



# Aspen Environmental Group

## PROJECT MEMORANDUM PG&E JEFFERSON-MARTIN 230KV TRANSMISSION PROJECT

**To:** Billie Blanchard, CPUC  
**From:** Vida Strong, Aspen Project Manager  
**Date:** October 5, 2005  
**Subject:** Monthly Report #2: September 1, 2005 – September 30, 2005  
**CPUC Environmental Monitors (EM):** Jody Fessler and Jenny Slaughter

CPUC EM Jody Fessler was on site throughout the month of September along Segments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

### SEGMENT 1

Table 1A presents the construction activities along Segment 1 during September. Along Cañada Road and Skyline Boulevard, the daytime shift worked Monday through Friday conducting cable pulling and splicing. A PG&E EI/Biological Monitor was on-site at each of the manholes during cable pulling and splicing because the manhole guards that were ordered were not satisfactory to CDFG. Traffic controls were placed around the manholes including flaggers, signs, and cones.

During the first two weeks of September, excavation of trench and installation of conduit occurred north of Cañada Road on Highway 92/Highway 35 at night. At least two PG&E EIs/Biological Monitors were on-site during nighttime activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls (flaggers, signs, cones, and lights) were set up on Highway 92/Highway 35 at the construction sites.

The last two weeks of September, crews conducted construction activities during the day in relation to their punch-list items at various locations along the segment (Figure 1). A PG&E EI/Biological Monitor was stationed with each work crew.

Crews continue to use the Caltrans Staging Yard on Hwy 92/Hwy 35. Crews are also using the Staging Yard at 50 Edwards Court in Burlingame to store equipment and materials.

**Table 1B – Segment 1 Construction Activities during September 2005**

Week	Manhole Installation	Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)	Stubout Installation	Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling	Splicing
Sept 4 – Sept 10	NA	285	Manhole #17	Manhole #23, #24	Manhole #12, #13, #14
Sept 11 – Sept 17	NA	215	NA	Manhole #22A, #22B	Manholes #14
Sept 18 – Sept 24	NA	NA	NA	Manhole #23 to #27	NA
Sept 25 – Oct 1	NA	NA	NA	Manhole #5, #6, #7 to #8, #13 to #14	NA

NA – No Activity

### Environmental Compliance Activities:

Bird surveys ended at the beginning of the month except for active nests that were spot-checked for disturbance caused by construction activities.

PG&E EIs had one concern on September 15 where crews were found working near Manholes #25 and #26 during the night shift with no PG&E EI.

The CPUC EM observed that all Segment 1 construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**SEGMENT 2 - UNDERGROUND**

Table 2A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 2 during September. Underground crews worked Monday through Friday during the day on Skyline Boulevard and Hayne Road/Golf Course Drive conducting trenching operations. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls were in place at the construction sites including flaggers, signs, and cones.

Within the SFPUC Watershed, crews continued to conduct trenching activities to Manhole #38 through the first week of September. Crews came back the last week of September to proof the conduit between Manhole #37 and Manhole #38. A PG&E EI/Biological Monitor was on-site during all construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work site.

Crews continue to use the northern Caltrans Staging Yard at the corner of Skyline Boulevard and Hayne Road/Golf Course Drive. Crews are also using the Staging Yard at 60 Edwards Court in Burlingame to store equipment and materials.

**Table 2A – Segment 2-Underground Construction Activities during September 2005**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Manhole Installation</b>	<b>Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)</b>	<b>Stubout Installation</b>	<b>Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling</b>	<b>Splicing</b>
Sept 4 – Sept 10	NA	1,400	NA	NA	NA
Sept 11 – Sept 17	NA	1,200	NA	NA	NA
Sept 18 – Sept 24	NA	1,000	NA	NA	NA
Sept 25 – Oct 1	NA	600	Manhole #27	NA	NA

NA – No Activity

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys ended at the beginning of the month except for active nests which were spot-checked for disturbance caused by construction activities.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E’s Environmental Inspectors along Segment 2 Underground during September.

The CPUC EM observed that all Segment 2 Underground construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**SEGMENT 2 – OVERHEAD**

On September 8, a Supervisor Training for Segment 2 Overhead was conducted at the B&V office in Hayward. On September 12, tree trimming and removal began in the SFPUC watershed (see Figure 2). An Arborist was on site to supervise the tree trimming and removal operations. Tree material was skidded out along the right-of-way, chipped, and spread over pre-approved areas within the watershed.

PG&E EIs were also on-site to ensure environmental compliance with the mitigation measures required by the EIR and other permit requirements in the USFWS Biological Opinion and the CDFG consultation letter. Natural gas line locating also began the second week of September, and involves a small crew pot-holing with hand tools. This work will continue through October. Surveying of the poles sites and access roads also began the second week of September and were completed the third week of September. Some of the surveying will have to be re-done due to staking disturbance from the tree trimming and removal crew. Throughout September, the CPUC EM reviewed and signed off on resource flagging prior to the commencement of work.

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys ended at the beginning of the month except for active nests which were spot-checked for disturbance caused by construction activities.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E’s Environmental Inspectors along Segment 2 Overhead during September.

The CPUC EM observed that all construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**SEGMENT 3**

Table 3A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 3 during September. Crews worked Monday through Friday during the day on San Bruno Avenue conducting trenching operations (Figure 3). No work was conducted on Huntington Drive this month. Crews will not be working on Huntington Drive until BART and the City have figured out what to do about the subsurface void discovered in the trench alignment. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls were in place at the construction sites including flaggers, signs, and cones.

Crews continue to use their staging yard under Highway 380 just east of Huntington Avenue.

**Table 3A – Segment 3 Construction Activities during September 2005**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Manhole Installation</b>	<b>Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)</b>	<b>Stubout Installation</b>	<b>Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling</b>	<b>Splicing</b>
Sept 4 – Sept 10	NA	400	NA	NA	NA
Sept 11 – Sept 17	NA	700	NA	NA	NA
Sept 18 – Sept 24	NA	300	NA	NA	NA
Sept 25 – Oct 1	NA	600	NA	NA	NA

NA – No Activity

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys ended at the beginning of the month except for active nests which were spot-checked for disturbance caused by construction activities.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E’s Environmental Inspectors along Segment 3 during September.

On September 21, the CPUC EM observed a backhoe/front loader entering and exiting the active construction zone and into an active lane of traffic. No public traffic was impeded. The CPUC EM spoke with construction management regarding the issue and a flagger was put in place at that location to flag for equipment needing to move out of the active construction zone and into the active lane of traffic. The CPUC EM observed that all other Segment 3 construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**SEGMENT 4**

Table 4A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 4 during September. Crews worked Monday through Friday during the day conducting trenching operations along the BART right-of-way. B&V Inspectors collected air and soil quality measurements during excavation activities in the BART right-of-way north of S. Spruce Street and no contaminants were detected. Crews also worked in the parking lot of the Boys and Girls Club north of W. Orange and into the BART right-of-way. This month, both the S. Spruce Street crossing was completed by open trench, and the W. Orange Street crossing was completed by Horizontal Directional Drill (bore). Along Hillside Drive, crews conducted trenching activities on Monday through Thursday during the day throughout the month (Figure 4).

Throughout the month of September, crews continued to work at the jack-and-bore site at Colma Creek in the BART right-of-way. Crews completed the bore at the beginning of the month and worked on conduit installation and de-mobilization of equipment through the end of the month.

A PG&E EI was on-site during construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls were in place at the construction sites including flaggers, signs, and cones.

**Table 4A – Segment 4 Construction Activities during September 2005**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Manhole Installation</b>	<b>Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)</b>	<b>Stubout Installation</b>	<b>Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling</b>	<b>Splicing</b>
Sept 4 – Sept 10	NA	970	NA	NA	NA
Sept 11 – Sept 17	NA	700	NA	NA	NA
Sept 18 – Sept 24	NA	970	NA	NA	NA
Sept 25 – Oct 1	NA	1,100	NA	NA	NA

NA – No Activity

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys ended at the beginning of the month except active nests which were spot-checked for disturbance caused by construction activities.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E’s EIs during the subject month for Segment 4.

The CPUC EM observed that all construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**SEGMENT 5**

Table 5A presents the underground construction activities along Segment 5 during September. Crews worked Monday through Friday during the day conducting trenching operations on the east side of San Bruno Mountain on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway and north of the intersection of Bayshore Boulevard and

Industrial Way (Figure 5). The last week of September, trenching crews encountered possible contaminated soil north of the intersection of Bayshore Boulevard and Industrial Way. Construction was halted for the rest of the week and soil samples were sent to a lab for testing. A PG&E EI was on-site during construction activities to inspect environmental compliance at the work sites. Traffic controls were in place at the construction sites including flaggers, signs, cones, and k-rail.

Construction crews continue to use their staging yard at the corner of North Access Road and South Airport Boulevard for the storage of equipment, materials, and two trailers that they are using for office space.

**Table 5A – Segment 5 Construction Activities during September 2005**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Manhole Installation</b>	<b>Conduit Installation (Linear Feet)</b>	<b>Stubout Installation</b>	<b>Manhole Prep/Cable Pulling</b>	<b>Splicing</b>
Sept 4 – Sept 10	NA	20	NA	Manholes #69 to #70	NA
Sept 11 – Sept 17	NA	40	NA	Manholes #66 to #69	Manholes #66 to #69
Sept 18 – Sept 24	NA	881	NA	Manholes #67 to #73	Manholes #67 to #73
Sept 25 – Oct 1	NA	430	NA	Manholes #72 to #73	Manholes #67 to #72

NA – No Activity

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

Bird surveys ended at the beginning of the month except for active nests which were spot-checked for disturbance caused by construction activities.

No concerns or non-compliances were issued by PG&E’s EIs during the subject month for Segment 5.

The CPUC EM observed that all construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**JEFFERSON SUBSTATION**

During September, crews cleared vegetation within the expansion area of the substation. Prior to clearing, the CPUC EM reviewed and approved resource flagging and the expansion area boundary. A plywood fence was installed along the expansion boundary (see Figure 6). In addition, prior to vegetation removal, wood rat nests were dismantled in accordance with the CDFG Memorandum of Understanding. During clearing, several wood rats were sighted and one wood rat mortality occurred when the wood rat entered a piece of equipment.

Grading of the expansion area and footing excavation for a permanent retaining wall around the expansion area also began in September. Work within the existing substation also began.

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

PG&E/Opus notified CDFG of the wood rat sightings and mortality; however, CDFG was not notified of the nest dismantling. On September 22, CDFG reviewed the plywood fencing installed along the expansion area boundary.

The CPUC EM observed that all other Jefferson Substation construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**MARTIN SUBSTATION**

During September, installation of Manhole #79 within the substation site was conducted (see Figure 7). Foundation work for the future substation components also began.

**Environmental Compliance Activities:**

The CPUC EM observed that all Martin Substation construction activities were in compliance with mitigation measures adopted in the EIR and other permit requirements. Erosion controls were in place around the construction areas.

**NOTICES TO PROCEED (NTP):**

Table 6 presents the NTPs issued by the CPUC for the Jefferson-Martin Project to date. With the exception of an NTP for the permanent Crystal Springs Dam crossing, no additional NTPs are anticipated.

**TABLE 6  
NOTICES TO PROCEED  
(Updated 10-05-05)**

NTP #	Date Issued	Description
#1	1-10-05	Segment 1, underground only Segment 5, unincorporated San Mateo County only
#2	3-08-05	Segment 2, underground only, not including SFPUC lands
#3	3-11-05	Segment 5, incorporated
#4	3-11-05	Segment 3
#5	3-30-05	Segment 4
#6	8-03-05	Segment 2 Underground in the SFPUC Watershed
#7	8-10-05	Martin Substation
#8	8-26-05	Segment 2 Overhead
#9	9-01-05	Jefferson Substation expansion area and construction of the temporary Lower Crystal Springs Overhead Dam Crossing

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:**

Three Non-Compliance Reports (NCR) and seven Project Memorandums (PMs) have been issued by the CPUC EMs for the project to date (see Table 7).

**TABLE 7**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE STATUS**  
 (Updated 10-05-05)

<b>Project Memo or NCR</b>	<b>Date Issued</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Follow-Up Activities</b>
NCR (Level 3)	2-01-05	Segment 2 Overhead – Dismantling and removal of woodrat nests along the overhead route without consulting with CDFG.	PG&E consulting with CDFG on how to proceed.
PM	2-09-05	Segment 1 – Breach of trenching activities into vegetated drainage on east side of Cañada Road between MH #7 and MH #8.	PG&E consulting with CDFG and USFWS on how to proceed.
PM	2-16-05	Segment 5 – Dewatering of Manhole #67 vault pit without consulting with RWQCB on handling of water	PG&E consulting with RWQCB on how to proceed with storm water and groundwater.
PM	3-04-05	Segment 1 – Hummingbird nest found near Manhole #5 on Monday, Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup> , and not reported to CPUC or CDFG until Thursday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup> .	PG&E discussing better communication between PG&E and subcontractors.
PM	5-27-05	Segment 2 Underground – Construction went past the City of Burlingame’s Encroachment Permit on May 25 <sup>th</sup> , and May 26 <sup>th</sup> .	PG&E response submitted 6-14-05.
PM	5-27-05	Segment 2 Underground – Several traffic control violations were observed. A traffic control flagger left his post several times which endangered the public.	PG&E response submitted 6-14-05.
PM	6-01-05	Segment 1 – End dump parked on vegetation in the Caltrans right-of-way disturbing vegetation	PG&E response submitted 6-15-05.
PM	6-20-05	Segment 1- Construction vehicle parked on vegetation near the Caltrans yard	PG&E response received 6-22-05
NCR	7-13-05	Segment 1 – Construction vehicle parked on vegetation at Station # 287+00 on the night of July 11 <sup>th</sup> .	PG&E reviewing NCR
NCR	7-22-05	Segment 1 – Cable Pulling truck and trailer rolled off the road onto vegetation at Manhole #3 on July 18 <sup>th</sup> .	PG&E reviewing NCR

**VARIANCE REQUESTS:**

Table 8 represents the Variance Requests submitted and approved to date for the project. No Variance Requests were submitted during the month of September.

**TABLE 8  
VARIANCE REQUEST STATUS  
(Updated 10-05-05)**

Variance Request #	Date Submitted	Description	Status	CPUC Approval Date
1	1-14-05	40 Edwards Court, Burlingame – Paved parking lot that is fenced to be used as a staging yard.	Approved	1-18-05
2	2-04-05	Staging yard, Airport Boulevard & North Access Road., South San Francisco.	Approved	2-09-05
3	2-22-05	Change compliance timing for Mitigation Measure U-1c, corrosion, from pre-construction to during construction.	Approved	3-04-05
4	4-28-05	Staging yard, Herman Street and Forest Lane, City of San Bruno	Approved	5-03-05
5	5-12-05	Jefferson Substation Expansion Area – Cap well, empty water out of tank into truck, and remove tank from property	Approved	5-20-05
6	5-24-05	Staging yard for Segment 4 construction, intersection of Antoinette Lane and Mission Road, City of South San Francisco.	Approved	5-26-05
6 Modification	6-22-05	Additional staging yard for Segment 4, next to yard approved in Variance #6.	Approved	6-28-05
7	06-06-05	Intrusion into vegetated areas at several locations along Segment 1.	Approved	6-13-05
8	7-14-05	Modification of the trench depth along a 400-foot section of trench north of S. Spruce Avenue (Segment 4).	Approved	7-19-05
9	7-15-05	Staging Yard for Segment 4 off of Hillside Drive in the City of Colma.	Approved	8-17-05
10	7-22-05	Expansion of Jefferson Substation	Approved	8-31-05
11	8-04-05	Intrusion into vegetated shoulder at 7 locations along Segment 1.	Approved	8-18-05
12	8-18-05	Additional workspace along road in Segment 2 underground in the SFPUC Watershed.	Approved	8-22-05



**UPCOMING ITEMS:**

PG&E holds the following weekly meetings to review issues and upcoming events:

- Segment 1 on Friday (8:00 a.m., San Mateo B&V office) and Tuesday (8:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 2 Underground on Friday (10:00 a.m., San Bruno B&V office) and Tuesday (9:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 2 Overhead on Tuesday (10:30 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 3 on Tuesday (10:00 a.m., Hayward B&V office);
- Segment 4 on Monday (1:00 p.m., San Bruno B&V office) and Tuesday (9:30 a.m., Hayward B&V office); and
- Segment 5 on Monday (3:00 p.m., South SF Mueller/InfraSource Staging Yard) and Tuesdays (8:30 a.m., Hayward B&V office).

**AGENCY PERSONNEL CONTACTS:**

On September 22, the CPUC EM met with Dave Johnston of CDFG and Bill Zukosky of Opus Environmental (PG&E's environmental representative) on Segment 2 Overhead to discuss access issues and tree trimming and removal activities. The CPUC EM, Dave Johnston, and Bil Zukosky also conducted a site visit of the Jefferson Substation to look at the expansion area and the biological exclusion fence. On September 29, the CPUC EM met with Dave and Bil again at the Jefferson Substation to look at the area outside of the expansion area where PG&E wants to install a retention basin. The proposed trench alignment into the substation was also reviewed again.

The CPUC EM periodically spoke with the BART Inspectors, the City of San Bruno Inspectors, the Colma Inspector, and the City of Brisbane Inspector regarding project related issues.

## Photographs



**Figure 1** – Crews fixing conduit on south side of Manhole #26, Segment 1, September 12, 2005



**Figure 2** – Tree trimming and removal activities in the SFPUC Watershed, Segment 2 Overhead, September 19, 2005.



**Figure 3** – Conduit installation between Manhole #41 and Manhole #42 on San Bruno Avenue, Segment 3, September 13, 2005



**Figure 4** – Excavation and shoring of Manhole #60 on Hillside Drive, Segment 4, September 12, 2005.



**Figure 5** – Trenching activities east of Manhole #74 on Guadalupe Canyon Parkway, Segment 5, September 22, 2005.



**Figure 6** – Plywood fence installation around expansion area at the Jefferson Substation, September 15, 2005.



**Figure 7** – Crews working at Manhole #79 in the Martin Substation, September 16, 2005.