



Aspen *Environmental Group*

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

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: September 4, 2007
Subject: Weekly Report #130: August 26, 2007 – September 1 2007
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Anne Sweet Coronado

Mainline construction of the project is already complete and the Phase Three segment energization occurred September 29, 2006.

Current planned construction of the PG&E Tri-Valley Project is on the 0.96-acre mitigation pond site and associated access road. This construction was originally planned to occur concurrent with main-line construction. The U. S. Army Corp, USFWS and RWQCB permits stated that construction of the 0.96-acre mitigation wetland would be created by August 31, 2006. Variance Request #21 was submitted in December of 2007 requesting to delay construction of the site to the spring of 2007. As documented in the variance request submittal, USFWS, CDFG, US Army Corp, and RWQCB granted approvals for construction to occur in 2007. Opus additionally submitted further concurrence follow up e-mail correspondence from the U.S. Corp of Engineers.

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. Both the mitigation site and roadway improvement work are being conducted by North Valley Construction (NVC) with oversight by D/C construction.

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC EM conducted a tour of the construction site on August 27, 2007. Weather was hot and dry throughout the subject week.

The previously constructed engineered pond at the 0.33-acre mitigation site was reviewed during the site tour and is currently dry. During previous tours of the site in January and February 2007, it appeared that cows had gotten into the pond area despite the installed barbed wire fence. Cows had eaten a significant amount of the pond and outlying area vegetative cover. Viable cover is an important aspect of the success of the breeding pond. During the tour on August 24, the PG&E EI gave information that cows have been found in the pond area recently. It was apparent that the pond area vegetation had been eaten away. It is unclear how the cows are getting in. As discussed by the PG&E Inspectors, a good possibility is that they are simply pushing through the barb wire. The CPUC EM asked if PG&E plans to reinforce the current fence in order to keep the cows out of the pond thus allowing establishment of a successful vegetative cover. In response to the Weekly Report #129, on August 30, Marcia Grefsrud of CDFG sent an e-mail requesting further information on what PG&E intends to do about the cow issue. Opus responded that PG&E has tightened all of the barb wire fencing and have chained the gate shut until a welder can attach new latches to the gate. It remains to be seen if these fixes detour future cow entry.

A tour was conducted at the new 0.96-acre site slated for upcoming construction. Grading plans were submitted to the CPUC EM. PG&E plans to remove 1,700 cubic yards of spoils from the site. Within the site boundary an aged and rusted metal culvert will be replaced in a jurisdictional waterway. During the subject week, an additional temporary culvert was installed just up stream of the replaced culvert to allow passage of vehicles and equipment (see Figures 1 through 3). NVC first slightly smoothed the bottom of

the drainage area to allow an even fit for the temporary culvert. Filter cloth was laid down prior to the placement of culvert and gravel, thus allowing a clean removal after construction. Finally gravel was laid over the top.

PG&E had anticipated that Contra Costa County would approve their building permit on September 4 and that construction of the site would immediately follow. However, Contra Costa County has made additional requests for information from PG&E. Thus the issuance of the permit has been delayed from what PG&E had anticipated. Work within the pond must be complete prior to October 31 in order to comply with the CDFG and USFWS permits, and avoid wet weather work in the sensitive area. There is now concern that the construction may not be able to be completed unless the Contra Costa permit is issued quickly. PG&E estimates that if work does not commence by September 10, 2007, work might again be delayed until May of 2008.

In addition to the upcoming mitigation area construction, minor improvements will need to be made to the existing dirt access road. The entire length will be bladed to even the surface and allow transport of heavy equipment. While onsite, the CPUC EM checked erosion controls which were being installed along the access road to protect entry points to tributaries to Tassajara Creek. Erosion control installation is planned to be completed early next week.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Seven NCRs and eight Project Memoranda were issued for the Phase Three mainline construction. No compliance documents have been issued to date for construction of the 0.96-acre mitigation site.

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 9/05/07)

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 during the subject week. Table 3 presents the 0.96-acre Mitigation Area Variance Requests reviewed to date.

TABLE 3
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS
(Updated 9/05/07)

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
PHASE THREE				
21	12/7/06	Allow the construction of the 0.96-acre mitigation site to occur after mainline construction and extend to the spring of 2007.	Completed	12/14/06

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:

Per Opus, all agency representatives were sent the construction plans and notice of the impending construction in August 2007.

August 30, Marcia Grefsrud of CDFG sent an e-mail requesting further information on what PG&E intends to do about cows entering the existing 0.33-acre mitigation pond. Opus responded that PG&E has tightened all of the barb wire fencing and have chained the gate shut until a welder can attach new latches to the gate.

PHOTOGRAPHS



Figure 1 – Temporary culvert installation within the jurisdictional waterway, August 27, 2007. Note that crews are smoothing the drainage bottom to allow a good fit for the culvert.



Figure 2 – Temporary culvert installation within the jurisdictional waterway, August 27, 2007. Filter fabric was installed to allow a clean removal post construction.



Figure 3 – Temporary culvert installation within the jurisdictional waterway, August 27, 2007. Note the gravel placement over the culvert.