



30423 Canwood Street, Suite 215, Agoura Hills, CA 91301-4316
Tel. 818-597-3407, Fax 818-597-8001, www.aspeneg.com

PROJECT MEMORANDUM

ANTELOPE PARDEE PROJECT, SEGMENT 1

To: John Boccio, Project Manager, CPUC
Marian Kadota, Project Manager, ANF
From: Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager
Date: May 9, 2008
Subject: Weekly Report #16, April 27–May 3, 2008

The Antelope-Pardee Project, Segment 1, is comprised of three sections:

- Section 1: Pardee Substation to the ANF boundary.
- Section 2: ANF
- Section 3: ANF Boundary to the Antelope Substation

During the subject week, construction activity continued under Notice to Proceed (NTP) #5 for the construction of the Shoofly in Section 1 and NTP #2 for construction of the Antelope Substation in Section 3. No work was conducted in Section 2, on the Angeles National Forest. Equipment, materials, and office trailers are being staged in approved construction yards: Pumpkin, Pottery, Blue Cloud, Avenue I, Mechanics, and Antelope.

SECTION 1, SHOOFLY

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitor (EM): Jenny Slaughter was onsite April 28th through May 1st.

Summary of Activity:

The Shoofly portion of the Antelope Pardee Transmission Line Project involves the installation of a temporary bypass line, or Shoofly, in order to maintain service along the existing Santa Clara–Vincent 220 kV transmission corridor. Construction of the Shoofly is taking place within an existing SCE transmission line right-of-way (ROW) in the City of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles County, and involves the construction of 18 new steel pole structures to hold the Shoofly line. The original lattice tower structures holding the line will later be replaced to accommodate construction of the new Antelope Pardee 500 kV structures within the Shoofly area. Construction activity under NTP #5 and Modification #1 to NTP #5 consisted of the following activities.

1. A 14-day outage on the Santa Clara–Vincent 220 kV line continued during the subject week. PAR crews worked on removing the conductor spacers and hanging travelers to prepare for removing the conductor of this line parallel to the Shoofly section.
2. Work authorized under Variance Requests #2 and #3 for the 220 kV conductor removal occurred, including equipment mobilization to an expanded stringing sites and the placement of new guard pole structures. Under Variance Request #3, crews were authorized to work on the weekend.
3. Construction of the permanent 500 kV tower #25 (included in the Shoofly request) continued. Once the tower is completed, the tie-in of the Shoofly line can occur, which is planned to take place during the current outage.
4. Line crews continued to conduct tie-in operations of the west end of the Shoofly. This activity is concentrated between Shoofly poles 1, 1A, and 2. Crews worked on existing lattice 220 kV towers to prepare for the tie-in.



5. Hauling of material from the permanent tower site 25 has been completed. At the request of the landowner, the material was deposited and formed into berms to block out views of the nearby trailer park since the property is used for movie filming purposes. Also at the landowner's request, the berms will be revegetated by the contractor. CDFG biologist Dan Blankenship has indicated that the City of Santa Clarita may be able to provide the contractor with an appropriate seed mix for this area to be revegetated.
6. Biological monitoring of the Shoofly was conducted by Burns and McDonnell, LSA, and BRC during the subject week.

Environmental Compliance:

1. Because nesting bird surveys within a 500-foot buffer of project areas were not included in the original pre-construction biological survey report dated March 7, project biologists are conducting pre-construction biological sweep surveys (including a breeding bird survey within 500-feet) in advance of construction activity in order to comply with Mitigation Measure B-6 on the Shoofly. SCE's Biological Monitors are relying on construction personnel to give them advance notice when moving into a new area that has not been recently surveyed. Results of the construction sweeps are to be submitted to the CPUC on a weekly basis, per the NTP. Any new bird nest or other biological resources identified in the Shoofly are to be updated on the resource maps and distributed to the monitoring team, CPUC, and CDFG as requested by Dan Blankenship (CDFG).
2. Two new active bird nests were identified within construction areas during the subject week. A new house finch nest was observed on a bulldozer parked in wire stringing site 13 (the same location where nest building had occurred last week). In consultation with CDFG the prior week, the biologists removed the partial nests and were to continue to remove new nesting material as it is added to the equipment; however, a house finch pair successfully laid eggs in a new nest in the same equipment. Under direction from CDFG, the equipment is not to be moved until the birds fledge the nest. A second house finch nest (not containing eggs) was identified nearby in a drill truck which had been parked for a few days (see Figure 1). When the nest was found, Burns and McDonnell biologists notified CDFG for permission to remove the nest. The following morning, once approval was granted to remove the nest from the drill truck, eggs were observed. Under direction from CDFG, the equipment is not to be moved until the birds fledge the nest.
3. On April 30th two house finch nests were identified by the CPUC EM in the lower Pumpkin yard. A Burns and McDonnell biologist was notified and confirmed that no eggs were present in the two nests, each being constructed on boom trucks parked next to each other. CDFG was notified and approval to block the holes in the equipment was granted to prevent the birds from continued nesting activity on the equipment. Weekly resource clearance surveys were proposed by SCE for yard use, yet no results had been submitted to date. A Project Memorandum was issued by the CPUC EM documenting the lack of survey results submitted for the construction yards.
4. On April 23rd, Burns and McDonnell biologists notified the CPUC EM that two stick nests were found in wreck out towers within Section 1 (not part of the Shoofly, but expected to be the next phase of construction once the NTP is issued by the CPUC). SCE line patrolman has confirmed that one of the nests contains both raven eggs and chicks. One of these nests was the same nest observed by the CPUC EM and Burns and McDonnell biologist on April 11th.
5. Other nests previously identified in the Shoofly construction corridor are being monitored by Burns and McDonnell or biological subcontractors. During discussions with CDFG and Burns and McDonnell management on Friday, April 25th, the CPUC EM suggested that once nests in the project area are confirmed to be active, the monitors should avoid checking them on a daily basis to avoid disruption of the breeding birds. CDFG biologist agreed and that one a week nest checks would be adequate.

6. The CPUC EM toured several active construction yard sites during the subject week, including Upper and Lower Pumpkin yards, Pottery, Blue Cloud, Avenue I, and Antelope.

One Project Memorandum (PM) was issued during the subject week for failure to submit weekly resource survey results of active marshalling yards to the CPUC.

Agency Representatives:

None.

SECTION 2, ANF & ADJACENT YARDS

ANF Representatives: Marian Kadota

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitor (EM): Jenny Slaughter

Summary of Activity:

No construction activity took place on the ANF during the subject week.

Environmental Compliance:

No Non-Compliance Reports were issued by the ANF during the subject week.

No CPUC Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) or Project Memoranda (PM) were issued during the subject week.

SECTION 3, ANTELOPE SUBSTATION & ADJACENT YARDS

CPUC/Aspen Environmental Monitor (EM): Jenny Slaughter

The CPUC EM toured the Antelope Substation, 12 kV line relocation, adjacent yards, and expansion area on April 29th and 30th.

Summary of Activity:

The CPUC was notified during the conference call on April 24th that the land for the substation expansion area had been acquired by SCE and that crews were already working in the area. While touring the site, several bird nests were observed by the CPUC EM within the existing substation and within 300-feet of the planned site of grading activity. No biological clearance surveys have been submitted for the expansion work and grading of the site is expected to begin on May 12th. Currently, SCE crews are relocating wood pole lines within the expansion area (see Figure 2). At the PAR marshalling yard, some new equipment was brought onto the site.

The CPUC EM toured the proposed 12 kV line relocation within Section 3 on April 30th with a Burns and McDonnell biologist and PAR environmental staff. Many of the adjacent 66 kV towers were observed to contain large stick nests. Approval to work within 300-feet of active nests during the 12 kV line construction will have to come from CDFG.

CPUC NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTPS) & ANF PERMITTING

Table 1 summarizes the CPUC Notice to Proceed and ANF permitting activity for the Antelope-Pardee Project, Segment 1, to date.

TABLE 1
CPUC NTPs & ANF PERMITTING
(Updated 05-09-08)

NTP #/ Permit	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
CPUC NTPs			
#1	Oct 10, 2007	Oct 16, 2007	Mojave Marshalling Yard. Per the request, the yard will primarily be used to store construction equipment and materials for the project.
#2	Nov 16, 2007	Dec 10, 2007	Antelope Substation construction and expansion, as well as the use of two adjacent contractor laydown yards.
#2 Mod	Dec 21, 2007	Jan 2, 2008	Allow grading activity at the Antelope site/yards and replacement of an existing 80-foot microwave tower with a new 120-foot tower immediately outside of the communications room within the fenced area of the Antelope Substation.
#3	Jan 10, 2008	Jan 16, 2008	Use of five contractor laydown yards as named Pumpkin Yard, Pottery Yard, Pardee Substation Yard, Mechanics Yard and Avenue I Yard.
#4	Jan 29, 2008	Feb 4, 2008	Use of the Racetrack Marshalling Yard.
#5	Feb 19, 2008	Feb 28, 2008	Shoofly Construction, Section 1.
#5 Mod #1	March 11, 2008	March 19, 2008	Use of a new soil disposal site for the Shoofly construction, Section 1.
#5 Mod #2	March 24, 2008	March 26, 2008	Removal of the 66 kV conductor on the Del Sur-Saugus line during the outage scheduled for March 27, 2008.
#6	March 19, 2008	March 29, 2008(Rodeo Yard not approved- pending further resource investigation)	Use of three additional construction yards, Rodeo, Blue Cloud, and Pumpkin expansion.
#7	April 3, 2008	May 8, 2008	Section 1 Construction.
#8	May 1, 2008	Under review	10-acre marshalling yard near Antelope Substation.
XX	April 3, 2008	Under review	12 kV line relocation in Section 3.
ANF PERMITTING			
	Nov. 29, 2007	Dec. 14, 2007	Radio Repeater – installation of a temporary radio repeater site on Sierra Pelona Ridge to provide communication during construction activities tied to the project. Improvement installation began Jan. 11
	Sept. 27, 2007	Dec. 14, 2007	Geotechnical testing – 23 geotechnical borings are authorized on National Forest lands to provide additional information that will be used in the design of the transmission towers. Notice to proceed was signed Jan 31 to begin work the week of Feb. 3

VARIANCE REQUESTS

Variance Requests submitted to date are summarized in Table 2.

TABLE 2
VARIANCE REQUESTS FOR SEGMENT 1
(Updated 05-09-08)

Variance Request	Date Requested	Date Issued	Description
VR #1	April 1, 2008	April 3, 2008	Change in construction of a overland travel road to Shoofly pole 18, to a temporary road construction method.
VR #2	April 18, 2008	April 19, 2008	Several expanded stringing sites, new staging areas, and guard pole installation sites for the removal of the 220 kV line.
VR #3	April 24, 2008	April 25, 2008	Weekend work along the Shoofly portion of Section 1, within the City of Santa Clarita and Los Angeles County, and at the Antelope Substation, Avenue J, in the City of Lancaster.
VR #4	May 9, 2008	Under review	Sunday work at Pole Switch #74, Section 1, within Los Angeles County.

PROJECT PHOTOGRAPHS-SHOOFLY



Figure 1: A drill truck parked near Kathleen Road was found to contain a house finch nest (nesting material can be seen at the opening of the hole on the boom). The following day, eggs were found in the nest and CDFG was consulted.



Figure 2: At the Antelope Substation, wood pole relocation took place in preparation for the substation expansion.