



Aspen *Environmental Group*

PROJECT MEMORANDUM SCE – VIEJO SYSTEM PROJECT

To: Jensen Uchida, CPUC
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: February 1, 2005
Subject: Weekly Report #26: January 23, 2005 – January 29, 2005
CPUC Environmental Monitor (EM): Christopher Meyer

The CPUC EM conducted a site visit on January 25 and reviewed the substation and 220 kV construction activities, Best Management Practices (BMPs), and the upcoming 66 kV construction with SCE.

SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION

Summary of Activity:

A small crew worked with a lift to prepare sections of the 220 kV circuit (see Figure 1). The concrete pouring crew placed concrete in the 12 kV foundations, set the anchor bolts, and finished the surface (see Figure 2). The concrete trucks for the operation were correctly washing out in the southern extra workspace (see Figure 3).

Environmental Compliance:

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

The site vegetation has been removed from the substation site and a LSA Environmental Inspector (EI) has not been on-site full-time. The LSA EI is periodically checking the excavations and foundation holes for sensitive and common animals. Several fossils have been discovered and collected for examination by the paleontologist during the course of the project. The majority of the excavation has been completed on the substation site and no fossil discoveries were reported during the subject week.

The Best Management Practices (BMPs) installed on the substation site have been installed and maintained. Crews were observed replacing BMPs that were impacted by daily construction activities. The reliance on straw wattles instead of silt fencing for sediment control will require additional maintenance and can be overwhelmed by flows during heavy rainfall. No off-site impacts were noted during the site visit and the maintenance of the BMPs appeared to be effective.

220 kV TRANSMISSION LINE SEGMENT

Summary of Activity:

Several crews were working on the 220 kV transmission line right-of-way during the CPUC EM site visit to complete work within the outage period. Two crews worked in man-lifts to attach cable to the insulators on the center and southern towers (see Figure 4). A crew worked to attach the connections to the ends of the measure cable prior to lifting them into place (see Figure 5).

Environmental Compliance:

A small crew worked throughout the 220 kV transmission line segment installing and repairing BMPs. Silt fencing was being installed at the northern lattice tower during the site visit (see Figure 6). Some of the fencing placed prior to the site visit is a type of ground-cloth not designed to be used as silt fencing. Some of this cloth was used across a small drainage and on a slope (see Figure 7). The SCE Biologist will address the proper use of silt fencing to prevent resource damage in case of a storm event. Gravel was being placed or spread on the access road.

The LSA EI was not on-site on the transmission line right-of-way during the CPUC EM site visit; however, no construction was occurring in sensitive areas. A paleontologist was available to monitor if ground disturbance occurred. The majority of excavation has been completed and no fossils were noted on the transmission line corridor during the subject week.

66 kV TRANSMISSION LINE SEGMENT**Summary of Activity:**

The NTP for the 66 kV work adjacent to the substation site was issued on February 1, 2005, so construction occurred during the subject week.

Environmental Compliance:

The CPUC EM met with the SCE Biologist to review the habitat fencing and access roads for the 66 kV transmission line segment adjacent to the substation site (see Figure 8). Some of the habitat fencing may need to be altered due to the type of equipment used by the contractor. Any shifts in the footprint of the fencing that remain within the studied Area of Potential Effect (APE) will be addressed in the field with the CPUC EM.

NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):

NTP #1 was approved for substation construction by the CPUC on July 15, 2004, and NTP #2 was approved for the 220 kV upgrade on September 29, 2004. SCE submitted the pre-construction compliance materials for the 66 kV transmission line portion on January 24 and NTP #3 was issued by CPUC on February 1, 2005.

VARIANCE REQUESTS:

No variance requests were submitted for review during the subject week.

UPCOMING ITEMS:

None.

AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS: None

Photographs



Figure 1 – A small crew worked with lifts to prepare the 220 kV circuits.



Figure 2 – The 12 kV foundations were poured and the anchor bolts set.



Figure 3 – The concrete drivers correctly washed-out in the prepared area after pouring the 12 kV foundations.



Figure 4 – The transmission line crews worked in man-lifts to attach cable to the insulators.



Figure 5 – Workers on the 220 kV transmission line attached connectors to the measured cable.



Figure 6 – A small crew installed silt fencing on the 220 kV transmission line corridor.



Figure 7 – A dense fabric was used as silt fencing across a small drainage. It will be replaced with appropriate BMPs.



Figure 8 – Biological exclusion fencing has been placed in preparation for construction on the 66 kV segment.