



# **Aspen** *Environmental Group*

## **PROJECT MEMORANDUM SCE – VIEJO SYSTEM PROJECT**

**To:** Michael Rosauer, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** August 18, 2004  
**Subject:** Weekly Report #2: August 8, 2004 – August 14, 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.

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit on August 10 and reviewed the site fencing, Best Management Practices (BMPs), and hazardous material control with SCE's contractor and inspectors.

The paleontological inspector was on-site to monitor grading activities at the substation site. Two fossils were discovered during grading activities, a fish fossil (see Figure 1) and a fragment of sea cow bone. The pad for the site has been severely disturbed and it is very likely that the fossil has been moved from its original location prior to the start of project construction. The site vegetation has been removed and LSA Environmental Inspector will not be on-site full-time. The sensitive resources on the hillside are separated from the construction activities by a cyclone fence.

The crews have placed another row of sandbags around the structures to increase the volume containment structures for the portable light towers and storage areas in response to the comments from the previous week (see Figure 2). Crews had added filter fabric to the sandbag structures around the storm drains along the edge of the substation pad.

The only earthwork observed at the site was grading on the west section of the pad (see Figure 3). The operators reported that the soil compacted very well but is filled with rocks that must be removed. A water truck was on-site to address fugitive dust (see Figure 4). The electric conduit trench along the access road was being backfilled with concrete slurry and the proper washout site was located on the substation site (see Figure 5).

### **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** – Fish fossil discovered during grading of the substation site by paleontological inspector.



**Figure 2** – Containment berm for the portable light plant increased with additional layer of sandbags.



**Figure 3** – Operators worked with a motor grader and backhoe to grade the site and remove larger rocks.



**Figure 4** – Water truck working at substation site to control fugitive dust.



**Figure 5** – The electric conduit trench along the access road was being backfilled with concrete slurry.