/05	Variance for use of a temporary overland access connector route to access two vault installation sites	Completed	9/19/05

Photographs



Figure 1 – Bank stabilization area within Tassajara Creek, October 4, 2005.



Figure 2 – Vault installation north of the Cayetano Substation, October 5, 2005.



Figure 3 – Road 7 and underground alignment,
October 5, 2005.



Figure 4 – Vault excavation at the transition station,
October 5, 2005.

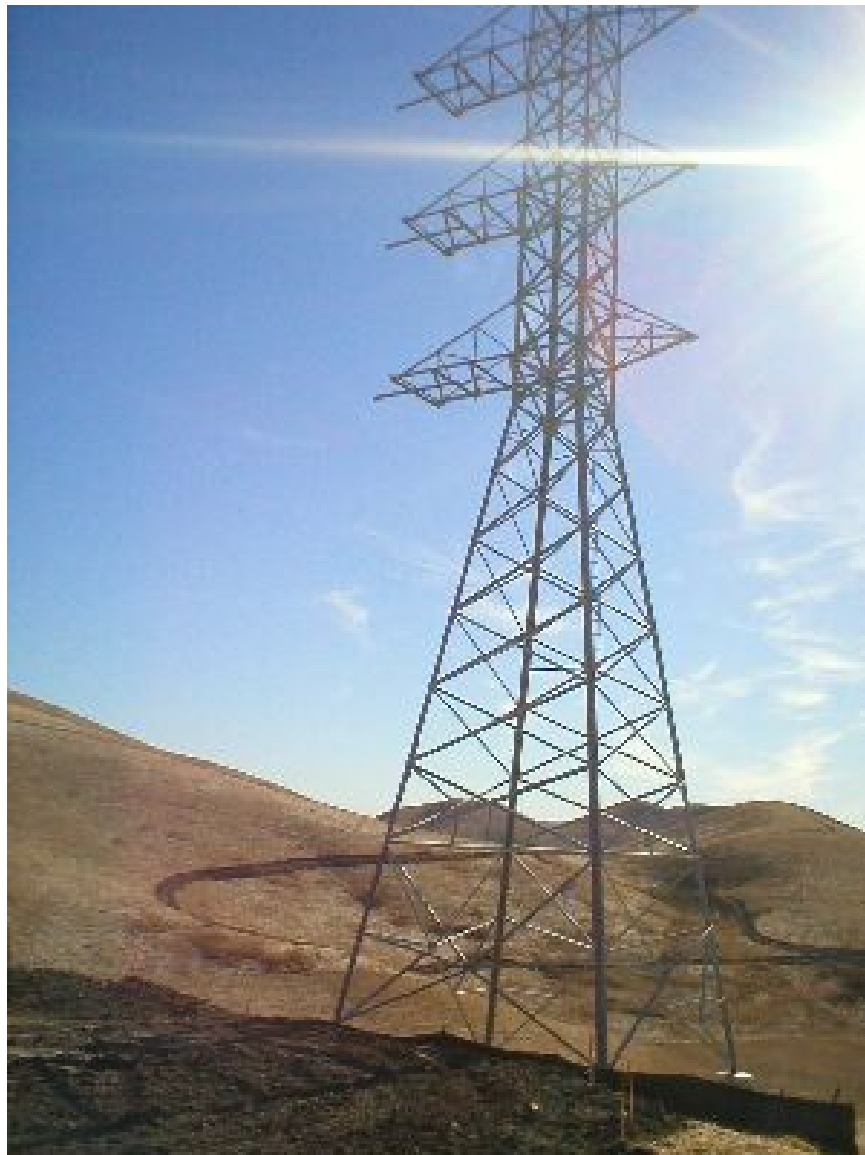


Figure 5 – Tower 13 installation adjacent to the transition station
October 5, 2005.