



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM SCE – VIEJO SYSTEM PROJECT

To: Michael Rosauer, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: August 10, 2004
Subject: Weekly Report #1: August 1, 2004 – August 7, 2004
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

Summary of Activity:

Weather was clear throughout the subject week. Notice to Proceed (NTP) #1 for work on the substation site was issued by the CPUC on Thursday, July 15; however, grading operations did not begin until the subject week because SCE was waiting for the grading permit from the City of Lake Forest.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit on August 4 and reviewed the site fencing, Best Management Practices (BMPs), and hazardous material control with SCE's contractor and inspectors.

The LSA Environmental Inspector (EI) and the paleontological inspector were on-site to review the pre-construction status of the substation site with the CPUC EM. The LSA EI walked the site ahead of grubbing to flush whiptail lizards out of the project area. The sensitive resources on the hillside are separated from the construction activities by a cyclone fence (see Figure 1).

The portable light towers on-site were placed in sandbag containment structures; however, the structures were filled nearly to the top with loose sand. The idea was for the sand to absorb any leaking fluids, but also reduced the capacity of the containment basins (see Figure 2). The Construction Manager instructed the crews to place another row of sandbags around the structure to increase the volume. A containment area for working on equipment and parking graders, similar to the basins for the light towers, was created in the triangle area south of the main substation pad. Crews were working on capping one storm drain inside the pad area and were placing sandbags around the storm drains along the edge of the substation pad (see Figure 3). Filter fabric will be added to the storm drains during the subject week.

The only earthwork observed at the site was the trenching for the 66 kV line under the access road. A trenching machine was used on the straight segment of the access road and a backhoe was used on the curve (see Figure 4). A water trailer was used at both locations to control fugitive dust (see Figure 5). A second trench along the access road for site utilities had been excavated and backfilled prior to the site visit by the CPUC EM. The trenches will be backfilled with a concrete slurry and the displaced soil will be used to fill low areas on the substation site.

Environmental Compliance:

For all other operations, the CPUC EM observed that construction was in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the MND and other permitting requirements.

Notices to Proceed (NTP):

NTP #1 was approved by the CPUC on July 15, 2004. SCE is waiting for the City of Mission Viejo vote on October 30, 2004, regarding an assessment district to underground the proposed 66 kV subtransmission line through the City before moving forward with the 66 kV subtransmission line portion of the project.

Variance Requests: No variance requests have been submitted at this time.

Upcoming Items: None

Agency Personnel Contacts: None

Photographs



Figure 1 – Cyclone fencing surrounds the site and limits access to sensitive habitat on the adjacent hillside.



Figure 2 – Containment berm for the portable light plant filled with sand (contractor will place additional layer of sandbags to increase capacity of berm).



Figure 3 – Sandbags placed around storm drains.
Filter fabric will be placed over drain and secured by the sandbags.



Figure 4 – Trenching machine operating down access road for future 66 kV connection.
Utility connection already made and trench backfilled with a grout slurry
(see trenchline along the roadway).



Figure 5 – A trailer-mounted water system was used to control fugitive dust during the trenching operation.